CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
July 7th, 2026

As per the notice in the Webster County Sun, the Mayor and the City Council met in regular session on Tuesday July 7th, at 6:00 p.m., in the conference room of the Community Center. Members present: Mayor Horne, Councilman Daehling, Hobbs, Goebel, Councilwoman Elliott, Attorney McCracken, Clerk Schmitz and Superintendent Long.

Mayor Horne called the meeting to order and ask those present to join the council in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He then stated the Open Meetings Act is posted on the west wall for public viewing.

Lori Ferguson was present via Zoom to conduct a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. for the 2024 Community Development Block Grant. Lori gave information on the trails grant and stated it would be closing out in a few months. She then opened it up for questions or comments from the public on the grant. As there were no questions Councilman Daehling made the motion to close the public hearing at 6:05, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried.

LeAnn Jochum with SCEDD was next via Zoom to go over the nuisance abatement program. First on the agenda was to rescind declared nuisances that have come into compliance. Councilman Daehling made the motion to rescind properties 5011, 5037, 5058, 5063, 5066, 5082, 5083, 5094, seconded by Goebel. Motion carried. Councilman Daehling made the motion to abate 5074, seconded by Hobbs. Motion carried. Next the council went through properties that have not come into compliance and should proceed with a cost letter and a five-day abatement notice. Councilman Hobbs made the motion to abate 5003, 5015, 5044, 5056, 5073, 5075, 5089, 5092, seconded by Daehling. Motion carried. Councilman Daehling made the motion to approve postponements for properties 5040, 5041, 5072 and 5095 till August 30th, 2026, seconded by Hobbs Motion carried. Lastly, councilman Daehling made the motion to proceed with the process of condemnation on parcels 5035 and 5088, seconded by Goebel. Motion carried.

Councilman Hobbs made the motion to use Kearney Junk Removal as the first choice and Next Stop Junk Removal as the second choice for the abatement contractors, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried.

Councilman Daehling made the motion to move the September meeting to September 3rd at 6:00 pm, seconded by Hobbs. Motion carried.

Next on the agenda was Teresa Young with the Webster County Historical Museum. She was present to ask the council for a donation of bricks for a sidewalk from the building to the jail cell. Councilman Goebel made the motion to donate up to 1,000 bricks for the project, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried. Hobbs abstained.

Wes Olson with the Red Cloud Volunteer Fire Department and Judith Stanton (Via Zoom) were present to give the council an update on the grants they have been looking into. Wes stated that the city pumper is needing to be replaced, they stated that there is a grant with the USDA that will pay up to $50,000.00 for a truck and then the rest would have to be done through a loan. Wes has been looking into used trucks to replace the city pumper. Judith stated she would be willing to write the grant. Clerk Schmitz suggested having all the rough numbers to her so she can see if it would be possible for this to be completed or if they would need to wait for a different budget cycle.

Amy Springer was next on the agenda but was unable to attend, she sent the council an update on the progress of the methodist church project called “Prairie Commons”.

Next on the agenda was Cherry Corner Estates, Amiee Mans was unable to attend but Brad Burgess was present to give an update. He stated that after discussion the board is wanting to return to assisted living. Councilman Hobbs made the motion to approve returning to assisted living, seconded by Goebel. Motion carried. Councilman Goebel made the motion to approve the purchase of cameras of up to $1,000.00, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried. Councilman Daehling said he has been seeing that they are posting more on Facebook and that is a good way to advertise.

Bridget Daehling with Highstreet Insurance was next on the agenda to present the insurance premiums for the next fiscal year. Councilman Goebel made the motion to approve the insurance premiums, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried. Councilman Daehling abstained.

Dan Conway with the Red Cloud Airport Authority was next on the agenda. He was present to give an update on the airport since becoming head of the board. Dan stated that they have some things that need to be updated or replaced such as the fence and some of the lighting in the hangers. He stated they are looking into state and federal grants. Lastly, he wanted to ask the council to consider budgeting $15,000.00 a year to go towards the Airport Authority, Clerk Schmitz said she can look into it and a decision can be made at the budget hearing.

Next on the agenda was Jarrod McCartney. He was present to give updates on Hardwick Park, the recreational trail and the RC Community Fund. He stated that the Hardwick Park extension has been accepted. He then stated that they were looking to pay the city $7,000.00 for 63 tons of brick for the Hardwick Park project. Councilman Goebel made the motion to approve the purchase of 63 tons, seconded by Hobbs. Motion carried. He stated that they are looking for some more members for the recreational trail committee. Lastly, he gave a general update on the RC Community fund and events that will be happening in the month of July.

Councilman Daehling made the motion to approve the sheriff’s report, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried. Councilman Goebel abstained.

Public comments were then opened. Dan Conway asked if there has been any talk about an ordinance for E-Bikes or E-Scooters. The council stated that nothing has been brought to their attention about needing an ordinance but if they were interested in it, they could get on the agenda and talk to the council about their concerns. Roger Bohrer was present and stated that Councilman Daehling did a good job of asking the hard questions about Cherry Corner Estates at the public meeting. Lori Brown then stated that the change of administration has been difficult, also stated that an employee as a dog that has been in the kitchen which is unsanitary.

Councilman Goebel was on the agenda to talk about parking but stated that the issue was taken care of.

Councilman Hobbs was on the agenda to have the council think about defunding the sheriff’s contract and not renewing it for the foreseeable future. Sheriff Troy Schmitz will be at the next council meeting to discuss this further with the council.

Councilman Daehling made the motion to approve minutes from last meeting, seconded by Goebel. Motion carried.

Councilman Goebel made the motion to approve the minutes from the special meeting with edits made to the amount of people in favor of Cherry Corner Estates going back to memory care from half to majority, seconded by Hobbs. Motion carried.

Councilman Daehling made the motion and was seconded by Goebel to approve the financial reports and city sales tax report. The city sales tax for April received in June was $27,193.39 compared to $21,989.34 for the same period last year. Motion carried.

Councilman Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Hobbs to approve the claims. Motion carried. These will be listed in full at the end of the minutes.

Next, there was the Superintendent's report. Clerk Schmitz was first to inform the council on needing to renew the sweeper lease with Rose Equipment. Councilman Hobbs made the motion to approve the sweeper lease, seconded by Goebel. Motion carried. Councilman Goebel made the motion to approve the quarterly payments for the sweeper lease, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried. Superintendent Long was next; he informed the council that they completed and passed an urge test last week at the powerplant. They have also been working on taking poles down and doing locates for the HWY 281 Project. Lastly, gave an update on the status of the new watermain.

Councilman Goebel made the motion to approve resolution #926 which states the financial institution direct borrowing options for NDOT expenses, and authorizing direct borrowing from the selected financial institution, while the City awaits reimbursement for NDOT expenses from NDWEE, seconded by Hobbs Motion carried.

Councilman Goebel made the motion for Mayor Horne to sign all loan documents, seconded by Elliott. Motion carried.

Councilman Goebel made the motion to have attorney McCracken look into a resolution shall describe the portion of the street or alley wherein traffic is to be regulated or prohibited; the regulation or prohibition; the location where such sign, signal, standard or mechanical device shall be placed; and the hours when such regulation or prohibition shall be effective, seconded by Daehling. Motion carried.

Attorney McCracken was next on the agenda; he was present to give the council a general update. He informed the council that he would present the new flood plain ordinance at the August meeting

No old business.

No new business.

Councilman Goebel made the motion at 8:50 pm to enter executive session for employee evaluation seconded by Daehling. Motion carried. Councilman Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Elliott to return to regular session at 10:11 pm. Motion carried.

As there was no further business to be had and done by the Mayor and City Council, Councilman Goebel made the motion and was seconded by Daehling to adjourn said meeting at 10:12 pm. Motion carried.

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| Total Salaries | $39,790.58 |
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| Withholding – 6/15 payroll | $1,709.49 |
| Social Security – 6/15 payroll | $3,655.76 |
| Medicare – 6/15 payroll | $853.13 |

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| Nationwide – 6/15 payroll | $2,216.60 |
| St. Income Tax – month of June | $1,482.02 |
| R&M Disposal – trash collection | $12,304.00 |
| Credit Management – garnishment | $279.56 |
| K. DeLong – pool operator certification | $40.00 |
| J. Fountaine – pool operator certification | $40.00 |
| Withholding – 7/1 payroll | $1,512.00 |
| Social Security – 7/1 payroll | $3,672.26 |
| Medicare – 7/1 payroll | $857.10 |
| Nationwide – 7/1 payroll | $2,078.29 |
| Credit Management – garnishment | $267.23 |
| C. Vogel – insurance | $202.90 |
| Postmaters – stamps | $234.00 |
| Electric – bond & interest | $2,000.00 |
| Sewer – CM sewer reserve | $625.00 |
| Water – CM water reserve | $625.00 |
| Hometown Leasing – copier agreement | $136.64 |
| P. Calkins – attorney fees | $75.00 |
| Various – business insurance | $10,318.33 |
| General – police contract | $3,295.72 |
| P. Long – phone bill | $44.00 |
| M. Goebel - phone bill | $44.00 |
| R. Hitchler – phone bill | $44.00 |
| D. Long – phone bill | $44.00 |
| T. Kadel – phone bill | $44.00 |
| Various – officers' salary | $1,234.68 |
| Various – economic development | $540.75 |
| Various – to general | $2,500.00 |
| Webster Co. Sherriff – sheriff contract | $3,254.83 |
| M. Schmitz – contract labor | $1,100.00 |
| National Sign Co. – street signs, arm brackets | $504.00 |
| C&D Service Center – oil, o-rings | $57.50 |
| Hometown Market – cleaning supplies | $78.02 |
| Municipal Supply Inc. – clamps, meter gsket, etc. | $1,298.52 |
| Power Manager – bills | $763.94 |
| Principal Life Ins. – dental insurance | $430.62 |
| CEI Security & Sound – cameras @ C&D compost | $1,659.48 |
| Micro Marketing – books | $94.40 |
| Auld Public Library – books, materials and supplies | $54.99 |
| T-Shirt Engineers – shipping | $22.51 |
| Eakes – soap dispensers, name plate | $92.70 |
| Aflac – insurance | $391.21 |
| South Centeral Public Power – power at compost site | $13.08 |
| Great Plains Communication – phone/internet | $1,095.97 |

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| Various – employee insurance | $11,118.42 |
| RC Chamber of Commerce – SCD sponsor | $100.00 |
| Loyal Lawn Care – mowing at cemetery | $1,500.00 |
| Cintas – first aid | $189.97 |
| MacQueen – uniforms | $325.59 |
| Eakes – binders & trash bags | $107.96 |
| Sunset Pool Supplies – chemicals for pool | $3,355.06 |
| GTA – bond | $159.00 |
| The Lincoln National – life insurance | $101.65 |
| Confluence – hardwick park | $4,224.03 |
| Ingram – books | $25.53 |
| CPI – fuel | $684.70 |
| Rose Equipment LLC – sweeper broom | $573.76 |
| Border States – CPI project | $34,411.33 |
| Kearney Winlectric – CPI project | $526.76 |
| J&A Auto – parts | $129.30 |
| MEAN – purchased power | $88,366.82 |
| Dutton-Lainson Co. – parts | $114.87 |
| Border States – focus axe | $625.96 |
| Nebraskaland – subscription | $18.00 |
| J&A Auto – parts | $37.41 |
| Aramark – janitorial | $287.14 |
| Energized Electric – pod water heater | $11,713.73 |
| Rutts Heating & Air – pool heater | $4,928.75 |
| Rutts – pool heater | $575.00 |
| Black Hills Energy – natural gas | $1,428.36 |
| Olsons Enterprises – fuel, diesel | $1,573.66 |
| Aramark – janitorial | $287.14 |
| Sunset Pool Supplies – water level controller sensor | $4,333.52 |
| Cardmember Services – street signs, back-up, water samples | $666.00 |
| Consumer Reports – subscription | $41.74 |
| One Call Concepts – line locates | $97.07 |
| C&D Service Center – edger blade, filter, etc | $273.66 |
| Confluence – Hardwick park | $26,073.12 |
| M. Bencken – BOT mowing | $630.00 |
| MicroMarketing – books | $26.39 |
| Rose Equipment LLC – sweeper lease | $17,250.00 |
| Eakes – soap dispenser | $36.86 |
| WAPA – purchased power | $12,514.40 |
| CPI – fuel | $154.98 |
| Webster Co. Sun – min, bids, notices | $479.43 |
| Kennys Hardware – fasteners, filter, plug, etc | $710.73 |
| Norder Supply – chemicals | $229.60 |
| Industrial Chemical Labs - chemicals | $473.83 |

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| CEI Security & Sound – door lock at Community Center | $867.60 |
| M. Rawlings – EMT training | $191.28 |
| Auld Public Library – materials, DVD, books, maintenance | $255.35 |
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| Total | $327,154.40 |

Gene Horne, Mayor
Maddy Schmitz, City Clerk