

Osmond City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 9, 2025

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Osmond, Nebraska, was held at the Conference Room at 325 North State Street, in said City on the 9th day of June 2025, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. Present were: Mayor Dennis M. Kuhl, Council Members Dennis Haselhorst, Douglas A. Schmit, Neil E Wattier and Daniel E. Timmerman. 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, 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 May 12th regular meeting was prepared and sent to Council Members. Councilman Haselhorst motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Wattier, yea; Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Food truck peddler fees were brought before council again by Clerk Timmerman. She stated that with a coffee truck coming to town to do business 5-7 days a week she wanted clarification on what fee they would need to pay. Mayor Kuhl provided more information on the business and stated it is a 20' trailer that will be parked on a private lot downtown, hooked up to city water and sewer and have a block foundation around it. Council agreed that since it will be hooked to city water and sewer it will be treated like the other businesses in town. Timmerman also mentioned in the past local food truck vendors from Osmond would be exempt from paying the peddlers fee and asked council to clarify what fee Osmond food truck vendors would have to pay. They all agreed they will pay the new food truck peddler's fee of \$25.00.

Next, Councilman Wattier provided an update on the current pool situation. He stated the leak investigator was up and found a broken "T" pipe off of the south side of the pool which required the main deck and part of the pool floor to be removed for repairs. The repairs were made and concrete poured back last Saturday. After some discussion Wattier mentioned the investigator will come back on August 13th to check some of the other water lines. According to Councilman Wattier they hope to have the pool up and running in the coming weeks.

Councilman Haselhorst informed council that the truck show committee had asked if Osmond Tiger Volleyball would be able to host mud volleyball north of the softball field the same weekend as the truck show. After some discussion council agreed to letting them host the mud volleyball north of the softball field.

An update on the part-time maintenance positions was provided by Mayor Kuhl. He informed them all that Bill Hansen had decided to not accept the part-time position and just remain as the on-call backup water operator. Kuhl also stated that Boyd Doyle had put in his two weeks after working for the city part-time for a few weeks, but with an employee gone on vacation he agreed to help out past the end of last month, the Council accepted his resignation. They had some discussion about the third maintenance position and decided to move from a part-time position to a full-time position.

With recent discussion about giving the part-time office and maintenance staff a \$400 monthly stipend Clerk/Treasurer Timmerman asked for clarification on how many hours must be worked in order to qualify. She explained that with the benefit not being in the personnel handbook she needs all the information to get it added if that's what council plans to give moving forward. Council asked how many applications have been received so far for the clerk position. Clerk Timmerman planned to bring that up later on the agenda but stated that there has only been one application received so far. Council, after some discussion, decided not to offer the \$400 monthly stipend to part-time office and maintenance employees anymore. Clerk Timmerman asked council if the ad currently running once a month

needed to be changed, they approved to take out the \$400 stipend and add that a wage increase would be adjusted accordingly after the probationary period. While it was being discussed Timmerman asked council if they thought the ad should run more than once a month in the paper. They agreed to posting it more on social media, in the municipal review magazine and leaving it run once a month in the paper.

Next the CDL requirements and reimbursements were needing to be discussed since it also was not in the personnel handbook and the city has an employee going to take the course next month. Treasurer Timmerman mentioned the employee has the required drug test coming up later this week and is needing clarification on who will be covering the cost of both the drug test and when the employee would be reimbursed for the course. After some concerns were discussed about the CDL Councilman Haselhorst made a motion that the employee would cover all costs. Seconded by Councilman Schmit. Roll call vote: Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: Wattier. Motion carried. Mayor Kuhl voiced his disagreement with councils' decision. Clerk Timmerman and maintenance supervisor Caleb Eckstrom also asked council to clarify for advertising purposes if they are going to require a standard class b cdl with no restrictions since the city owns both manual and automatic trucks. Council agreed that they must have or obtain a Class B CDL with no restrictions.

After raining the two days that were chosen to do community cleanup maintenance supervisor Eckstrom stated he had been in contact with FFA advisor Jessica Evans to plan a different day for the FFA students to earn community service hours. He stated that last Monday a handful of the FFA members gathered on State Street to paint the helipad and the parking lines. Clerk Timmerman asked if council would like to run the Thank You ad in the paper since she previously told the newspaper it would not be running, they agreed to running the ad.

Up next to be discussed were the vacant properties. Mayor Kuhl was pleased to announce that the Maple Street property had been demolished. He also provided updates on the following properties: Highway 20 property owner is aware now that the fire department would no longer be doing a controlled burn and hasn't heard back on what they plan to do now; vacant camper is still there and the owner states he is still working on having it removed and last the property along State Street has no update but he hopes to have an answer at next council meeting. Councilman Timmerman mentioned it's nice to get these properties cleaned up and hope to keep moving forward on the rest, other councilmembers agreed.

Councilman Haselhorst updated council on the Poolside Park tree project. A new member of the board has gone through the park trimmed up the lower branches on trees and now just have some higher branches to finish up. No trees will be removed this year but hope to look at doing something next year. Maintenance supervisor Eckstrom mentioned it looked a lot better and thanked them for doing the work.

With no current guidelines on what can be done at the city cemetery Councilman Haselhorst brought some suggestions before council that maintenance supervisor Eckstrom, Clerk Timmerman and himself had put together. The following were suggested: all headstones must be on a concrete slab; no permanent decorations off the headstone concrete pad (any off the pad will be thrown away); no fences (concrete and other) around plots/lots; no family markers taking up plots; no buying 3 plots and burying 2 people on three plots (burying over plot lines); no more than two cremations in one plot; cremations must have at minimum two feet of dirt on top; city doesn't dig cremation holes (mortuaries dig the casket holes). After reviewing the suggestions Councilman Haselhorst made a motion to approve the suggestions and set cremation burials to no more than two in a plot. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Wattier, yea; Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Mayor Kuhl asked council if they could jump down to officer's matters since there was one person in attendance for Police Chief Wells' topic, council agreed. Wells informed them that he was contacted by the Chrome & Smoke committee about closing down State Street for a few hours on Sunday June 29th for a parade. Committee member Lacey Bahr explained that they were hoping to bring any trucks that were left after the truck show to do a parade that Sunday at 1:00 o'clock pm staging at the school parking lot and going down State Street to Highway 20. They ask that the side streets not be blocked until after the Fireman's pancake feed is done around noon that day. Bahr had mentioned they are also opening it up to the public to join in on the parade and if they wanted to enter a float just arrive at the school parking lot, staging will start at 12:00 pm. Council all agreed to their request.

Councilman Haselhorst made a motion to appoint Mark McCabe to finish Missy Hoppe's term. Seconded by Councilman Wattier. Roll call vote: Wattier, yea; Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Knowing that not all residents in the community get the local newspaper Clerk Timmerman decided to bring information before council about a company called TextmyGov. This company provides texting features which would allow the city to send out mass communication to the residents notifying them of things like water mains being shut off for repairs, reminders about dog licensing, any ordinance updates and power outages just to name a few. Timmerman explained to council that the phone numbers from our billing program would be uploaded to a database for the city which would send a text to each number and residents who would then accept or decline notifications via text from the city. After reviewing both the basic and premium options and their features Councilman Schmit made a motion to approve signing a three-year contract for the basic package of \$1,500 annually with an additional \$750 added on the first year for setup fees. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Wattier, yea; Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Treasurer Timmerman had a meeting with community planner Tracy Sporleder with Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) after the May council meeting to review different funding options that the city may qualify for. She explained that the communities low to moderate income is currently 58% which would allow us to apply for community block development grants (CBDG). Timmerman reviewed the different matching grant options with the council to see if they would be interested in applying for anything currently. She went on to say that the match for the community would be 20% and that they would need to go through the planning grant process first as those typically need to be updated every five years. After some discussion council decided to not apply for any grants at this current time.

After recent repairs to an electrical line at the baseball field, an invoice was submitted to the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resource District (LENRD) to see who would be covering the damages from the geotechnical boring that had taken place for the possible future flood reduction project. Treasurer Timmerman informed council that the LENRD was willing to split the bill 50/50 but majority of council declined that offer. Mayor Kuhl offered to contact the LENRD to discuss the invoice that was paid by the city at last month's meeting to see how much they would be willing to reimburse us back for and will report back at the July meeting.

With the City's Norton subscription coming out of Treasurer Timmerman's personal account Councilman Wattier made a motion to allow Treasurer Timmerman to switch it over to the city's credit card. Seconded by Councilman Schmit. Roll call vote: Wattier, yea; Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

No further discussion was needed for running the clerk ad since it was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Some items brought to council for possibly budgeting in next fiscal year's budget are dollar amount for concrete since we haven't done that in the past, a new/used maintenance pickup, new mower and four aluminum picnic tables. There had been talk about switching the city's municipal insurance company since our current one moved out of the community so Treasurer Timmerman reminded council that it would have to be let for bid and done so in the next month since renewal is October 1st, council requested it be on next month's agenda to be discussed. Timmerman also mentioned that per state statute wages are actually supposed to be published in the newspaper between July 15th and August 15th, ours currently is being published in December for wage increase to start on the January 1st paycheck. She asked council if they would consider setting wage increases next month and having them effective on the October 1st paycheck so that the whole fiscal year is one wage and not two different ones. Council agreed to set wages at next month's meeting. Maintenance supervisor Eckstrom brought up the need for street repairs but specifically Prairie Street, more will be discussed on streets at next month's meeting.

Included in their council packets were the General Checking statement and reconciliation for May 2025, for review. No questions or concerns were brought up.

Next, Treasurer Timmerman reported on total claims in the amount of \$145,116.32. Councilman Timmerman made a motion to approve to pay all non-conflicting bills, seconded by Councilman Haselhorst. Roll call vote: Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

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

Treasurer Timmerman asked council to consider adding the Highway Allocation transfer to the Street Repairs account onto the monthly bills list since the allocation money doesn't always come in before the council meeting. Councilman Wattier made a motion to approve moving it to the monthly bill list. Seconded by Councilman Timmerman. Roll call vote: Wattier, yea; Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, yea. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

One building permit was submitted by Doug Schmit and Walt Aschoff for moving a house and garage from one location in town to another.

Mayor Kuhl stated city sales tax for March 2025 was a total of \$16,703.56 (of that amount \$2,617.68 is from motor vehicle tax).

A donation was made to the Park Board for Poolside Park flowers and a thank you letter to the council from the family of Merlyn Kuhl for funeral flowers.

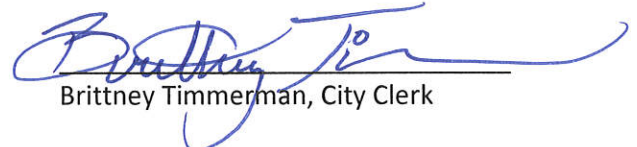
Police Chief Wells presented a report on recent activity within the city including one dog at large update, one CAC meeting in Norfolk for an ongoing child sexual assault case, two welfare checks, one report of scam and one question on a warrant to name a few.

There were no attorney matters to be discussed.

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilman Timmerman, seconded by Councilman Wattier to adjourn the Council meeting at 9:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Schmit, yea; Haselhorst, yea; Timmerman, 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