

McCook City Council
May 5, 2025
5:30 PM.

A MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MCCOOK, NEBRASKA convened in open, regular, and public session at 5:30 o'clock P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Linda Taylor, Councilmembers Gene Weedin, Jared Muehlenkamp, Darcy Rambali.

Absent: Councilmember Jerry Calvin.

I move to excuse the absence of Councilmember Calvin. This motion, made by Weedin and seconded by Rambali, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 4, NAY: 0

City Officials present: City Manager Nate Schneider, City Attorney Nate Mustion, City Clerk Lea Ann Doak, Assistant City Manager Tera Koetter, Utilities Director Pat Fawver, Fire Chief Marc Harpham, Police Chief Kevin Hodgson, Public Works Director Kyle Potthoff, and E911 Office Coordinator Jennifer Doucet.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the McCook Daily Gazette on May 1, 2025, the designated method of giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the Mayor and members of the City Council and a copy of the Acknowledgement of Receipt of such notice is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the Mayor and Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Taylor announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted by the entrance to the Council Chambers and available for public review. Jamie Mockry provided the invocation. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order.

1. Announcements & Recognitions.

City Manager Schneider informed the Council that a Planning Commission meeting was scheduled for May 12th, the Commission will begin review of the first 3 chapters of the proposed zoning ordinance.

Police Chief Hodgson announced that Jennifer Doucet, E911 Office Coordinator for the city was the recipient of the 2025 Laura Becker Memorial Award. The award is given to a person whose hard work and dedication to the Nebraska Emergency Service Communications Association are unparalleled. Her nomination mentioned her service to those dispatch centers in the South Central

Panhandle 911 Region and her willingness to help our communications center 24/7.

2. Proclamations.

2.A. Approve the proclamation designating May 11, 2025 through May 17, 2025 as "National Police Officers Week" and May 15, 2025 as "Police Officer Memorial Day" and authorize the Mayor to sign.

Motion to approve the proclamation designating May 11, 2025 through May 17, 2025 as "National Police Officers Week" and May 15, 2025 as "Police Officer Memorial Day" and authorize the Mayor to sign. This motion, made by Muehlenkamp and seconded by Weedin, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 4, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 1

Police Chief Hodgson recognized our local law enforcement as well as those in law enforcement that have been killed this past year serving their communities.

3. Public Hearings.

3.A. Public Hearing - A report from the Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee regarding meeting held April 28, 2025.

Motion to recess as a City Council and convene a public hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment on a report from the Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee regarding meeting held April 28, 2025 with the City Attorney to act as hearing officer. This motion, made by Weedin and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 4, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 1

The City Attorney offered and received into evidence Exhibit #1 - the City Manager's Report dated May 5, 2025 (1 page); Exhibit #2 - Notice of Hearing published (1 page); Exhibit #3 - Agenda for the April 28, 2025 meeting of the Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee and attachments (6 pages); and Exhibit #4 - the minutes of the February 10, 2025 Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee (4 pages).

Charlie McPherson, McCook Economic Development Director, and Sean Wolfe, president of the Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee, reviewed the information presented in Exhibit #3 and answered questions from the Council.

With no one else present to comment, motion to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene as a City Council. This motion, made by Weedin and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 4, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 1

3.B. Accept the minutes of the February 10, 2025 Economic Development Plan Citizen's

Advisory Review Committee meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes of the February 10, 2025 Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee meeting. This motion, made by Rambali and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 4, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 1

4. Consent Agenda.

Motion to approve the consent agenda. This motion, made by Rambali and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Calvin: ABSENT, Taylor: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA
YEA: 4, NAY: 0, ABSENT: 1

- 4.A. Approve the minutes of the April 21, 2025 regular Council meeting and the April 30, 2025 special Council meeting.
- 4.B. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract between the City of McCook and THERAP Services, LLC pursuant to one or more State Agreements, for the purpose of providing Waiver meals and transportation.
- 4.C. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Change Order No. 1, the Certificate of Substantial Completion and Pay Application 6 (FINAL) for Water System Improvements on South Street and Ravenswood Road from the City Shop to South 9th Street, BSB Construction, Inc. contractor.
- 4.D. Accept the City of McCook-Tax Increment Financing Annual Report - dated April 2025.
- 4.E. Approve an application from Telecom Construction to occupy City right-of-way for the purpose of replacing telephone cable for 334 North Cherokee Road.
- 4.F. Approve an application from Great Plains Communications to occupy city right-of-way for the purpose of installing underground fiber optic conduit and cable on Airport property.
- 4.G. Forward to the City's insurance carrier for review and appropriate action a property damage claim from Cindy Dugger, St. Patrick's Little Knights Preschool.
- 4.H. Approve Van Kirk Brothers Contracting request for street closure during a water infrastructure improvement project on West 5th Street from West "J" Street to West "L" Street starting May 19, 2025 for approximately three weeks.
- 4.I. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a land lease with the Federal Aviation Administration for navigational equipment known as a fan marker.

5. Regular Agenda.

5.A. Update regarding the sports complex project.

City Manager Schneider gave an update of the sports complex project. The contract with Mammoth Construction for Phase A of the project has been signed and they have began the dirt work for the complex area; we are waiting for the Mylar of Walters Addition Final Plat so that it can be signed and recorded at the courthouse; Miller and Associates proposed the locating the sewer extension further north under "U" Street which would allow for future extension to the family residential areas; staff continues work on grant applications and the Mammoth Creative Team on marketing and fund-raising; discussion has been held with D.A. Davidson regarding the bond anticipation notes, the process will begin in July with the notes being issued in August; and the city should receive the SFC Feasibility Study this coming week.

Councilmember Muehlenkamp addressed how the current fields will be utilized now and in the transition. The new facility will meet needs for practice fields, the durability of turf will allow for practice throughout the year, and Felling Field will continue to be used for the younger baseball leagues.

5.B. Council Comments.

There were no council comments.

Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:04 P.M.

Linda Taylor, Ex-officio Mayor
and Council President

ATTEST:

Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk-Treasurer