Regular Council Meeting
City Council Chambers

November 3, 2026
5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present:		Not Present:
Mayor	Verlin Janssen	
Council Members	Lonnie Warner	
	J Buddenberg	
	Jay Richeson	
	Aaron Colwell	
City Attorney	Mike Bacon	
City Administrator	Gary Greer	
City Clerk	Tara Hite	

Press: *Gothenburg Leader* – Ellen Mortensen

Also present: Shane Gruber-Building and Facility Director, Reed Miller – Miller & Associates, Rob Will – Building Inspector, Brandon Shimmin – Community Service Officer, Nate Wyatt, Deb Egenberger, Ken Christensen, Dan Urman.

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 current copy of which is available for public inspection located on the podium in the Council Chambers.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Reed Miller from Miller & Associates discussed Resolution 2026-16 1-& 6-Year Road Program. The purpose of the public hearing is to establish a program of street improvements and is the planning tool required for Highway Allocation funds.

Richeson moved, Colwell seconded, to close the public hearing at 5:39 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

Richeson moved, Warner seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-16 1-& 6-Year Road Program. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

a) City Council Minutes – October 20
b) Park & Recreation Board Minutes – October 21
c) Review, Discuss, and consider approval of Special Event Application for Magic on Main Street set for December 1, 2026, from 5:00p.m.-7:00p.m.

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

CLAIMS:

Buddenberg moved, Colwell seconded, allowing payment of claims against the General Fund $522,994.84; Special Funds $671.76; PWD Fund $294,292.34; October 28 payroll of $64,945.70 and Payroll Transmittals of $37,246.10. Roll call vote: 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 $347.84 Ut; Blue Cross Blue Shield $73,768.48 Ps; Bound Tree Medical LLC $373.04 Su; Center Point Inc. $151.35 Ma; City of Gothenburg-Debt Service Fund $228,979.75 Ex; Commercial Lighting Company $580.49 Su; Fresh Seasons $608.05 Reim; Gothenburg Impact Center $100,000.00 Misc; Gothenburg Impact

Center Facilities Agen $100,000.00 Misc; Greatland Corporation $0.00 Su; Guardian $2,195.06 Ps; Heartland Clerk's Association $10.00 Du; Ingram Book Company $805.70 Ma; Police Officer Association of Nebraska $200.00 Du; Windy Prairie Systems Inc. $2,300.00 Du; Amazon Capital Services, Inc $530.41Bu; Beverly Bodgle Louthan, P.C. $750.00 Se; City of North Platte $5,320.20 Se; Dawson Public Power District $61.81 Ut; Eakes Inc. $63.58 Su; Eustis 66 Service Inc. $358.50 Re; Franzen Inc.$206.50 Re; Hometown Leasing $186.49 Ex; Ideal Linen $43.93 Bu; Nebraska Water Experts LLC $43.28 Bu; Paulsen Inc. $571.84 Su; Pinpoint Holdings Inc $566.94 Ut; Platte Valley Communications of Kearney $2,742.08 Ma; Pony Express Chevrolet Buick $106.27 Re; Syndicate Publishing LLC $178.33 Ex; Traffic and Parking Co Inc. $944.92 Re.

Special Fund Claims: First Concord Benefits Group $662.27 Ps; Amazon Capital Services, Inc $9.49 Ex;

Public Works Claims: Heidi Holt $30.00 Misc; Allo Communications $268.60 Ut; City of Gothenburg-Debt Service Fund $102,228.00 Ex; Credit Management Services Inc. $2.22 Misc; NE.Dept of Water,Energy,Environment $100.00 Ex; A.S.A.P. EXPRESS $20.00 Ex; Amazon Capital Services $701.39 Ma; City of Gothenburg $113,575.36 Tax; Dan's Sanitation Inc. $3,859.39 Se; Dutton-Lainson Company $2,297.30 Du; Eakes Inc.$281.22 Ex; Hydro Optimization & Automation Solution $8,295.18 Ci; Nebraska Water Experts LLC $64.93 Bu; Pinpoint Holdings Inc. $84.99 Ut; Schaben Sanitation $49,692.64 Se; Schaben Sanitation-Recycling $854.07 Se; State of Nebraska $582.00 Se; Wesco Distribution Inc $11,355.05 Ma.

Payroll Transmittals: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE $20,565.61 Tax; EMPOWER RETIREMENT $10,403.67 Ps; AFLAC $618.08 Ps; NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT $605.55 Ps; Healthcare Cafeteria $3,347.00 Ps; First Concord Benefits Gro $1341.66; Credit Management Servic $202.87 Ps; Credit Management Servic $161.66 Ps.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

City Administrator Greer stated that Jill Rubenthaler will be retiring in January 2027. Karie Paben has been hired to fill the Account/Billing Clerk position.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

City Administrator Greer discussed discussed Resolution 2026-14 Year End Certification of City Street Superintendent. This is an annual requirement to receive funding.

Richeson moved, Warner seconded, to approve Resolution 2026-14 Year End Certification of City Street Superintendent. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

Community Service Officer Shimmin discussed Resolution 2026-17 Unsafe Building-Carson Davis located 523 Avenue F. Shimmin stated currently the structure of the property has no doors, windows, electiricty, and plumbing. Mr. Davis applied for a demolition permit back in April 2026 and had a contract with Axxent to demo the house, outbuilding, and to reconstruct another building in its place. An argument between a representative and Mr. Davis regarding bags of mulch resulted in Axxent no longer doing business with Mr. Davis. Shimmin stated in August 2026 Mr. Davis was then served a Notice to Abate Nuisance and was given 30 days to remedy the nuisance. No further progress on the structure and no appeal received.

Richeson motioned, Colwell seconded approval of Resolution 2026-17 Unsafe Building-Carson Davis located 523 Avenue F. Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

City Administrator Greer discussed Ordinance 1050 Utility Rates (Electric, Sewer, Solid Waste Updates 2026). This is a 9.8% increase in electric rates that includes 6% rate increase from NPPD and a 3.8% increase to the retirement of the NPPD PCA rebate program. Sewer rates increase 3% and water rates increase of 3%. Solid waste rates increase is 6.75% due to increase in landfill rates.

Buddenberg moved, Richeson seconded to approve first reading of Ordinance 1050 Utility Rates (Electric, Sewer, Solid Waste Updates 2026). Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

City Administrator Greer discussed Resolution 2026-15 Update Fee Schedule (2026 updates). This will change the rate of dumpster permit, peddlers permit, weed cutting, filing fees, and maps. Airport overnight parking was added to the fee schedule.

Richeson moved, Colwell seconded, to approve discussed Resolution 2026-15 Update Fee Schedule (2026 updates). Roll call vote: Yea –Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

Buddenberg moved, Colwell seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. Roll call vote: Yea – Warner, Buddenberg, Richeson, Colwell. No – none. Motion carried.

Verlin Janssen

Verlin Janssen, Mayor

Tara Hite, City Clerk