

Osmond City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 9, 2024

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Osmond, Nebraska, was held in the conference room at 325 North State Street, in said City on the 9th day of September 2024, at 7:08 o'clock p.m. directly after the Budget Hearing as posted. Present were: Mayor Dennis M. Kuhl, Council Members Dennis Haselhorst, Douglas A. Schmit, Daniel E. Timmerman, and Neil E. Wattier. Absent: none. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication and was posted in three conspicuous public places in said City. Notice of this meeting was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council. A copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda are on file at the City Clerk's office. 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 convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Kuhl publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was being held.

Minutes of the August 12th regular meeting was prepared and sent to Council Members. Councilman Timmerman motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Mayor Kuhl stated the agenda order is adjusted to allow the public hearing be done at or after the publicized time. Lisa Schmit, Town & Country Insurance, explained the City's insurance renewal offer. Overall, the premium increase was not as significant as anticipated, with only a renewal limit increase of 8.65% due to inflation on the building side of the policy. The biggest increase was on buildings which added \$654,000 more on coverage than in 2023. The deductibles remained the same. After reviewing all of the remaining coverage changes, the overall premium increased by 9.43% to \$56,612 for the 24-25 fiscal year. Councilman Wattier moved to approve the renewal of the City's insurance policy with Town & Country Insurance and wait on Cyber and Employee Practice Liability Insurance. Seconded by Councilman Schmit. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Next, LaVail Aschoff, Osmond Library Director, informed council after filling out the library's annual public survey their server equipment had been flagged by the State due to the age of the equipment. She stated upgrading the equipment would be covered by the Library Commission Grant, but would need to purchase a new software program, which would hold all the inventory and checkout system for the library. After reviewing quotes Councilman Schmit made a motion to approve Aschoff to choose the software program that would be most beneficial for the library. Seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Councilman Timmerman motioned at 7:30 p.m. to open the public hearing on the One- and Six-Year Street Plan. Seconded by Councilman Wattier. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried. Clerk Timmerman noted that there are no current plans for a one-year project, but with the six-year plan it includes Logan Street from Fourth Street to Prairie Street and one block both east and west from Fifth Street to Eighth Street. It also includes one block on Third Street between Maple & Hill Streets, along with one block on Sixth Street from Main to Meadow Street. With no further questions, Councilman Wattier motioned at 7:32 p.m. to close the public hearing on the One- and Six-Year Plan. Seconded by Councilman Schmit. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Councilman Schmit motioned to approve Resolution 2024-7 One- and Six-Year Plan. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried. The passage and adoption of said resolution having been concurred in by majority of all

members elected to the Council, Mayor Kuhl declared said resolution passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION 2024-7

The following resolution was introduced by Schmit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Timmerman.

“WHEREAS, the City Street Superintendent has prepared and presented a One Year and Six Year Plan for Street Improvement Program for the City, and

WHEREAS, a public meeting was held on the 9th day of September, 2024, to present this plan and there were no objections to said plan;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Mayor and City Council of Osmond, Nebraska, that the plans and data as furnished are hereby in all things accepted and adopted.”

Upon roll call vote as follows:

Dennis Haselhorst: Yea

Doug Schmit: Yea

Dan Timmerman: Yea

Neil Wattier: Yea

Approved the 9th day of September, 2024.

CITY OF OSMOND, NEBRASKA

Dennis M Kuhl, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brittney Timmerman, City Clerk

Jim Schmit, current Pierce County Economic Development board member, called PCED Director Susan Norris to answer some questions and explain what all the Community of Osmond has received or will be receiving from her services. After hearing some of the projects that are in the works for Osmond, Council thanked Norris for taking time to answer some questions. Councilman Wattier and Clerk Timmerman asked some of the following questions about what services would be provided, also if individual businesses in the community could still reach out to PCED for assistance filling out small business grants or loans. These questions all came about from a recent article in the Plainview newspaper about services PCED would not be able to provide for their community since she was no longer the Plainview economic developer and some verbiage from the new Interlocal Agreement with PCED. Schmit reassured that all services would remain the same as when PCED was run by the Pierce County Courthouse. After a bit more discussion and questions answered Councilmember Schmit made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement with PCED, with the condition that all other communities in Pierce County would sign it as well, and appointing Kelly Hodson and Jim Schmit to remain Osmond’s representatives on the board. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Moving onto discussing a Music in the Park fundraiser, Marvin Kumm, Osmond Park Board Member, stated that with the help of the Community HOME Team hosting the fundraiser they would like to utilize the Poolside Park to raise money to place matting under the swing sets. The fundraiser would take place on Sunday, September 22nd in the evening. After some discussion Council thanked Kumm for all his hard work and dedication on the upkeep of the parks. Councilman Schmit then made a motion to approve the use of the park for the fundraiser on Sunday, September 22nd. Seconded by Councilman Wattier. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Treasurer Timmerman explained that restricted funds are those that have a limited use i.e., sales tax, highway allocation and municipal equalization. The 1% increase is recommended each year by the auditor. Councilman Haselhorst moved to approve the 1% increase in restricted funds authority for the 2024-2025 funds subject to limitation. Seconded by Councilman Schmit. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Councilman Schmit made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-8 to set the property tax request. Seconded by Councilman Wattier. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried. The passage and adoption of said resolution having been concurred in by majority of all members elected to the Council, Mayor Kuhl declared said resolution passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-8**

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of the City of Osmond passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the City of Osmond resolves that:

1. The 2024-2025 property tax request be set at:
 General Fund: \$296,942.69
 Bond Fund: \$165,000.00
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 10.03 percent.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.6568 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. The City of Osmond proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.693777 per \$100 of assessed value.
5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of the City of Osmond will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by -5.24 percent.
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2024.

Motion by Doug Schmit, seconded by Neil Wattier to adopt Resolution #2024-8.

Voting yes were:	Voting no were:
<u>Dennis Haselhorst</u>	_____
<u>Doug Schmit</u>	_____
<u>Daniel Timmerman</u>	_____
<u>Neil Wattier</u>	_____

Dated this 9th day of September, 2024.

Brittney Timmerman, Clerk

Dennis M Kuhl, Mayor

Next, Councilman Schmit motioned to adopt the FY 24-25 budget as presented during the Budget Hearing earlier this evening at 7:00 o'clock p.m. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Councilman Schmit informed the public that the motion to purchase the dump truck from last month had been rescinded and they will continue looking for a truck that will better suit the City's needs.

The price range for purchasing a dump truck was up for discussion. Mayor Kuhl informed council that the City of Norfolk had a dump truck listed on GOVDeals website and the bidding would end in a few days. Treasurer Timmerman stated to council that they are close to exceeding the budgeted expense for this current fiscal year and urged council to hold off until the next fiscal year, where the truck was actually in the budget. Council discussed how much the truck was from a few years ago that they went to look at out of state and a range between \$15 to \$20 thousand would be sufficient for the City's needs. Maintenance employee Bert Wattier stated that the maintenance crew would be fine getting by with what they have for this year. Council all felt that they would pass on the City of Norfolk's dump truck and would take their time looking for a truck that would be a good fit for our needs.

With much hesitation from Councilman Timmerman to discuss the need to raise rates in the utility departments Treasurer Timmerman informed council that she would be more than willing to accept any phone calls or schedule appointments to take any questions from residents on why there's such a need to increase rates. After receiving the water and sewer rate study from Randy Hellbusch, with Nebraska Rural Water Association, Councilman Timmerman stated that he suggests water rates increase from a base fee of \$25.00 to \$29.75 and increase the per thousand charge from \$1.75 to \$2.10. Councilman Timmerman made a motion to increase the water rates as stated above. Seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Next, Councilman Timmerman suggested the following increases based on the sewer rate study: Residential Single from \$15.25 to \$20.25; Residential 2+ from \$21.25 to \$28.25; Light Commercial from \$21.25 to \$28.25; Medium Commercial from \$34.75 to \$46.25; Heavy Commercial from \$48.75 to \$64.85; Light Industrial from \$32.75 to \$43.50; Medium Industrial from \$137.75 to \$183.25; Heavy Industrial from \$159.75 to \$212.50 and Multiple Family from \$13.75 to \$18.25. Councilman Haselhorst made a motion to approve the sewer rate changes as stated above. Seconded by Councilman Wattier. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Last discussion for utilities was the garbage rates. Treasurer Timmerman informed council that the previous year when the garbage rates for dumpsters increased it was only applied to the intown accounts. She stated after some discussion with the maintenance crew that the only need for rate changes in garbage was for the quarterly billing accounts with the rate changing from \$27 per dumpster per dump a month to \$47. Timmerman also mentioned with out-of-town garbage rates being higher by other companies they may be able to increase it a little more if they choose to. Councilman Timmerman made a motion to change the quarterly billing accounts from \$27 per dumpster per dump a month to \$47. Seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Clerk Timmerman brought the Meeting Time ordinance before council for official adoption, instead of just a motion that was done at last month's meeting. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OSMOND, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND SECTION 1-501 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF OSMOND, NEBRASKA IS HEREBY AMENDED. This Ordinance shall take effect October 1st, 2024, and be in full force from and after its publication as required by law.

Ordinance No. 2024-4 was presented by Councilman Wattier who moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Councilman Schmit seconded the motion to suspend the rules and

upon roll call vote on the motion, the following members voted: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. The following voted nay: none. 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 No. 2024-4. Said Ordinance No. 2024-4 was then read by title and thereafter Councilman Timmerman moved for final passage of said Ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. The Mayor then stated the question: "Shall Ordinance No. 2024-4 be passed and adopted?" Upon roll call vote, the following members voted: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. The following voted nay: none. 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 Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto. A true, correct and complete copy of said Ordinance is available for inspection and distribution at the offices of the City Clerk at the City Office.

Mayor Kuhl read a thank you from Tucker Timmerman after he submitted his two week notice back in August. Clerk Timmerman informed council that since Maintenance employee Timmerman is no longer on the payroll if he were to come in and help with any snow removal or such that it would be at the off street rate of \$11.50. She stated that the rate hasn't increased since her time in office and suggested council discuss that at next month's meeting.

Treasurer Timmerman requested the City make a payment to the Senior Citizens Center for \$1,000.00 for the Down Memory Lane utilities. The City has made an annual payment of \$1,000.00 since 2017. Councilman Wattier moved to approve the \$1,000.00 annual payment to the Senior Citizens Center for the Down Memory Lane utilities this month. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Clerk Timmerman presented the Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement By and Between the County of Pierce, NE and the City of Osmond. It was received and signed by the Mayor after last month's meeting, since it was due back to the county by the end of last month. This Agreement will provide \$10,712.00 for the City's Library budget for the 24-25 fiscal year.

More progress was made on the Community Sign project, mentioned Councilman Schmit. The sign has a new location and will be to the north of Osmond Farm Supply Purina building on the Southeast corner of the intersection at HWY 20 and State Street. They are still working on the power source, but feel hopeful the project will move forward soon.

Clerk Timmerman mentioned to council that Police Chief Wells assisted in drafting the letters to four of the vacant property owners and hand delivered three of them. She mentioned since one owner lived out of town that notice was sent by certified mail with return receipt showing it was received by the end of August. Three of the property owners have 60 days to correct the violations listed on their letters and one was only delivered a weed nuisance letter and has since resolved the issues on that. More updates will follow as the process moves forward.

After reviewing the drafted franchise agreement with Stealth Broadband, Clerk Timmerman went through the suggested changes from City attorney Dennis Collins. Mayor Kuhl stated that he suggested the 3% franchise agreement, more discussion on the agreement will take place next month.

Next, last month Clerk/Treasurer Timmerman informed the council that her family is expecting again and the due date is the beginning of March 2025. She had suggested council start looking for a temporary replacement for her two-month maternity leave. Mayor Kuhl mentioned he had spoken with Cindy Hoffman about coming back in to help during that time, in which she agreed. Kuhl asked council what they would consider

setting her wage at for helping cover during that time, with some discussion being had Councilman Schmit made a motion to pay Hoffman \$25.00 with paid holidays starting in October. Seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

After reviewing the July 2024 reconciliation and bank statement, council had no questions or concerns.

Treasurer Timmerman reported on total claims in the amount of \$77,650.74. Councilman Haselhorst made a motion to approve to pay all non-conflicting bills, seconded by Councilman Wattier. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Wattier, seconded by Councilman Timmerman, to pay the bill submitted by Northeast Nebraska Tire & Trailer Sales & Allstar Parts LLC. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Abstaining: Schmit. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

After reviewing the claims Treasurer Timmerman stated the check has come in from Industrial Towers West for reimbursement on the Nelson Tree Service invoice from last month to remove the tree for their project. She also mentioned that the onetime fee of \$74,000 has come in and was deposited into the General Checking account. Mayor Kuhl asked Timmerman what she thought we should do with the money. She responded by saying she would like to see \$30-40,000 be put back into some of the accounts that were depleted down from paying for the asphalt project. Councilman Wattier made a motion to move \$20,000 into the Electrical Operations account to cover the pickup that was purchased at the beginning of this fiscal year and \$20,000 into the General Fund Savings account to help build it back up from the asphalt project. Seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Clerk Timmerman stated the following building permits: Dale & Verona Howard, moving a shed from one property to their primary property; Larry & LaVonne Hummel, moving in a shed; Northeast Nebraska Tire & Trailer & Allstar Parts, signage for new building; Erin Mann, chain link fence and Industrial Towers West LLC, monopole tower and ground cabinets.

Mayor Kuhl stated city sales tax for June 2024 was a total of \$22,534.81 (of that amount \$4,700.98 is from motor vehicle tax).

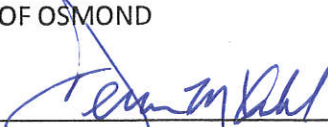
Mayor Kuhl read one correspondence from a camper who said it was a charming place and they enjoyed their visit.

Police Chief Wells presented a report on recent activity within the city including one golf cart ordinance question, two dog at large, five deliver letters to citizens/businesses, one civil standby request, one follow up call with case and one dog bite to name a few. Wells went on to say he attended a dog kennel meeting with the Plainview police department and in the coming months they should be able to start taking in dogs at large caught by the police department.

No attorney matters to report.

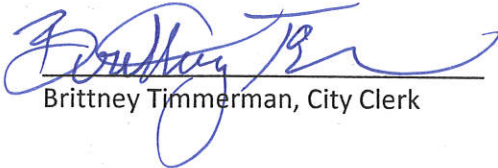
With no further business, motion was made by Councilman Timmerman, seconded by Councilman Schmit to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:55 p.m. Roll call vote: Haselhorst, yea; Schmit, yea; Timmerman, yea; Wattier, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

CITY OF OSMOND


Dennis M. Kuhl, Mayor


Brittney Timmerman, City Clerk

I, Brittney Timmerman, Clerk of the City of Osmond, Nebraska, hereby certify that the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available at City Clerk's office, that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least 24 hours prior to said meeting; that the minutes of the meeting of the City Council of the City of Osmond, Nebraska, from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within 10 working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.



Brittney Timmerman, City Clerk

