

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 12th day of February 2026, beginning at 6:17 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: Mark Wickard, Jeff Nichols, Tony McGrath, Carrie Harless

Staff members present: Billie Mitchell & Ron Doggett

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 publication in the Bridgeport News-Blade, the designated method of notice given, as shown by proof of publication, as shown by attached affidavit of posting.

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 hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

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

The Mayor asked if there are any visitors that would like to speak on an item that is not on the agenda. Billie Mitchell representing the Morrill County Visitors Committee announced the first release of grant funds to promote tourism within Morrill County due by March 16 to assist groups to help fund visitor attracting programs to tie in with Camp Clarke Days. Going forward the grant funding will be released on a regular schedule, March 1 and October 31 of each year.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

6. Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 8, 2026.
7. Approve the minutes of the Work Session held on January 8, 2026
8. Acceptance of the Monthly Treasurers Report.
9. Approve the Mayors appointment of Cole Schaffer to probationary status on the Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Department
10. Approve Tim Kampsnider from probationary to active status on the Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Department
11. Approve Coote Mulloy from probationary to active status on the Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Department

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

III. CLAIMS

12. Council Member Nichols stated that he has a conflict with Jeff Nichols Claim; Council Member Nichols then excused himself. Council Member Wickard moved to approve the claim, seconded by Council Member McGrath. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Harless, Wickard, McGrath; Not Voting, Abstain: Nichols; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Council Member Nichols rejoined the Council.

13. Council Member Wickard requested clarification on a \$3,000.00 Visa claim which was identified as payment for banquet tables purchased by Pwcc. Council Member Harless inquired about the two separate \$5,000.00 claims submitted for the Golf Course and stated going forward she would like to see a more detailed expense report and balance sheet accompanying the claims and moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, Wickard, Nichols, McGrath; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Claims: 5 Star Custom Designs, Op, \$1,450.00; Aflac, Aflc, \$456.24; Alarm Security Technicians, Msm, \$32.95; Rebecca Alfaro, Trng, \$1,099.00; Allo Communications LLC, Tlpn, \$813.84; Altec Industries, Rm, \$58.77; American Funds Service Company, Retire, \$6,382.51; Ameritas Group Life Insurance, Amtrs, \$126.14; Atlas Automation LLC, Rm, \$1,300.45; Baker Ballistics LLC, Op, \$9,774.00; Barco Municipal Products Inc, Op / Rm, \$1,319.84; Bb Associates, Misc, \$4,072.5; Benzel Pest Control Inc, Msm / Op, \$178.74; Black Hills Energy, Ht, \$2,886.31; BCBS Of Ne, Hlth Ins, \$5,986.89; Bluffs Facility Solutions, Ofsup / Op, \$526.27; Bomgaars, Dwn Twm / Op / Rm / Tf / Tls, \$308.18; Bridgeport News-Blade, Pp, \$440.00; Cengage Learning Inc, Bks, \$41.98; Century Business Products Inc, Op, \$38.30; Chimney Rock Public Power District, Elct, \$168.20; City Of Bridgeport, Elct / Mtr Dep, \$7,296.93; City Petty Cash/Checking, Df, \$20.00; Clear Image Media, Op, \$351.35; Christina M Collins, Tlpn, \$40.00; Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Co, Clnl, \$652.50; Community Center, Tr, \$20,000.00; Court House & Jail Rock Golf Course Inc, Glf, \$10,000.00; Crescent Electric Supply Company, Op / Tls, \$219.65; Croell Redi-Mix, Rm, \$70.00; Culligan Water Conditioning, Op, \$156.00; Ronald L Doggett, Tlpn, \$40.00; Dutton Lainson Company, Op, \$123.87; E & S Auto Supply, Op / Tls, \$185.06; Enviro Service Inc, Wtr Aly, \$60.00; Fairfield Inn & Suites, Trng, \$289.90; Federal, Fed, \$3,364.69; Fica, \$7,632.14; Fire Fund, Tr, \$6,000.00; General Treasury, Tr, \$55,000.00; Hawkins Inc, Tf, \$6,052.65; Health Savings Account, Hsa, \$1,972.00; Honeywagon Express LLC, Op, \$150.00; Doretta J Huck, Tlpn, \$40.00; Ideal Linen & Uniform, Op / Ua, \$1,457.00; Dane M Jeffords, Tlpn, \$40.00; Koke's Auto Farm Truck Inc, Op / Rm / Tls, \$498.56; Lee's Service Inc, Fl, \$50.78; Andrew S Leisy, Tlpn, \$40.00; Library Fund, Tr, \$11,000.00; Kyle E Lusetto, Tlpn, \$40.00; Macqueen Equipment LLC, Me / Rm, \$2,239.77; Matthew R Martinez, Op, \$2,500.00; Masa Global, Ins, \$140.00; Medicare, Mdcr, \$1,784.94; Darrell Menke, Trng, \$60.00; Mid-American Research Chemical, Op, \$165.93; Midwest Connect LLC, Pstg, \$390.00; Billie Mitchell, Msm, \$206.70; Morrill County Community Hospital, Op, \$114.00; Morrill County Sheriff, Cnty, \$36,780.00; Municipal Energy Agency Of Ne, Mn, \$232,246.31; Ne Dept Of Revenue Chartable Gaming, St Shr, \$2,493.00; Nebraska Dept Of Revenue, Sls Tx / State, \$13,630.67; Nebraska Museums Association, Msm, \$30.00; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab, Tf, \$98.00; Nebraska Public Power District, Msm, \$78.32; Nebraska.Gov, Ua, \$238.38; Perry E Nelson, Tlpn, \$40.00; Jeffrey T Nichols, Cnt Svc, \$1,705.00; Brittany Norman, Op, \$369.25; Northwest Pipe Fittings Inc Of Scottsbluff, Rm, \$111.75; One Call Concepts Inc, Op, \$9.80; Optk Networks, Tlpn, \$75.00; Pace Analytical Services LLC, Wtr Aly, \$1,500.00; Panhandle Collections Inc, Bd, \$93.19; Park Fund, Tr, \$3,000.00; Platte Valley Visa, Op, \$9,570.61; Police Fund, Tr, \$36,780.00; Powerplan, Rm, \$125.55; Quadiant Finance Usa Inc, Pstg, \$1,000.00; Railroad Management Co Iii, LLC, Df, \$2,949.90; Regional Care Inc Group Ii, Hsa, \$64.00; Reliance Standard Life Ins Co, Lf Ins, \$234.00; Brody Joe Retchless, Cnt Svc, \$750.00; Rodak Law Office, Lgl Rtnr, \$1,000.00; Fay Scarrow, Tlpn, \$40.00; Bryan Schluterbusch, Tlpn, \$40.00; Scottsbluff Screen Printing & Embroidery, Op / Pgrm, \$1,299.00; Sgh Concepts, Rm, \$1,950.00; Parker Smith, Cnt Svc, \$935.00; Sonnys Super Foods, Ofsup / Op / Tf, \$79.02; Spic-Span Cleaners, Op, \$1,498.00; Street Fund, Tr, \$5,000.00; Jessi Strickland, Dep, \$117.71; Sunrise Cleaners, Op, \$39.00; Trading Post Enterprises LLC, Fl, \$836.08; Usa Bluebook, Tf, \$274.88; Utilities Section, Trng, \$534.00; Waste Connections Of Ne Inc, Trsh, \$19,133.12; Wesco Receivables Corp, Inv, \$180.50; Wpci, Op, \$105.00; Total Claims, \$554,939.57; Total Salaries, \$46,659.71

****Aflc = Aflac; Amtrs = Ameritas; Bd = Bad Debts; Bks = Books; Clnl = Colonial; Cnt Svc = Contract Services; Cnty = County Contract; Dep = Customer Meter Deposit; Df = Dues & Fees; Dwn Twm = Downtown Appearance; Elct = Electric Bills; Fed = Federal; Fica = Fica; 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; Me = Machinery & Equipment; Misc = Miscellaneous; Mn = Mean; Msm = Museum; Mtr Dep = Meter Deposit; Ofsup = Office Supplies; Op = Operating Expense; Pgrm = Program Supplies; Pp = Printing & Publications; Pstg = Postage; Retire = Retirement / City Share; Rm = Repairs & Maintenance; Sls Tx = Sales N Use Tax; St Shr = State Share; State = State; Tf = Treatment Facility; Tlpn = Telephone; Tls = Tools; Tr = Transfer Out; Trng = Training; Trsh = Trash; Ua = Uniform Allowance; Wtr Aly = Water Analysis

IV. ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

14. None

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

15. None

VI. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

16. Council Member Nichols introduced Ordinance No. 1032 on third and final reading increasing Mayor's salary to \$5,400.00 per year and Council Members to \$4,200.00 / year for terms beginning after the 2026 election, AN ORDINANCE SETTING THE AMOUNT OF SALARY FOR THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL; PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; seconded by Council Member McGrath. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: McGrath, Wickard, Nichols, Harless; Nay: None. Ordinance 1032 passed on final reading.

17. Ordinance 1033 amends the city zoning code to regulate medical cannabis establishments permitting them in Agriculture, Commercial Business District, Highway Commercial or Industrial through a conditional use permit, while barring them near residential, churches and schools.

Council Member Nichols introduced Ordinance No. 1033 on third and final reading, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BRIDGEPORT CITY CODE CHAPTER 153: ZONING CODE TO CREATE STANDARDS REGARDING MEDICAL CANNABIS ESTABLISHMENTS WITHIN THE CITY; PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; seconded by Council Member McGrath. Roll Call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, Nichols, McGrath, Wickard; Nay: None. Ordinance 1033 passed on final reading.

18. Ordinance 1034 is amending Ordinance 1025 to reflect the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panels and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) both dated 3/17/2026

Council Member Nichols introduced Ordinance No. 1034 and suspended the second to the third and final reading due to an approaching timeline, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 1025, FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT, SECTIONS 2.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS, 2.1 LANDS TO WHICH ORDINANCE APPLIES AND SECTION 3.0 ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONING DISTRICTS, PRESCRIBING THE TIME WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; seconded by Council Member Harless. Roll Call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, Nichols, McGrath, Wickard; Nay: None. Ordinance 1034 passed on final reading.

19. Resolution 2026-01 is authorizing the sale of city owned real estate to Future Nebraska LLC from the contract lease agreement dated from 2018 for Skyview at Bridgeport nursing facility. Council discussed the airtight contract as well as the infrastructure repairs and fire suppressant system which will cost tens of thousands of dollars.

Council Member Harless introduced Resolution 2026-01, and moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Nichols, Wickard, McGrath, Harless; Nay: None. Resolution passed

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY PURSUANT TO NEB. REV. STAT. § 17-503.

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503 authorizes the power any city of the second class or village to convey any real property owned by it, other than real property used in the operation of public utilities;

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503(2) sets forth that after passage of this Resolution, notice of the proposed property sale shall be published once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a legal newspaper in or of general circulation in the City;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503(3) following the third (3rd) publication as set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503(2), there shall be a thirty (30) day period whereby if a petition is filed with the governing body of the City within said thirty(30) day period, and meets the requirements set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503(3), then the property shall not then, nor within one year thereafter, be sold;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503(5), if this Resolution has been passed directing sale; published as required by law; and no petition is properly filed that meets the requirements of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503(3), then the property shall be sold under the terms and

conditions as hereinafter set forth. Said sale shall be confirmed by the passage of an ordinance stating the name of the purchaser and the terms of the sale;

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska, owns the following described real property:

Lots 3 through 6, Hospital Addition to the City of Bridgeport, Morrill County, Nebraska, more thoroughly described as Morrill County Assessor Parcel Numbers 0100009861; 0100009888; 0100009896; 0100009918.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, HEREBY RESOLVES, to sell to Future Nebraska, LLC, pursuant to the option to purchase and other terms and conditions the Lease Agreement entered into with the parties on or about May 22, 2018.

1. The City hereby authorizes the sale of the above-described surplus real property as set forth under the terms of the Lease Agreement signed by the parties on May 22, 2018.
2. The purchase price for the property shall be the remainder of the Bond amount due and owing as of the date of the passing of this Resolution (\$616,017.00).
3. Buyer shall be responsible for ALL closing costs, including but not limited to, title insurance, doc stamp (if applicable), deed recording fees, attorney fees, taxes due and payable at the time of sale, any survey that may be needed to be completed to consummate the transaction, and/or any other cost associated with conveyance of the property.
4. The terms of the sale shall be cash, cashier's check, or certified funds to be paid in full on or before the day/time set forth for closing of the transaction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that following passage of this resolution directing sale of the above-described real property, notice of the proposed sale shall be published once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a legal newspaper in or of general circulation in the City;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that subject to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 17-503, the Mayor of the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska is hereby authorized to execute all documents that may be required to effectuate the transfer of all right, title and interest of the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska in said real property, including authorization to execute any and all documents that may be required to facilitate the auction of the property to be performed by Kraupie's Real Estate and Auctioneering.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proceeds of the sale of the real property described above shall be placed in the General Fund of the City.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

ATTEST:

***GAIL BEYER
MAYOR***

***DORETTA J. HUCK
CITY CLERK/TREASURER***

20. Council Member Nichols introduced Resolution 2026-02, and moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Harless, McGrath, Nichols, Wickard; Nay: None. Resolution passed

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA TO ACCEPT THE DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS SET OUT BY THE STATE OF NEBRASKA FOR THE USE OF HIGHWAY 385 FOR CAMP CLARK DAYS PARADE HELD MAY 30, 2026

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeport intends to create a parade route beginning at the intersection of 5th and Main Street to the intersection of 11th and Main Street for the Annual Camp Clark Days Event Parade on May 30, 2026 from 10:00 A.M. to 11:45 A.M., and

WHEREAS, closure of roadways along the parade route is necessary to relieve the through traffic from the area in the City of Bridgeport, Nebraska on or near the parade route, and provide a safe event for participants and spectators, and

WHEREAS, Main Street (US-385) roadway from 5th Street to 11th Street is part of the state highway system and is located within the official corporate limits or zoning jurisdiction of the City of Bridgeport, and

WHEREAS, the City of Bridgeport, while making use of the state highway system for a special event shall have the legal duty to protect the highway property¹³ from any damage that may occur arising out of the special event and the state shall not have any such duty during the time the

City of Bridgeport is in control of the property as specified in the notice provided pursuant to LB 589/N.R.S §39-1359, and

WHEREAS, any existing statutory or common law duty of the state to protect the public from damage, injury, or death shall become the duty of the City of Bridgeport while making use of the state highway system for a special event and the state shall not have any such statutory or common law duty during the time the City of Bridgeport is in control of the property as specified in the notice provided pursuant to LB 589/N.R.S. §39-1359, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to LB 589/N.R.S. §39-1359, thirty (30) days advance written notice of the special event must be provided which specifies the date and time City of Bridgeport will assume control of the identified state highway property, as well as the date and time the City of Bridgeport will relinquish control of such state highway property to the State of Nebraska. In addition, the City of Bridgeport shall to provide beginning and ending locations for the highway closure including sufficient area for the placement of advance warning and/or detour signing, and include sufficient time for the City of Bridgeport to prepare and later clean the property prior to returning possession back to the State of Nebraska, and

WHEREAS, LB 589/N.R.S. §39-1359 dictates that if a special event includes any portion of the State of Nebraska Highway System, the City of Bridgeport shall, if a claim is made against the State of Nebraska, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State of Nebraska from all claims, demands, actions, damages, and liability, including reasonable attorney's fee, that may arise as a result of the special event; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA:

Section 1: Said Parade Route and Road Closure referred to hereinabove is hereby adopted. The governing body of the City of Bridgeport acknowledges and accepts all duties set out in 589/N.R.S. §39-1359, subsection (2) and accepts that the City of Bridgeport shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the State of Nebraska from all claims, demands, actions, damages, and liability including reasonable attorney's fees, that may arise as a result of the event and such Parade Route and Road Closure is accepted by the City of Bridgeport and the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the same on behalf of the Municipality.

Section 2: Repeal of Previous Resolutions. Any other resolution or code section passed and approved prior to passage, approval, and publication or posting of this resolution and in conflict with its provisions is repealed.

Section 3: Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Section 4: Severability. If any portion or provision of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such portion or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Resolution, the intention being that the same are severable.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.

ATTEST:

GAIL BEYER
MAYOR

DORETTA J. HUCK
CITY CLERK/TREASURER

21. Council Member McGrath introduced Resolution 2026-03 which is the sale of old Pwcc exercise equipment, and moved that the resolution be adopted, seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Wickard, McGrath, Harless, Nichols; Nay: None. Resolution passed

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE 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. Star Trac Smith Machine (no weights included)
2. 2 concept 2 Row Machines
3. Star Trac Elliptical
4. Flybird Weight Bench
5. Hoist Pullup Machine
6. Paramount Low Back/Ab Machine

NOW THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, NEBRASKA, HEREBY RESOLVES, to sell to the highest responsible bidder the afore-described personal 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 TBD.
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 Fund of the Municipality.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026.

ATTEST:

GAIL BEYER
MAYOR

DORETTA J. HUCK
CITY CLERK/TREASURER

VII. REPORTS

22. Department Reports:

Public Works: Ron Doggett stated he would like to purchase a 3-phase pad-mount transformer at a cost of \$6,800 to keep in inventory for emergency or replacement needs. He also discussed promotional opportunities through the ACE Public Power Program. Ideas included hosting community engagement activities such as coloring contests and “coffee talks” to increase public awareness of municipal utilities. Participation in the program could potentially generate an additional \$1,000.00 in annual revenue for the City.

PWCC: Council Member McGrath reported on the condition of the meeting room dividers and the curtain wall in the gymnasium. There are concerns regarding fraying within the mechanical components of the curtain system. Cost estimates are being obtained for replacement, which may need to be completed in phases depending on total expense. He also noted that one of the basketball hoops is not functioning properly. It has been recommended that both hoops be replaced. The city is currently waiting on cost estimates before proceeding. January Activity Report: 11 meetings were held; 2 Christmas parties were hosted; Gym attendance totaled 1,560 (not including 24/7 access users); 29 new clients were added; Minor repairs were completed following the recent windstorm; Junior High volleyball leagues are held every Sunday with 10 teams participating; The Coed volleyball league began with 6 teams.

Library: The facility continues to see strong participation numbers, with a particularly good turnout of teens. It was noted that the department now has its 3D printer available for use. Regarding the renovation project, they are continuing to gather information and have asked additional contractors to review the project and provide input.

Fire Dept: A controlled house burn is scheduled for March 7 north of Angora, with five additional fire departments planning to participate. Department awards will be presented in February.

Nursing Home: A lease payment was received in the amount of \$5,463.94. It was reported that the facility has hired a new Director of Nursing as well as a new Administrator. The facility has also successfully passed its state inspection.

Sheriff: January 2026 Report: ALS Calls Rescues: 17; Patient Transfers: 45; Total Sheriff Calls: 130; Arrests: 18. It was reported that staff will begin addressing several of the nuisance properties in coordination with Jason and Michelle. Council Member Harless

thanked the Sheriff's Department for taking the time to check in on residents at the Housing Authority.

Golf Course: Golf Board Member Jaime Galvan was present and advised that a new manager has been hired and will be overseeing the bar at the Hospital Foundation event. He stated that the Golf Board consistently strives to act in the best interest of both the golf course and the community and expressed appreciation for the City's continued support.

Council members requested a more detailed, itemized breakdown of memberships, and the number of cart storage rentals, as well as other revenue received. It was also noted that the course is the lowest-funded course in the Nebraska Panhandle. The Council commended the Golf Board for its strong fiscal management, recognizing its ability to break even or generate a modest profit despite limited funding.

Administration: Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) has advised via email that the City should be receiving the official Release of Funds and Authorization to Proceed for the sewer project. However, no work or project-related activity can begin until formal authorization is issued.

VIII. REGULAR AGENDA

23. Emergency Items – None

24. Council Member Harless approved the temporary closure of the street east of PWCC to provide additional space for the Barbeque Cook-Off during Camp Clarke Days, seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, Wickard, McGrath, Nichols; Nay: None. Motion carried.

25. Council Member Wickard made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the interlocal agreement for Electrical Assistance with the City of Alliance, seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, Wickard, McGrath, Nichols; Nay: None. Motion carried.

26. Council Member Wickard made a motion to designate Michelle Coolidge as the representative and Gail Beyer as the alternate to serve on the PADD Board of Directors for 2026, seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Nichols, Harless, McGrath, Wickard; Nay: None. Motioned carried.

27. Council members discussed the practice of signing claim checks at council meetings versus the long-standing procedure of signing them at the city office. Some members supported signing checks at the meeting to allow public observation and increase perceived transparency, especially given recent audits in the panhandle. Others raised concerns about transporting checks to the meeting location, citing potential risk of loss and additional workload, particularly when handling a large number of checks. It was noted that other municipalities do not universally require signing in front of the council.

At 7:11 p.m. Council Member Harless made a motion to go into executive session to include City Attorney Rodak, seconded by Council Member Wickard. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Nichols, Wickard, McGrath, Harless; Nay: None. Motion carried.

At 7:20 p.m. Council Member Wickard made a motion to exit executive session with no action taken, seconded by Council Member Nichols. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Harless, McGrath, Nichols, Wickard; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Beyer stated that she will decide to have the checks brought to the council meeting for her signature. She noted that how the checks are signed by City Clerk Huck is at the Clerk's discretion.

28. Council discussed designating \$5,000.00 from the Pool Operating Fund to establish an endowment through the Nebraska Community Foundation to support a Pool Replacement Project Campaign. Establishing the fund requires an annual affiliate fee of \$1,200.00. The Foundation's board members are based in Lincoln, while Bridgeport maintains an advisory board. The 501(c)(3) Foundation will also manage all marketing, fundraising, and tax reporting associated with the endowment. Council Member Nichols made a motion to approve the \$5,000.00 from the pool operating budget to establish the fund, seconded by Council Member Harless. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: Wickard, Nichols, McGrath, Harless; Nay: None. Motion carried.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

24. There being no other business, the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Nichols made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m., seconded by Council Member McGrath. Roll call resulted as follows; Aye: McGrath, Nichols, Wickard, Harless; Nay: None. Motion carried.

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, February 12, 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