

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the City Council was held on Monday, September 21, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the BPS Administration Building Board Room, 320 North 5th Street, Beatrice, Nebraska 68310. Mayor Wirth led those in attendance in Pledge of Allegiance.

Barnard: Present, Doyle: Present, Eckhoff: Present, Eskra: Present, Fairbanks: Present, Hydo: Present, McLain: Present, Ruh: Present.

Mayor Wirth announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

1. ROLL CALL

2. PROCLAMATION - National Cleanup Day - September 19, 2026

Dani Martin - ____ Country Club Lane, hearing Christ to our community? helping out community members in need. National cleanup finished 45 yard. 10-25 volunteers, mowing, trees, about 50 volunteers, community of love - thank to the city to identify who needs help, partnering with other businesses to help show the love of Christ.

Terry - thank for putting together, wonderful ministry, thank the volunteers, good collaboration. like this to catch on, if a way, can be any organization looking for work, piggyback on this. hope can be expanded.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.a. Approve agenda as submitted.

3.b. Receive and place on file all notices pertaining to this meeting.

3.c. Receive and place on file all materials having any bearing on this meeting.

3.d. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on September 8, 2026, as on file in the City Clerk's Office.

3.e. Approval of Treasurer's Report of Claims in the amount of \$1,268,415.89.

3.f. Approval of BASWA Report of Claims in the amount of \$332,185.09.

3.g. Approval of BPW Report of Claims in the amount of \$2,325,614.39.

3.h. Approval of Final Pay Request in the amount of \$29,007.24 to Hall Brothers for the Asphalt Sealing Various Locations - 2026 project, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

3.i. Approval of Pay Request #13 in the amount of \$480,153.46 to Building Crafts, Inc., for the WPC Grit Improvements project, as recommended by the Board of Public Works.

3.j. Approval of Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$14,266.05 to Clausen & Sons Dirt Work, Inc., for the Hannibal Park Field No. 8 project.

3.k. Approval of special designated license for Colleen's Catering, LLC, for a wedding reception on October 10, 2026, from 5:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., at Beatrice YMCA, 1801 Scott Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

3.l. Resolution Number 7846 amending the City's Abuse Prevention Policy.

3.m. Resolution Number 7847 entering into a lease between the City of Beatrice, Nebraska and JEK Investments, LLC, for the purpose of constructing and operating a pump track.

3.n. Resolution Number 7848 prohibiting parking along the south side of Irving Street located west of Highway 77, a/k/a North 6th Street.

3.o. Resolution Number 7849 approving the request from Gage Development Coalition to close Highway 136, which is also known as Court Street, from 3rd Street to 7th Street, on Thursday, October 29, 2026, between 3:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m., for the Night of the Great Pumpkin event.

3.p. Resolution Number 7856 entering into an Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Development and Use of the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network.

m- eskra ? lease agreeent with big blue bike - started construction, falls under our insurance

n - ruh - clarification - where 7brew is located - remove parking on s side of Irving from their drive to Hwy77, removed on north side due to snow removal. part of design, apartment complex has parking lot large enough, just drive way to east. traffic committee reviewed temporary

o - Fairbanks - night of great pumpkin, new to event since we are updating comp plan, Confluene will be soliciting ideas for what community can do moving forward, provide feedback.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that the items listed under the consent agenda, be approved, accepted, and/or ratified as presented. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS

4.a. Public Hearing for the purpose of setting the property tax request for the City of Beatrice for Fiscal Year 2027.

TT setting property tax \$4 mill - _____.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that the public hearing be closed at 6:44 p.m. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

4.a.1. Resolution Number 7850 setting the property tax request for the City of Beatrice for Fiscal Year 2027.

no discussion

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Resolution Number 7850 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

4.b. Public Hearing for the purpose of supplementing the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

large poirtion of airport - \$3 million carry forward
\$300,000 increase in electric department for consulting services
Grants in General & Sanitation - mostly airport.

Terry - all this is online, doing 100s of project, spending \$12 mill?? hope public looks at capital projects sows where we are putting money, doing a lot,

Hannah - shows breakdown of grant proceeds, city share, etc.

Ted - online city administrator's monthly report - shows project, & updated info.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that the public hearing be closed at 6:48 p.m. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

4.b.1. Ordinance adopting the supplemental budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

supplemental budget, readopts fy27 budget.

Mayor - always going to have some correction on budget, acknowledge almost 4 years, get together, 5% raise health ins. have 90% working to make sure lights, water, sewer, so many dedicated people.

Terry - thank mayor

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-30 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0
Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-30 be passed and approved.
MOTION: Carried.

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

4.c. Public Hearing for the purpose of considering the acquisition of real property from First Trust Company, LLC, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Vernon L. McAlister, commonly known as 501 South 5th Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Vernon has passed away - estate came to purchase, S 5th by perkins, purchase agreement - \$5,000 part of agreement name something after nvernon. - likely in spring, addition to trailhead etc.

alex - we taking down? TT - yet to be decided - Chet may package

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that the public hearing be closed at 6:53 p.m. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

5. RESOLUTIONS

5.a. Resolution Number 7851 executing the Contract for Sale of Real Estate and all necessary documents to acquire real estate from First Trust Company, LLC, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Vernon L. McAlister.

res to purchase ground

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Resolution Number 7851 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

5.b. Resolution Number 7852 executing the State Grant Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Division, for Project No. 3-31-0009-025/026/027-2026, for the purpose of obtaining state financial aid in the development of the Beatrice Municipal Airport.

\$ from senator fisher - hanger project, able to move on to complete navaid - just under \$700,000 - part of grant, covered 5%, state covered _____; ____% on \$ _____ project.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Resolution Number 7852 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

5.c. Resolution Number 7853 executing the Lease with the Beatrice Area Solid Waste Agency (BASWA) for the use of the Materials Recovery Facility.

same lease as discussed during baswa, lease to city of beatrice, to move out to MRF - waiting on baler, mid october - will look to sell current property.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Resolution Number 7853 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

5.d. Resolution Number 7854 executing an Agreement for Professional Services, and any and all contracts or other documents between the City and JA Analysis Group, LLC, to develop a Business Recruitment Feasibility Study and a Downtown Strategic Plan.

received USDA grant downtown feasibility study - downtown committee recommends, \$57,900 grant \$48,000 - city match \$24,000? JA Analysis here next week to start doing interviews etc. Caleb has been in conversations with them.

Terry - scope of work - try to get them as specific as they can be. TT - have had this conversation with them already;

Ted - how will comp plan work into this? TT - he is working with confluence on their information - similar trend line. Ted - want to make sure nothing is missed. comp plan long time coming

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Resolution Number 7854 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

6. ORDINANCES

6.a. Ordinance establishing salaries and compensation for various City and Board of Public Works union employees.

mayor last year of contract negotiations

TT - 3% - Fire & FOP; 2% IBEW - all union contract

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-31 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0 Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-31 be passed and approved.
MOTION: Carried.

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

6.b. Ordinance establishing salaries and compensation for various City and Board of Public Works non-union employees.

tt - nonunion employees 3%

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-32 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0 Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-32 be passed and approved.
MOTION: Carried.

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

6.c. Ordinance amending Chapter 19, Article III of the Beatrice City Code regarding Skate Parks.

rules for skate park, includes both wheeled park

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-34 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0 Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-33 be passed and approved.
MOTION: Carried.

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-33 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-33 be passed and approved. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

6.d. Ordinance to close and vacate a portion of that certain alleyway located in Block Ninety-Three (93), Original Town, now City of Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska.

proposing to vacate portion of alley 4th & scott street, keep easement - sell all to Beatrice scrap processing for \$9,500, which is what we bought for

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-34 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0
Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-34 be passed and approved.
MOTION: Carried.

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

6.e. Ordinance conveying real estate owned by the City to Beatrice Scrap Processing, Inc., near 4th and Scott Streets.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that said ordinance be given number 26-35 the title thereof be approved, the rules be suspended and said ordinance be read by number only three (3) times tonight. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0
Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Ordinance Number 26-35 be passed and approved.
MOTION: Carried.

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

7. RESOLUTIONS (continued)

7.a. Resolution Number 7855 entering into a Contract for Sale of Real Estate with Beatrice Scrap Processing, Inc., near 4th and Scott Streets.

no discussion

Moved by McLain, seconded by Fairbanks, that Resolution Number 7855 be passed and adopted. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

8. DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

8.a. City Administrator's Monthly Report.

lots of information. any questions. comp plan still taking input, map feature to drop pin of item you would like to add. airport- 3 large projects, still al undergoing work. taxiway - met to fix fuel nozzle- wrapping that up, hanger project, steel on ground, home construction soon, navaid - boring in conduit. demisters - hopefully seeing progress happening, started conversation for next round of grant application - will likely be due around Christmas time. ALEX - how much more we got down that we didn't anticipate. originally thought 3 bldgs, Ted - moved onto 3 other structures, to 10 total structures that have been taken down. 8.3 acres - only structures left is what you can see from 6th Street. lot of work left, but have gotten a lot done. thanked the committee. Ruh- someone asked about sidewalk in front, anything we can do? TT - not really right now, have to make sure we have enough room, we don't have scaffolding to put along
Terry - should do one more step in notifying property owners of 136 - project listing 191 households - in addition to city social media - thank for doing that. Terry - finally got done with Big Give received more walking in than ever seen. \$4-500,

\$533,_____???? sponsors \$_____. thank for supporting that.

9. MISCELLANEOUS

9.a. The next regular City Council meeting is **October 5, 2026** at 6:00 p.m. in the BPS Administration Building Board Room. There will be a **Special Meeting on September 30, 2026 at 12:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room**, for the purpose of approving final claims for FY26.

Moved by McLain, seconded by Doyle, that :the meeting be adjourned at 7:12 p.m. **MOTION: Carried.**

Barnard: Yea, Doyle: Yea, Eckhoff: Yea, Eskra: Yea, Fairbanks: Yea, Hydo: Yea, McLain: Yea, Ruh: Yea
Yea: 8, Nay: 0

Erin Saathoff, City Clerk

Stan Wirth, Mayor