

City of Bennet, Nebraska

City Council

Minutes for July 14, 2025

Regular Meeting

The City Council ("Council") of the City of Bennet, Nebraska ("City"), convened for a regular business meeting on July 14, 2025, at 7:00PM at the City Office, 685 Monroe St, Bennet, NE 68317, the same being open to the public and preceded by advanced publicized notice duly given in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, having set forth (a) the time, date, and place of the meeting, (b) that the meeting would be open to the public, and (c) that the agenda for the meeting, kept continuously current, was available for public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk, and posted at the City Office, Post Office, and First Nebraska Bank.

Mayor Cheney called the meeting to order at 7:06PM and announced the location of the Open Meetings Act. Roll call. Members in attendance: Josh Buck, Pete Simmons, Dan Zieg, and Mayor Ryan Cheney. City Clerk Sue Biltoft, City Utilities Superintendent Zach Fergus, and City Attorney David Solheim were also in attendance. A quorum being present, the meeting commenced.

The Council reviewed items on the consent agenda, which included: (a) minutes for the City Council meeting on June 9, 2025; (b) claims for payment; (c) Treasurer's report; (d) award bid for surplus 1999 GMC pickup to Jesse Schmidt for \$601.00; (e) Resolution 2025-7.1 to approve a block party application for the Bennet Economic Development Association (BEDA); and (f) Resolution 2025-7.2 LARM renewal. Buck requested item (e) be taken off the consent agenda and moved to new business for further discussion. Zieg moved approval of remaining consent agenda items, (a)-(d) and (f), and Simmons seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Mayor Cheney announced public comment.

The Mayor and City Council discussed a recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Simmons moved approval, and Zieg seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

The City Council took no action on the application for conditional use permit for storage units at 510 Monroe Street. The matter will be scheduled for public hearing at the next regular meeting of the City Council.

The Mayor and City Council discussed Resolution 2025-7.1 to approve a block party application for the Bennet Economic Development Association (BEDA). Buck requested a new requirement on the block party application form to notify affected addresses, as well as law enforcement and fire/rescue. Simmons moved approval conditional upon additional notification requirements, and Zieg seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

Lillie Chambers reviewed the July 4th events with the Mayor and City Council.

The Mayor and City Council discussed reimbursement of sewer jetting costs in the amount of \$395.00 for 815 Garden Street. Zieg moved approval conditional upon the owners signing a release, and Simmons seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

City Utilities Superintendent Fergus introduced a proposal to replace water meters at Bennet Elementary School and Zermatt in the amount of \$7,086.80. Zieg moved approval, and Simmons seconded. Roll call: YES: Buck, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.

City Utilities Superintendent Fergus introduced a proposal to upgrade components of the SCADA system. The City Council took no action. The item will be moved to old business and addressed during the budget workshop.

The Mayor and City Council discussed increasing the rates for water users in excess of 20,000 gallons per month. The matter was referred to the Utilities Committee.

Gary Judd did not appear for his requested agenda item relating to community appearance and children speeding on UTVs and golf carts. No action taken.

The Mayor and City Council reviewed written reports submitted by City staff and other communications.

Mayor Cheney opened the floor to public comment.

There being no further business, Zieg moved to adjourn, and Simmons seconded. Roll call. YES: Buck, Simmons, Zieg. Motion carried.



City Attorney David Solheim
Sitting in for the City Clerk



Mayor Ryan Cheney