

McCook City Council
November 3, 2025
5:30 P.M.

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 Jerry Calvin, Gene Weedon, Jared Muehlenkamp, Darcy Rambali.

Absent: None.

City Officials present: City Manager Nate Schneider, City Attorney Nate Mustion, City Clerk Lea Ann Doak, Assistant City Manager Tera Koetter, Library Director Jody Crocker, Utilities Director Pat Fawver, Fire Chief Marc Harpham, Police Sergeant Nick Vargus, Public Works Director Kyle Potthoff, and Senior Services Director Beth Siegfried.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the McCook Daily Gazette on October 16, 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. Invocation was provided by Councilmember Weedon. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order.

Mayor Taylor announced that individuals who have appropriate items for City Council consideration should complete the "Topic for Consideration for City Council Agenda" form located at the information table by the entrance to the Council Chambers. If the issue can be handled administratively without Council action, notification will be provided. If the item is scheduled for a meeting, notification of the date will be given.

1. Announcements & Recognitions.

City Manager Schneider informed the Council that a Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2025 at 5:15 P.M.

Library Director Crocker also announced that Karen Land, an Iditarod musher, will be at the Library on November 13, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. She will present information on the 1925 Diphtheria Epidemic Serum Run. 2025 marks relay's 100th anniversary, commemorating the effort of sled dog teams who

delivered lifesaving diphtheria antitoxin to Nome, Alaska. Ms. Land will have her sled dog and a sled with her.

2. **Consider Ordinance No. 2025-3110** authorizing the issuance and sale of municipal improvement bond anticipation notes, in one or more series, of the City of McCook, Nebraska, of the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$5,500,000 for the purpose of providing interim financing for a portion of the costs of constructing infrastructure improvements associated with the sports complex.

Mayor Taylor introduced Ordinance No. 2025-3110 and asked the Clerk to read it by title. The Clerk read the title:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, OF THE CITY OF MCCOOK, NEBRASKA, OF THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED FIVE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,500,000) FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING INTERIM FINANCING FOR A PORTION OF THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS; PRESCRIBING THE FORM OF SAID NOTES; AGREEING TO ISSUE BONDS TO PAY THE NOTES AT MATURITY OR TO PAY THE NOTES FROM OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS; ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY WITH THE HOLDERS OF SAID NOTES; AND ORDERING THIS ORDINANCE PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET OR ELECTRONIC FORM.

Ordinance No. 2025-3110 has been introduced, read by title, and I move that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Weedin, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

Motion for final passage of Ordinance No. 2025-3110. This motion, made by Weedin and seconded by Taylor, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

Mayor Taylor stated for the record that Ordinance No. 2025-3110 is declared lawfully passed and adopted upon publication as required by law.

3. **Public Hearings.**

- 3.A. Public Hearing - A report from the Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee regarding a meeting held October 27, 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 October 27, 2025 with the City Attorney to act as hearing officer. This

motion, made by Weedon and seconded by Taylor, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedon: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

The City Attorney offered and received into evidence Exhibit #1 - the City Manager's Report dated November 3, 2025 (1 page); Exhibit #2 - Notice of Hearing published (1 page); Exhibit #3 - Agenda for the October 27, 2025 meeting of the Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee and attachments (6 pages); and Exhibit #4 - the minutes of the July 28, 2025 Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee (4 pages).

Charlie McPherson, MEDC 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 Calvin and seconded by Rambali, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedon: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

3.B. Accept the minutes of the July 28, 2025 Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes of the July 28, 2025 Economic Development Plan Citizen's Advisory Review Committee meeting. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedon: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

4. Consent Agenda.

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

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedon: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

4.A. Approve the minutes of the October 20, 2025 regular City Council meeting and the September 10, 2025 special City Council meeting.

4.B. 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 Road and East "H" Street.

4.C. Accept City Manager Nate Schneider's appointment of Greg A. Wolford, Class A License S-875 and Professional Engineer License No. E-6362, as the City of McCook Street Superintendent January 1 through December 31, 2026, for the purpose of the 2026 calendar year Highway Incentive Payment, to be issued to the City by the Nebraska Department of

Transportation, in February 2027.

- 4.D. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-33 authorizing the signing of the Year-End Certification of City Street Superintendent Form 2025.
- 4.E. Accept and authorize the Mayor to sign the Annual Certification Form confirming that funds received by the City of McCook from the State of Nebraska Department of Transportation as part of the Federal Aid Transportation Fund Purchase-Sale Agreement have been used according to such agreement.
- 4.F. Approve Resolution No. 2025-34 adopting the Second Amendment to the City of McCook, Nebraska, Firefighters Retirement Plan.

5. Regular Agenda.

- 5.A. Consider request and authorize the use of Community Betterment Funds to cover the rental fees for "Bison Days" to be held at the Municipal Auditorium on February 2 and 3, 2026.

Sharon Bohling presented the request to the Council for use of Community Betterment funds to defray the costs of using the auditorium to "Bison Days".

I move to approve the use of Community Betterment Funds to cover the rental fees for "Bison Days" to be held at the Municipal Auditorium on February 2 and 3, 2026. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Muehlenkamp, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

- 5.B. Presentation from Emma Castor with WCNDD (West Central Nebraska Development district) in regards to properties assigned to their designated area that need abatement.

Emma Castor with WCNDD was present via zoom to give an update of properties assigned to their designated area that are in need of abatement.

- 5.C. Council Comments.

There were no council comments.

- 5.D. An Executive Session may be held upon a majority vote of the Council for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to pending litigation - property located at 1111 East "H" Street, Cindy and Ron Sabin.

Motion to go into executive session for the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to potential litigation - property located at 1111 East "H" Street, Cindy and Ron Sabin at 6:15 P.M. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Weedin, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

Mayor Taylor stated for the record that at this time, pursuant to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, a closed session will be held for the purpose of the protection of public interest for a strategy session with respect to potential litigation - property located 1111 East "H" Street, Cindy and Ron Sabin. The Council will reconvene in public session following this closed session.

Included in the closed session were City Manager Schneider, Assistant City Manager Koetter, City Attorney Mustion, and City Clerk Doak.

Motion to come out of executive session at 6:37 P.M. This motion, made by Calvin and seconded by Weedin, passed.

Taylor: YEA, Calvin: YEA, Weedin: YEA, Muehlenkamp: YEA, Rambali: YEA

YEA: 5, NAY: 0

Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Taylor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:38 P.M.

Linda Taylor, Ex-officio Mayor
and Council President

ATTEST:

Lea Ann Doak, City Clerk-Treasurer