

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 4, 2025**

The Wayne City Council met in regular session at City Hall on March 4, 2025, at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

Mayor Pro Tem Matt Eischeid called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, with the following in attendance: Councilmembers Austyn Houser, Parker Bolte, Dwaine Spieker, Brittany Webber, Clayton Bratcher, and Jason Karsky; City Administrator Wes Blecke; City Clerk Betty McGuire; and City Attorney Amy Miller. Absent: Mayor Cale Giese and Councilmember Jill Brodersen.

Notice of the convening meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Wayne Herald, Wayne, Nebraska, the designated method of giving notice, as shown by Affidavit of Publication. In addition, 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 on file with the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the Council convened in open session.

Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid advised the public that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was located on the southwest wall of Council Chambers, as well as on the City of Wayne website and was available for public inspection. In addition, he advised the public that the Council may go into closed session to discuss certain agenda items to protect the public interest or to prevent the needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public hearing.

Councilmember Houser made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Bratcher, to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 18, 2025, and to waive the reading thereof. Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried and the Minutes approved.

The following claims were presented to Council for their approval:

**VARIOUS FUNDS:** ACES, SE, 1161.39; AMERITAS, SE, 192.12; AMERITAS, SE, 35.00; AMERITAS, SE, 124.99; AMERITAS, SE, 72.00; AMERITAS, SE, 3660.46; APPEARA, SE, 258.27; BOMGAARS, SU, 515.09; BSN SPORTS, SU, 810.00; CARHART LUMBER COMPANY, SU, 118.87; CHASE, SCOTT, RE,

500.00; CHEMQUEST, SU, 2895.00; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 4200.00; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 500.00; CITY OF WAYNE, PY, 137964.06; CITY OF WAYNE, RE, 313.06; CORE & MAIN, SU, 154.35; DAS STATE ACCTG-CENTRAL FINANCE, SE, 537.60; DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE, SE, 82.56; DEMCO, SU, 1816.54; DGR & ASSOCIATES, SE, 30862.00; ED M. FELD EQUIPMENT, SU, 59.43; ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & EQUIPMENT, SU, 277.65; ELLIS HOME SERVICES, SE, 190.00; FLOOR MAINTENANCE, SU, 135.68; GALE/CENGAGE LEARNING, SU, 133.20; H.K. SCHOLZ COMPANY, SE, 1730.00; HAYDEN, HUNTER, SE, 60.00; HILAND DAIRY, SE, 122.54; ICMA, SE, 272.00; ICMA, SE, 170.50; ICMA, SE, 11510.72; ICMA, SE, 210.87; ICMA, SE, 612.21; ICMA, SE, 158.98; ICMA, SE, 369.23; ICMA, SE, 270.84; ICMA, SE, 144.28; ICMA, SE, 572.26; ICMA, SE, 1286.94; IRS, TX, 5342.90; IRS, TX, 14741.33; IRS, TX, 22845.36; JOHNSON HEALTH TECH RETAIL, SE, 1178.76; KOEHLMOOS, KLAY, SE, 60.00; MAIN STREET GARAGE, SE, 100.00; MARCO, SE, 177.89; MARCO, SE, 180.50; MILLER LAW, SE, 6343.75; MUTUAL OF OMAHA, SE, 390.60; NE DEPT OF REVENUE, TX, 6807.68; NE DEPT OF REVENUE-COMPLIANCE DIV, RE, 392.15; NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB, SE, 168.00; NERC, SE, 1274.44; NORFOLK HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORP, FE, 30.00; NNEDD, SE, 3580.00; NORTHEAST POWER, SE, 30712.14; NORTHWEST ELECTRIC, SE, 1078.03; O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORES, SU, 49.98; OVERDRIVE, SU, 2038.44; POSTMASTER, SU, 1213.78; QUADIEN FINANCE, SU, 1000.00; R.E.S.T. AG AND AUCTION, RE, 250.00; RODRIGUEZ, NANCY, SE, 65.00; SARGENT DRILLING, SU, 47463.16; SEARS AUTO SALES & TOWING, SE, 75.00; SOOLAND BOBCAT, SU, 1191.53; STATE NEBRASKA BANK-PETTY CASH, RE, 109.69; ULINE, SU, 200.39; UTILITY EQUIPMENT, SU, 7704.00; VERIZON, SE, 680.03; WAHLTEK, SU, 6760.00; WAYNE AMERICA, FE, 199.00; WAYNE COUNTRY CLUB, RE, 12687.70; WISNER WEST, SU, 94.03; APPEARA, SE, 119.43; ASPEN EQUIPMENT, SE, 2474.35; BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS, SU, 1223.57; BAUER, SANDRA, RE, 150.00; BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD, SE, 56739.91; CHEMQUEST, SE, 695.00; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 721.06; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 125.00; CITY OF WAYNE, RE, 160.58; COPY WRITE PUBLISHING, SE, 303.89; FASTWYRE, SE, 925.03; FIRST CONCORD GROUP, SE, 4428.62; FLOOR MAINTENANCE, SU, 744.23; GERHOLD CONCRETE, SU, 1170.00; GLOBAL PAYMENTS INTEGRATED, SE, 699.83; GROSSENBURG IMPLEMENT, SU, 44.52; HAYDEN, HUNTER, SE, 30.00; HOMETOWN LEASING, SE, 456.78; ICC, FE, 70.00; JEO CONSULTING GROUP, SE, 39587.20; KAY CONTRACTING, SE, 1945.00; KOEHLMOOS, KLAY, SE, 30.00; LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES, FE, 1877.00; LIFE LINE SCREENING, RE, 200.00; LUNDAHL, EARL, FE, 350.00; MERCHANT SERVICES, SE, 118.85; MERCHANT SERVICES, SE, 7824.78; MERCHANT SERVICES, SE, 1636.86; MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY OF NE, FE, 750.00; NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL-ELEVATOR DIV, SE, 120.00; NEBRASKA GENERATOR SERVICE, SE, 988.01; NORTHEAST POWER, SE, 6820.00; ONE CALL CONCEPTS, SE, 27.02; OPTK NETWORKS, SE, 408.54; PAC N SAVE, SU, 1125.61; QUALITY FOOD CENTER, SU, 36.67; SKARSHAUG TESTING LAB, SE, 328.44; THE TRUSTY WRENCH, SE, 240.00; TNT SALES AND SERVICE, SU, 4830.00; TRI-STATE COMMUNICATIONS, SU, 682.55; WASTE CONNECTIONS, SE, 35.50; WESCO, SU, 844.87

Councilmember Houser made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Bolte, to approve the claims. Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

Emily Hester, Wayne State College Head Women's Soccer Coach, and Mike Powicki, Director of Athletics at Wayne State College, were present requesting Council consideration to waiving the rental fee for the Auditorium for their Annual Trivia Night Fundraising Event to be held on Friday, April 5, 2025.

The fee is \$300. Ms. Hester noted that the first year they held this event at the auditorium, they were

charged the non-profit rate of \$150. However, over the past two years, they have been charged the full rental fee of \$300. Every dollar they raise goes towards supporting the student athletes. Her team helps with the rec soccer program as well as with the annual recycling event.

After discussion, Councilmember Bolte made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Karsky, approving the request of Emily Hester, Wayne State College Head Women's Soccer Coach, and Mike Powicki, Director of Athletics at Wayne State College, to waive the rental fee for the Auditorium for their Annual Trivia Night Fundraising Event to be held on Friday, April 5, 2025, but still being required to pay the security deposit. Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

Roger Protzman, JEO Consulting Group (via zoom), advised the Council that nine bids were received on February 20, 2025, for the "Wayne 7<sup>th</sup> Street Trail Project." The bids ranged from \$575,569.65 to \$855,509.65. JEO Consulting Group has reviewed the same and is recommending the project be awarded to the low bidder, Gehring Construction & Ready Mix Co., Inc., Columbus, NE for \$575,569.65. They are proposing to use local contractors for the storm sewer, grading, and electrical work. The engineer's estimate of cost on this project was \$880,000.

Beth Porter, Finance Director, advised the Council, that the City will still match the grant requirements even with the bid coming in lower than expected. With this grant, the contractor costs, as well as JEO costs are eligible for reimbursement, also. This project is budgeted with sales tax dollars.

Councilmember Houser introduced Resolution 2025-10, and moved for its approval; Councilmember Webber seconded.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BID AND AWARDING CONTRACT ON THE "WAYNE 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET TRAIL PROJECT" TO GEHRING CONSTRUCTION & READY MIX CO., INC. FOR \$575,569.65.

Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

Bob Soukup, representing Carlson West Povondra Architects (via zoom), presented Application and Certificate of Payment No. 16 from Otte Construction Company, LLC, in the amount of \$123,536.00 for the “Wayne City Hall and Police Relocation Project.” In addition, he updated Council on the project.

Councilmember Houser made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Bolte, approving Application and Certificate of Payment No. 16 in the amount of \$123,536.00 to Otte Construction Company, LLC, for the “Wayne City Hall and Police Relocation Project.” Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

Bob Soukup, representing Carlson West Povondra Architects (via zoom), then presented Application and Certificate of Payment No. 6 from Otte Construction Company, LLC, in the amount of \$135,699.00 for the “Wayne Parks & Rec Maintenance Building Project.”

Councilmember Karsky made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Bratcher, approving Application and Certificate of Payment No. 6 in the amount of \$135,699.00 to Otte Construction Company, LLC, for the “Wayne Parks & Rec Maintenance Building Project.” Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

Matthew Smith, representing Olsson, presented Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$186,926.45 to Cooney Fertilizer, Inc., for the “Wayne Prairie Park Phase I Grading Project.” This is the final Change Order, and represents the items that were on taken off the previous change order (roundabout and delay).

After discussion, Councilmember Spieker made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Houser, approving Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$186,926.45 to Cooney Fertilizer, Inc., for the “Wayne Prairie Park Phase I Grading Project.” Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

Matthew Smith, representing Olsson, presented Certificate of Payment No. 5 (Final) in the amount of \$186,926.45 to Cooney Fertilizer, Inc. for the “Wayne Prairie Park Phase I Grading Project.”

Councilmember Spieker made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Houser, approving Certificate of Payment No. 5 (Final) in the amount of \$186,926.45 to Cooney Fertilizer, Inc., for the “Wayne Prairie Park Phase I Grading Project.” Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

The following Resolution would accept the completion and work on the “Wayne Prairie Park Phase I Grading Project” with Cooney Fertilizer, Inc. There is a one-year warranty on the project.

Councilmember Karsky introduced Resolution 2025-11, and moved for its approval; Councilmember Webber seconded.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 2025-11

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING COMPLETION OF THE “WAYNE PRAIRIE PARK PHASE I GRADING PROJECT” WITH COONEY FERTILIZER, INC.

Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

Councilmember Webber made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Spieker, to enter into executive/closed session to protect the financial interests of the City to discuss the proposals submitted for the Southwest Power Pool Market Participant duties, and to allow City Administrator Blecke, City Clerk McGuire, City Attorney Miller, Clayton Dredge, Electric Distribution Superintendent, and Dave Peterson, Engineer with JEO Consulting Group, to be in attendance. Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, executive/closed session began at 6:09 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid again stated the matter to be discussed in executive/closed session pertains to the proposals submitted for the Southwest Power Pool Market Participant duties

Councilmember Spieker made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Bratcher, to resume open session. Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas,

with the exception of Councilmember Brodersen who was absent, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the motion carried, and open session resumed at 6:45 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Eischeid declared the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.