CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA

I. ROUTINE BUSINESS

The City Council of the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska, met in regular session at Prairie Winds Community Center, 428 Main Street, Bridgeport, Nebraska, on the 8th day of October 2026, beginning at 5:32 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and Prayer, Mayor Gail Beyer called the meeting to order. Roll call resulted as follows: Present:, Carrie Harless, Tony McGrath, Mark Wickard; Absent: Jeff Nichols

Staff members present were: Kathy Baxter, Bryan Schluterbusch

Mayor Beyer presided, and City Clerk Huck recorded the proceedings.

Mayor Beyer announced, "In accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the open meetings act is posted at the back of the meeting room for the review of the public."

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting the three designated methods of notice given USPS, Pwcc, City Office.

Notice was given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and by email notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

Mayor Beyer asked if there were any letters of public correspondence for the board. There were none.

Mayor Beyer asked if there were any visitors that would like to speak on an item that is not on the agenda. There were none.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

6. Approve the minutes of the Regular meeting held September 10, 2026
7. Approve the minutes of the Budget Hearing held September 10, 2026
8. Acceptance of the Monthly Treasurers Report.

Council Member Harless moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, Wickard, McGrath Nay: None. Motion carried.

III. CLAIMS

9. Council Member Wickard made a motion to approve Jeff Nichols claim, seconded by Council Member McGrath, Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Wickard, Harless, McGrath; Nay: None. Motioned carried.

10. Council Member Wickard moved to approve the claims, seconded by Council Member McGrath. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: McGrath, Wickard, Harless; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Claims: ABDO Publishing, Bks, $525.00; Aflac, Aflc, $395.22; Alarm Security Technicians, Msm, $32.95; Allo Communications LLC, Tlpn, $820.28; Allstate Insurance Company, Ins, $5,705.00; American Funds Service Company, Retire, $5,920.78; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, Amtrs, $181.04; Kathlene Baxter, Mge / Tpln, $90.75; Benzel Pest Control Inc, Op, $75.89; Black Hills Energy, Ht, $479.04; BCBS Of Ne, Hlth Ins, $13,084.02; Bomgaars, Msm / Op / Rm / Shop / Tls, $757.88; Bridgeport News-Blade, Pp, $340.19; Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Dept, Op, $1,047.50; Century Business Products Inc, Op, $43.56; Chimney Rock Public Power District, Elct, $164.50; City Of Bridgeport, Elct, $9,328.69; City Of Bridgeport, Mtr Dep, $2,479.40; Colonial

Life & Accident Insurance Co, Clnl, $805.06; Community Center, Tr, $25,000.00; Computer Connection, Op, $49.00; Court House & Jail Rock Golf Course Inc, Glf, $14,143.40; Croell Redi-Mix, Str Mat, $405.00; Culligan Water Conditioning, Op, $150.50; Cummins Central Power LLC, Rm / Tf, $3,400.09; E & S Auto Supply, Rm / Op, $817.94; Eakes Office Solutions, Op, $452.41; Enviro Service Inc, Wtr Aly, $60.00; Federal, Fed, $3,894.00; Fica, $7,826.86; Fire Fund, Tr, $12,000.00; Frank Parts Company, Rm, $224.33; General Treasury, Tr, $55,000.00; Hawkins Inc, Tf, $6,418.20; Health Savings Account, Hsa, $2,088.00; Doretta J Huck, Tlpn, $40.00; Hydraulic Equipment Service Inc, Rm, $394.52; Ideal Linen & Uniform, Op / Ua, $965.94; Inland Truck Parts Company, Rm, $344.12; Dane M Jeffords, Tlpn, $40.00; John Deere Financial, Msm / Op, $79.85; Koke's Auto Farm Truck Inc, Op / Rm / Shop / Tls, $1,072.80; Kone Chicago, Op, $355.29; Lee's Service Inc, Fl, $333.00; Andrew S Leisy, Tlpn, $40.00; Library Fund, Tr, $10,000.00; Kyle E Lussetto, Tlpn, $40.00; Masa Global, Ins, $154.00; Medicare, Mdcr, $1,830.54; Billie Mitchell, Msm, $100.00; Morrill County Sheriff, Cnty, $37,882.65; Municipal Energy Agency Of Ne, Mn, $132,615.73; Municipal Supply Inc Of Nebraska, Inv, $5,449.95; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, Sls Tx / State, $14,983.72; Nebraska Printworks LLC, Ofsup, $166.36; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab, Wtr Aly, $970.00; Nebraska Public Power District Msm, $188.85; Perry E Nelson, Tlpn, $40.00; Jeffrey T Nichols, Cnt Svc, $1,705.00; Northwest Pipe Fittings Inc Of Scottsbluff, Rm, $1,312.00; Nspire Today, Pp, $65.00; One Call Concepts Inc, Op, $88.09; Optk Networks, Tlpn, $75.00; Pace Analytical Services LLC, Wtr Aly, $1,200.00; Panhandle Clerk's Association, Df, $40.00; Park Fund, Tr, $9,000.00; Platte Valley Bank - Scb, Bmgr Pr, $12,398.64; Platte Valley Visa, Op, $5,004.60; Police Fund, Tr, $37,882.65; Pye-Barker Fire & Safety LLC, Rm, $1,071.75; Quadient Finance Usa Inc, Pstg, $1,100.00; Regional Care Inc Group II LLC, Hsa, $72.00; Reliance Standard Life Ins Co, Lf Ins, $287.65; Brody Joe Retchless, Cnt Svc, $750.00; Allan J Roach, Tlpn, $40.00; Rodak Law Office, Lgl Rtnr, $1,000.00; Fay Scarrow, Tlpn, $40.00; Bryan Schluterbusch, Tlpn, $40.00; Parker Smith, Cnt Svc, $748.00; Spic-Span Cleaners, Str Mat, $5,117.20; Street Fund, Tr, $5,000.00; Sunrise Window Cleaners LLC, Op, $39.00; Superior Sanitation Services Inc, Dwn Twn, $210.00; Town & Country Advertising, Pp, $81.00; Trading Post Enterprises LLC, Fl, $2,121.93; USA Bluebook, Tf, $309.95; USDA Rural Development, Bnds Int, $103,298.00; Alexis Vergil, Mtr Dep, $120.60; Waste Connections Of Ne Inc, Trsh, $20,417.88; WPCI, Op, $200.00; Total Claims, $593,129.74; Salaries, $52,388.23

****Aflc = Aflac; Amtrs = Ameritas; Bks = Books; Bmgr Pr = Tif Bomgaars Principle; Bnds Int = Bonds & Interest; Clnl = Colonial; Cnt Svc = Contract Services; Cnty = County Contract; Df = Dues & Fees; Dwn Twn = Downtown Appearance; Elct = Electric Bills; Fed = Federal; Fl = Fuel; Glf = Golf Course; Hlth Ins = Health Insurance; Hsa = Health Savings; Ht = Heat; Ins = Insurance; Inv = Inventory; Lf Ins = Life Insurance; Lgl Rtnr = Legal Retainer; Mdcr = Medicare; Mge = Mileage; Mn = Mean; Msm = Museum; Mtr Dep = Meter Deposit; Ofsup = Office Supplies; Op = Operating Expense; Pp = Printing & Publications; Pstg = Postage; Retire = Retirement / City Share; Rm = Repairs & Maintenance; Shop = Shop Supplies; Sls Tx = Sales N Use Tax; State = State; Str Mat = Street Material; Tf = Treatment Facility; Tlpn = Telephone; Tls = Tools; Tr = Transfer Out; Trsh = Trash; Ua = Uniform Allowance; Wtr Aly = Water Analysis*

IV. ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

11. None

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

12. None

VI. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

13. The proposed subdivision is located outside the city limits near the potato factory but within the City's one-mile extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction. Therefore, the City, rather than the County, must approve the subdivision. The Planning Commission reviewed the proposal and had no objections.

Council Member Wickard introduced Ordinance No. 1039, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, ACCEPTING THE SUBDIVISION OF A TRACT OF LAND IN GOVERNMET LOT 1, SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 50 WEST OF THE 6th P.M., MORRILL COUNTY, NEBRASKA, A PARCEL LOCATED WITHIN THE EXTRATERRITORIAL ZONING JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT; PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION OR POSTING AS REQUIRED BY LAW, and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, seconded by Council Member McGrath. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: McGrath, Wickard, Harless; Nay: None.

Motion carried. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for consideration of said ordinance. Ordinance No. 1039 was then read by title and thereafter. Council Member Wickard moved final passage of the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Council Member Harless. The Mayor then stated the question: "Shall Ordinance No. 1039 be passed and adopted?" Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: McGrath, Harless, Wickard; Nay: None. Motion carried. The passage and adoption of said ordinance having been concurred in by a majority of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted and the Mayor, in the presence of the Council, signed and approved the ordinance and the Deputy Clerk attested to the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto.

14. City Attorney Rodak requested that Ordinance No. 1040 be tabled to allow additional research and revisions to clarify the proposed regulations. Resident JoAnn Callan was present and expressed concerns regarding the restrictions in the proposed electric vehicle and e-bike ordinance. Callan noted that she had ridden more than 1,425 miles on her e-bike around Bridgeport and stated that the proposed rules appeared more restrictive than those in a nearby community. Following discussion, the Council agreed to review and revise the ordinance for consideration at the next meeting. Ordinance No. 1040 was tabled for further review.

15. Council Member Wickard introduced Ordinance No. 1041 entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, REQUIRING A CERTIFIED ELECTRIAL INSPECTION AND SAFETY RELEASE FOR MOBILE HOMES AND MANUFACTURED HOMES PRIOR TO THE INSTALLATION OF AN ELECTRIC REVENUE METER OR THE ENERGIZATION OF ELECTRICAL SERVICE; Council Member Harless seconded the motion. After extensive discussion regarding the requirement for certified electrical inspections before restoring power to mobile and manufactured homes that have been vacant for more than six months, the Council broadened the proposed requirement to include all dwellings.

Council Member Wickard moved to introduce amended ordinance 1041 on 1st reading entitled, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT NEBRASKA REQUIRING A CERTIFIED ELECTRICAL INSPECTION AND SAFETY RELEASE FOR ALL DWELLINGS PRIOR TO THE INSTALLATION OF AN ELECTRICAL REVENUE METER OR THE ENERGIZATION OF AN ELECTRICAL SERVICE, seconded by Council Member Harless; Roll Call resulted as follows; Aye: Wickard, Harless; Nay: McGrath. Amended Ordinance 1041 passed on 1st reading.

Council Member Nichols arrived at 6:07 p.m.

16. Discussion was held regarding proposed Ordinance No. 1042, which would limit the number of animals permitted per household. The Council noted that the current ordinance classifies properties with eight or more animals as a kennel. Discussion also included concerns regarding the feeding of feral cats. The Council will continue reviewing the proposed ordinance and work toward revisions for consideration at the next meeting.

17. Council Member Nichols introduced Resolution 2026-14 and moved that resolution be adopted with the exception of #5 the Bobcat skid steer grader attachment, seconded by Council Member Harless. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Wickard, Nichols, McGrath; Harless, Nay: None. Resolution passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BYTHE CITY PURSUANT TO NEB. REV. STAT. § 17-503.02.

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503.02 authorizes the power any city of the second class or village to convey any personal property owned by it;

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503.02 sets forth that said power to convey personal property shall be exercised by resolution directing the sale and the manner and terms of the sale;

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska, owns the following described personal property which it desires to sell:

1. Agri -Fab 2-Wheel Pull type Garden Trailer
2. Agri-Fab Pull Type Broadcast Spreader
3. Agri-Fab Pull Type 40” Aerator
4. John Deere Pull Type Broadcast Spreader
5. Bobcat skid steer grader attachment
6. Traulsen Cooler
7. Truck bed topper 8’
8. Road Boss 84” box blade

NOW THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, HEREBY RESOLVES, to sell to the highest responsible bidder the afore-describedpersonal property subject to the following terms and conditions.

1. The City hereby authorizes the sale of the above-described personal property to consign with Kraupies Real Estate & Auctioneers on the Panhandle Farmers & Ranchers Farm Equipment Auction Online October 20, 2026
2. Property shall be sold “as is” with no warranties, express or implied, of any kind.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proceeds of the sale of the personal property described above shall be placed in the Park and Street Fund of the Municipality.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8th DAY OF OCTOBER 2026.

_____
Gail Beyer, Mayor
City of Bridgeport

_____
Doretta J. Huck, City Clerk/Treasurer
City of Bridgeport

18. Discussion was held regarding lowering the purchase authorization limit from $5,000 to $1,500 without prior approval. Council members expressed a desire for closer oversight of non-emergency purchases.

Council Member Wickard introduced Resolution 2026-15 and moved that resolution be adopted, seconded by Council Member Harless. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Wickard, Harless; Nay: Nichols, McGrath; Tying Vote: Nay: Mayor Beyer. Resolution Did Not pass

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-15

A RESOLUTION RESTRICTING CITY PURCHASING AUTHORITY AND REQUIRING PRIOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL FOR EXPENDITURES EXCEEDING $1,500.00.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska, is charged with the fiscal management and oversight of all municipal funds; and

WHEREAS the City Council desires to establish an internal control policy regarding municipal expenditures to ensure accountability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF Bridgeport, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. Prior Approval Required. No Mayor, city officer, department head, or employee shall make, authorize, or commit the City to any purchase, contract, or expenditure exceeding One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($1500.00) **without prior review and approval by a majority vote of the City Council**.

SECTION 2. Splitting of Purchases Prohibited. City departments and employees are strictly prohibited from artificially dividing or splitting a single purchase, project, or contract into smaller, separate transactions under $1500.00 for the purpose of evading the Council approval required by this Resolution.

SECTION 3. Standard Approval Process. Any proposed purchase or contract exceeding One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($1500.00) must be submitted to the City Clerk with supporting documentation (such as quotes or invoices) to be placed on the official agenda for the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting for consideration and vote.

SECTION 4. Emergency Exception. The restrictions of Section 1 shall not apply in the event of a bona fide public emergency where immediate action is required to protect public health, safety, or critical infrastructure. Any such emergency expenditure exceeding $5,000.00 must be approved by the Mayor (Council President or designated administrator) and presented to the City Council for ratification at its next meeting.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval according to law.

DID NOT PASS THIS 8th DAY OF OCTOBER 2026.

(ATTEST)

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Gail Beyer, Mayor
City of Bridgeport

_____

Doretta J Huck, City Clerk/Treasurer
City of Bridgeport

VII. REPORTS

19. Department Reports:

Public Works: Bryan Schluterbusch addressed the state-mandated Lead Service Line Replacement Plan and the upcoming deadlines. He reported that the City has 767 service lines, with 684 currently classified as unknown. He emphasized that identifying and addressing this service line could require significant funding and staff time, noting that some communities have spent up to $100,000 on the process. He wanted the Council to be aware of the upcoming requirements and the potential impact on the City.

Discussion was held regarding a proposed $5.00 per hour raise for Dane Jeffords following receipt of his Lineman Repair Certificate. Council Member Wickard stated that employees who receive certifications are typically given a $1.00 per hour raise and felt that amount should apply. Mayor Beyer said the higher amount was discussed earlier. “There were discussions had, and it was said $5.00 an hour. as there were emails about this conversation, $5.00 per hour, and it was approved and he was told $5.00 when this happened. No motion was made.

Pwcc: Kathy Baxter stated that several groups have indicated they were entitled to free room rentals and estimated that the Center has lost approximately $3,000 in rental revenue since she began on May 29. Kathy will be sending letters notifying groups of the changes. Council members agreed that all rentals should be billed, with groups having the option to bring their request before the Council after receiving the bill to discuss a possible fee reduction or waiver. Council Member Harless made a motion to charge everyone Pwcc room rentals, seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: McGrath, Nichols, Harless, Wickard; Nay: None.

Discussion was held regarding a company based in Frederick, Colorado, that could inspect the gym curtain annually at a cost of $1,700. Council acknowledged that the curtain is approximately 30 years old and needs to be replaced. The Council will discuss options with the Foundation to develop a replacement plan.

Kathy Baxter reported that she had received estimates for the furnace and two air conditioning units. Council Member Wickard requested time to review the estimates to ensure the proposed equipment and services are comparable before proceeding.

Library: Mayor Beyer reported that attendance at the children’s activities has been very good. She also noted that the three bids for the proposed addition had been received.

Park: Council Member Harless discussed issues with youth causing disturbances at the park. The cameras will be repositioned and mounted higher to improve monitoring. The replacement doors have arrived to replace those damaged earlier in the summer. Discussion was also held regarding installing rubber mulch or rock in front of the Community Center.
Fire Dept: No Report
Camp Clarke Villa: Meeting with the auditors is scheduled for the 14th to review their report. The boilers have arrived and have been installed.
Sheriff: September Report: ALS, 23 Rescue calls; 16 were in the city limits; 7 were in the county; 34 transfers. Sheriff had 113 calls and 11 arrests. The department is currently one officer short and has received several applications; however, none of the applicants are certified and will need to attend the academy. The department will assist with Halloween activities and is working on addressing campers parked on the streets.
Golf Course: Susan Myers and PADD will begin working on a grant application for next year to help fund replacement of the golf course sprinkler system. The grant application process is extensive, and they anticipate having it ready for submission next year.
Administration: City Clerk Huck reported that the $125,000 SS4A (Safe Streets and Roads for All) Planning Grant has been completed, and the City has received $100,000 in federal funding. She acknowledged Susan Myers and Allison Cook for their assistance with the quarterly reports, progress performance reports, federal financial reports, and the final report.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA

20. Emergency Items – None

21. Council Member Harless made a motion to approve Credit Management Services Inc contract, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, Wickard, McGrath, Nichols; Nay: None.

22. Mike Olsen was present to discuss the sewer replacement project and the challenges associated with the existing line's minimal slope. The project was initially planned as a sewer lining project through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). However, after Johnson Services attempted to camera the line, they found it was in such poor condition that they could only advance a few feet past most manholes. The project was therefore changed to a full replacement. Olsen outlined different options for addressing the slope issues, after some discussion he will be back at the next meeting for final approval.

23. Keno Board Member Brad Huck presented their recommendations of the following: Bridgeport 3rd and 4th Grade Football, $5,000.00; Bridgeport Bombers Baseball, $3,200.00; MC Veterans Service Office, $1,500.00; Sons of American Legion, $10,000.00. Council Member Wickard made a motion to accept the Keno Boards recommendation, seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: McGrath, Wickard, Harless, Nichols; Nay: None. Motion carried.

24. Council Member Nichols made a motion for a 5% increase in the city trash rates to be effective October 15, 2026, seconded by Council Member Harless. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: McGrath, Wickard, Harless, Nichols; Nay: None. Motion carried.

25. Discussion was held regarding updating the agreement with the school for use of the baseball fields, as the existing contracts date back to 2005 and 2006. City Attorney Rodak stated that the dates of the agreements do not change the effectiveness of the contract.

26. Council Member Wickard discussed the recent MEAN electrical rate increases. It was explained that the increases were primarily driven by the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), a federal electricity supplier that provides approximately 38% to 40% of the power purchased. WAPA implemented a rate increase of approximately 6.5% to 7% in November, which was passed through to MEAN's costs. The City has experienced a cumulative increase of approximately 14.2% over the past two years. MEAN and the Nebraska Municipal Power Pool are exploring options to manage purchased power costs and mitigate future increases. Existing long-term contracts continue to provide electricity at reasonable rates; however, increases from WAPA remain outside the City's control. The Council acknowledged that another electric rate increase will likely be necessary. The proposed percentage increase will be discussed and determined at the next Council meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the Mayor Beyer entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member McGrath made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m., seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: McGrath, Nichols, Wickard, Harless Nay: None. Meeting Adjourned.

_____
Doretta J Huck, City Clerk

APPROVED:

_____
Gail Beyer, Mayor

I, the undersigned Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is the full, true and correct original document of proceedings of Thursday, October 8, 2026, had and done by the Mayor and City Council; that all of the subjects included in the proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

_____
Doretta J Huck, City Clerk