

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Mayor
Council Members

Verlin Janssen
Lonnie Warner
J Buddenberg
Jay Richeson
Aaron Colwell

City Attorney
City Administrator
Deputy Clerk

Mike Bacon
Gary Greer
Tara Hite

Not Present:

Press: *Gothenburg Leader* – Ellen Mortensen

Also present: Ken Christensen, Nolan Golter – Public Works Director, Shane Gruber – Building and Facility Director, and Jason Rudolph

Mayor Janssen opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Advance notice and a copy of the agenda were given to the Council and members of the press. City Council meetings are conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, a copy of which is available for public inspection on the north wall of the Council Chambers.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Richeson moved, Warner seconded, approving the consent agenda that included:

- a) City Council minutes – December 2
- b) Treasurer Report – November
- c) Police Report – November
- d) Planning & Zoning minutes – December 9
- e) Building Permits – November
- f) Library Statistical Report – November
- g) Community Redevelopment Authority Minutes – December 10

Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

CLAIMS:

Warner moved, Colwell seconded, allowing payment of claims against the General Fund \$41006.03; PWD Fund \$391318.35; December 10 payroll of \$59453.58 and Payroll Transmittals of \$29660.68. Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

Claims Codes: Bu- Building Upkeep, Eq-Equipment, Ex-Expense, Ma-Maintenance, Mi-Mileage, Misc-Miscellaneous, Re-Repairs, Se-Service, Su-Supplies, Ut-Utilities, CI-Capital Improvement, GU-Grounds Upkeep, Reim-Reimbursement, Tax-Tax, Ps-Personnel, Du-Dues.

General Fund Claims: Allo Communications LLC 365.81 Ut; Blue Valley Public Safety, Inc. 2,952.00 Du; Center Point Inc. 25.17 Ma; Charter Communications Holdings LLC 23.00 Ut; Cline Willaims 4,108.00 Se; Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Com 1,097.41 Ps; John Deere Financial f.s.b 919.22 Su; John Deere Financial f.s.b 142.96 Re; Ramsey Solutions 2,277.90 Se; Transunion Risk and Alternative Data Sol 128.00 Du; Vestis 27.24 Se; Card Services 2,170.75 Ex; Amazon Capital Services, Inc 801.10 Misc; American Legal Publishing Corporation 419.00 Du; Bacon, Vinton, & Venteicher LLC 3,210.00 Se; Black Hills Gas Distribution LLC 330.96 Ut; Caselle, Inc. 378.50 Se; Country Partners Cooperative 2,565.57 Ex; Cubby's Inc. 39.43 Ex; Dawson Public Power District 60.67 Ut; Dollar General 29.25 Ex; Eakes Inc. 152.96 Su; Eastside Animal Center 18.00 Se; Eustis 66 Service Inc. 2,816.90 Re; Franzen Inc. 2.70 Bu; Fyr-Tek 142.50 Re; Hicken Lumber and Home Center Inc 157.02 Misc; HireRight LLC 99.70 Ex; Honey Bee Cleaning Services LLC 853.75 Se; Ideal Linen 78.05 Bu; Jeffrey M Kennedy-Fire 106.38 Se; Jeffrey M Kennedy-Landscape 5,289.58 Gu; Kirks Trenching & Septic Service LLC

160.00 Se; Paulsen Inc. 247.50 Gu; Peterson's Supermarket Inc. 25.96 Su; Pinpoint Holdings Inc 436.08 Ut; Public Works Division 4,103.28 Ut; RT ACE, LLC #18157 184.57 Gu; S & S Auto Parts Inc 1,572.69 Ma; Syndicate Publishing LLC 370.83 Ex; Tryon Welding Inc. 625.00 Misc; Valley Promo LLC 239.64 Ex; YMCA of the Prairie 1,251.00 Ps.

Public Works Claims: A.S.A.P. EXPRESS 15.55 Ex; Allo Communications 260.37 Ut; Credit Management Services Inc. 230.69 Misc; John Deere Financial f.s.b 310.95 Misc; Nebraska Dept of Environment & Energy 1380.00 Ex; Ramsey Solutions 2784.10 Se; TBK Transmission, Inc 3980.00 Re; Vestis 87.13 Se; Noah Dea 149.80 Reim; Card Services 762.60 Ex; Black Hills Gas Distribution LLC 385.76 Ut; Caselle, Inc. 1135.50 Se; City of Gothenburg 57666.74 Reim; Country Partners Cooperative 2040.36 Ex; Dan's Sanitation Inc. 3550.57 Re; Dutton-Lainson Company 2252.36 Se; Eakes Inc. 54.66 Su; Franzen Inc. 2450.00 Ma; Honey Bee Cleaning Services LLC 281.25 Se; Island Supply Welding Co 105.60 Su; Nebraska Public Power District 253270.44 Ut; Nebraska Rural Water Association 450.00 Du; One Call Concepts Inc. 19.64 Misc; Paulsen Inc. 318.00 Ma; Pinpoint Holdings Inc. 70.14 Ut; Public Works Division 7161.52 Ut; RT ACE, LLC #18157 167.90 Re; S & S Auto Parts Inc 384.67 Ma; Schaben Sanitation 44333.16 Se; Schaben Sanitation-Recycling 759.81 Misc; Valley Promo LLC 65.00 Su; Wesco Distribution Inc 4434.08 Ma;

Payroll Transmittals: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, \$19303.31 Tax; EMPOWER RETIREMENT, \$9620.68 Ps; INSURANCE NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT, \$348.01 Ps; Credit Management Serv, \$388.68 Ps.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

City Administrator Greer stated that the Garner land has been leveled, cleaned, has set up for drainage, and in the spring, we will seed the property.

Greer stated city leaders have been meeting with Lexington leaders to determine a county wide approach to the closing of Tyson.

Greer stated that Seargent Rupp of the Police Department recently attended and passed the FBI command school.,

Greer also stated in compliance with the trail master plan the city has cleared the right of way on the west side of Avenue J between 22nd and 23rd street. A sidewalk will be placed in this area to fill in the gap in the trail system.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Nolan Golter discussed 2026 Maintenance Agreement #56 with Nebraska Department of Transportation. This is an annual agreement that we will maintain highways.

Richeson moved, Colwell seconded, to approve 2026 Maintenance Agreement #56 with Nebraska Department of Transportation. Roll call vote: Yea – Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No - none. Motion carried

Shane Gruber discussed Hail Damage Repair Bids. There were three bids Weathercraft Roofing-Lexington \$99,061, Compass Roofing \$112487.20, and Todd Strong Roofing \$160553. Gruber recommended Weathercraft Roofing - Lexington bid.

Richeson moved, Warner seconded to approve bid from Weathercraft Roofing – Lexington for \$99,061. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

City Administrator Greer discussed Ordinance 1048 Utility Rates (Electric, Sewer, Solid Waste Updates 2025). This is a 1% increase in electric rates and 5% increase in sewer rates. Solid waste rates increase is 13.5% due to increase in landfill rates.

Warner moved, Colwell seconded to approve third and final reading of Ordinance 1048 Utility Rates (Electric, Sewer, Solid Waste Updates 2025). Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, No – none. Absent and not voting - Colwell. Motion carried.

City Administrator Greer discussed Ordinance 1049 Office of City Clerk and City Treasurer. This will allow these positions to be separated instead of combining both positions.

Colwell moved, Richeson seconded that statutory rule requiring reading on 3 different days be suspended for introduced Ordinance. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried. Mayor Janssen declares motion adopted by vote of Council and statutory rule suspended for consideration of Ordinance 1049.

Deputy Clerk Hite read AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARITCLE III. SECTION 30.031 OF THE GOTHENBURG, NEBRASKA, CODE OF ORDINANCES; SEPARATING THE OFFICES OF CITY CLERK AND CITY TREASURER AND PROVIDING THAT SUCH OFFICES MAY BE HELD BY THE SAME PERSON, IF SO APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL; REPEAL CONFLCTING ORDINANCS AND SECTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Buddenberg moved, Colwell seconded to approve final reading of Ordinance 1049 Office of City Clerk and City Treasurer. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

City Administrator discussed job descriptions for City Clerk/HR Manager and Treasurer/Deputy Clerk and appointment of City Clerk – Tara Hite.

Richeson moved, Colwell seconded to approve job descriptions for City Clerk/HR Manager and Treasurer/Deputy Clerk. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

Richeson moved, Colwell seconded to approve the appointment of City Clerk - Tara Hite. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – 2026

Expiring Term Appointment Expires January ...

Board of Adjustment

Dan Yancy 2027

Linda Rodine 2027

Dick Nelson 2027

Hal Fecht (P & Z Rep) 2029

Linda Bowman 2029

Kent Kline-Alternate 2028

Cemetery Board

Casey Metzger 2027

Dee Miller 2027

Patrick Moore 2028

Kim Kitzing 2029

Alex Ballmer 2029

Community Redevelopment Authority

Dr. Ashton Hecox 2027

Joyce Hudson 2029

Joe Libal 2030

Travis Anderson 2030

Shane Bryant 2031

Housing Authority

Joyce Hudson 2027

Chevas Shaw 2028

Kyle Fornoff 2029

Cindy Soller 2029

Joni Birnie 2030

Jill Rubenthaler 2031

LB840 Citizen Advisory Committee

Jesse Ambler
Mishayla Freburg
Caroline Scott
Morgan Fornoff
Dave Zorn

Library Board

Rita Thomalla 2027
Sue Ostergard 2028
Karman Keith 2028
Mary Lou Clark 2029
Vacant 2030

Planning & Zoning Commission

Roger Koehler 2027
Marcy Slack 2028
Hal Fecht 2028
Casey Metzger 2028
Logan Ricely 2029
Jason Wagner 2029
Tanner Focken 2029

REDLG Reuse

Will Rahjes 2029
Morgan Fornoff 2029
City Administrator

Tree Board

Dave Zorn 2027
Dan Frerichs 2028
Kim Slack 2028
Nate Baker 2028
Mark Brand 2028
Jeff Kennedy 2029
Kathleen Hartman 2029

Park & Recreation Board

Ellen Mortenson 2027
Alec Foster 2027
Marc Mroczek 2027
Caresse Ross 2027
Kayla Paul 2027

Board of Health

Verlin Janssen, Mayor
Randy Olson, Police Chief
Jeff Kennedy
Dr. Garret Shaw

PERSONNEL

Position Currently held by:
City Administrator Gary D. Greer
City Attorney Mike Bacon
Assistant City Attorney Colten Venteicher
City Prosecutor Beverly Louthan
City Clerk Tara Hite
Treasurer/Deputy Clerk Vacant
Police Chief Randy Olson
Police Sgt Shawn Rupp
Police Officers
Jason Meinke

Samuel Golson
Tim Schweitzer
Matthew Langley

Community Service Office/Police Officer Brandon Shimmin
Fire Chief Mark Ballmer
Building Inspector Rob Will
Building & Facility Director Shane Gruber
City Physician Dr. Garrett Shaw
Municipal Engineer Miller & Assoc., Reed Miller Street Superintendent

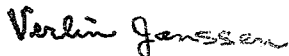
Fire Dept Roster

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Mason Ackerman | Ron Alexander | Brock Anderson | Trevor Anderson |
| Alan Ballmer | Alex Ballmer | Mark Ballmer | Brandon Bihlmaier |
| Shane Butterfield | Justin Carlson | Brandon Carter | Richard Crown |
| Matt Farr | Wiley Farr | Adam Finke | Craig Franzen |
| Larry Franzen | Troy Franzen | Trent Good | John Hecox |
| Tyrel Hite | Jon Hudson | Archer Jensen | Riley Kort |
| Cole Lorenzen | Jacob Matthies | Shane Max | Dan Meisinger |
| Trayven Miller | Troy (Scott) Munster | Cody Ostergard | Mark Ostergard |
| Robb Ostergard | Josh Reinhard | Jarrid Rickertsen | Blake Ristine |
| Jacob Rosse | Nick Spiegle | Lane VanNatta | Jason Wagner |
| Michael Wagner | Stephan Wehtje | Keith Williamson | Marty Ziemba |

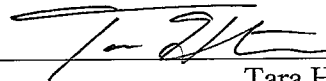
Fire Department Officers
Fire Chief Mark Ballmer
1st Ast Chief Mark Ostergard
Trustee Rick Crown
Rescue Captain Mike Wagner
Asst Rescue Captain Jason Wagner
President Adam Finke
Trustee Jon Hudson
Treasurer Jacob Rosse
Vice Pres/Training Lane VanNatta
2nd Asst Chief Matt Farr
Secretary Archer Jensen
¼ Master Brandon Carter

Warner moved, Colwell seconded to approve Committee & Personnel Appointments. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

Buddenberg moved, Richeson seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 5:54 p.m. Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.



Verlin Janssen, Mayor



Tara Hite, City Clerk