

**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 20, 2025**

The Wayne City Council met in regular session at City Hall on October 20, 2025, at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

Mayor Jill Brodersen 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, Jason Karsky, and Dallas Dorey; City Administrator Wes Blecke; City Clerk Betty McGuire; and City Attorney Amy Miller. Absent: Councilmember Matt Eischeid.

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 Brodersen advised the public that a copy of the Open Meetings Act was located on the table in Council Chambers, as well as on the City of Wayne website and was available for public inspection. In addition, she 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 Spieker made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Houser, to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2025, and to waive the reading thereof. Mayor Brodersen stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Eischeid who was absent, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the Minutes approved.

The following claims were presented to Council for their approval:

VARIOUS FUNDS:

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025: ALLO COMMUNICATIONS, SE, 1581.52; BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS, SUM, 72.37; BAIRD HOLM, SE, 4446.82; BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORP, SE, 269283.61; BIG STONE

TRANSPORTATION & LANDSCAPE SUPPLY, 1728.00; BLACK HILLS ENERGY, SE, 767.44; CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER, SE, 775.00; COTTONWOOD WIND PROJECT, SE, 10630.06; DAS STATE ACCTG, SE, 269.19; ED M. FELD EQUIPMENT, SU, 385.00; ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & EQUIPMENT, SU, 832.53; ELKINS PORTABLE RESTROOMS, SE, 240.00; FASTWYRE BROADBAND, SE, 5580.12; GERHOLD CONCRETE, SU, 2577.81; GERHOLD CONCRETE, 1019.98; INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES, SU, 2224.00; KTCH, SE, 175.00; MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, SU, 521.78; NE DEPT OF REVENUE-CHARITABLE GAMING, TX, 1410.00; NORTHEAST NE INS AGENCY, SE, 4627.50; NORTHEAST POWER, SE, 30397.86; QUADIENT FINANCE, SU, 1000.00; SILVER SILO DESIGN, SE, 140.89; US BANK, SU, 21468.23; US BANK, SU, 6605.19; VERIZON, SE, 639.79; WAYNE COUNTY COURT, RE, 400.00; WAYNE VETERINARY CLINIC, SE, 140.00; WISNER WEST, SU, 185.07

FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026: ANDERSON, DEREK, SE, 120.00; APPEARA, SE, 128.91; BENSCOTER, LOUIS, RE, 808.25; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 191.25; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 384.65; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 80.25; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 223.98; CITY OF WAYNE, RE, 32.00; CITY OF WAYNE, RE, 171.33; COLONIAL RESEARCH, SU, 801.90; CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER, SE, 775.00; CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER, SE, -775.00; DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE, SE, 3402.77; EAKES OFFICE PLUS, SE, 122.01; ELKHORN BLASTING, SE, 400.00; FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION, FE, 5000.00; GRAINLAND ESTATES, RE, 3429.95; H2 EQUIPMENT, SU, 26750.00; HANSEN, DAWSON, SE, 36.00; HAWKINS, INC, SU, 3867.22; HILAND DAIRY, SU, 144.24; IOWA PUMP WORKS, SU, 23189.11; JOHN'S WELDING AND TOOL, SU, 19.70; JOHNSON, BRITTANY, RE, 200.00; KATHOL TURF, SU, 237.50; L & L THOMPSON CONSTRUCTION, SE, 2690.00; LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES, FE, 395.00; MIDWEST TAPE, SU, 1016.28; MZRB, LLC, RE, 2500.19; NE LIBRARY COMMISSION, SU, 800.00; NORTHEAST POWER, SE, 64.06; ONE OFFICE SOLUTION, SU, 660.00; PLAYAWAY PRODUCTS, SU, 515.92; QUADIENT LEASING, SE, 3397.26; SCHULTZ, EVERETT, RE, 35.00; SD LOCAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE, FE, 125.00; STADIUM SPORTING GOODS, SE, 252.00; TR HARRIS CONSTRUCTION, SE, 24997.90; US FOODSERVICE, SE, 3905.12; W.T. COX SUBSCRIPTIONS, SU, 1275.10; WAYNE HOSPITALITY, RE, 14310.78; WESCO, SU, 631.30; AMERITAS, SE, 35.00; AMERITAS, SE, 4488.76; AMERITAS, SE, 209.06; AMERITAS, SE, 72.00; APPEARA, SE, 55.18; APPEARA, SE, 76.97; BLAZER PRODUCTIVE PRODUCTS, SU, 560.00; CINTAS, SU, 77.54; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 67.00; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 53.52; CITY EMPLOYEE, RE, 818.27; CITY OF NORFOLK, SE, 130.48; CITY OF WAYNE, PY, 126891.03; CITY OF WAYNE, RE, 463.43; DOBBS, TARYN, SE, 210.00; EAKES OFFICE PLUS, SE, 2137.38; ELLIS HOME SERVICES, SE, 1310.00; FAIR MANUFACTURING, SU, 420.17; FASTWYRE, SE, 930.02; FASTWYRE, SE, 856.65; FLOOR MAINTENANCE, SU, 1032.29; GERHOLD CONCRETE, SU, 1980.57; GROSSENBURG IMPLEMENT, SU, 182.88; H2 EQUIPMENT, SE, 298.43; HALSEY, CHASE, SE, 54.00; HASCHKE, BEN, SE, 30.00; HILAND DAIRY, SE, 127.16; ICMA, SE, 270.84; ICMA, SE, 43.40; ICMA, SE, 214.81; ICMA, SE, 272.00; ICMA, SE, 584.44; ICMA, SE, 369.23; ICMA, SE, 1311.26; ICMA, SE, 11232.80; ICMA, SE, 148.60; ICMA, SE, 623.47; ICMA, SE, 158.98; IRS, TX, 4935.94; IRS, TX, 21105.12; IRS, TX, 14200.44; JACK'S UNIFORMS, SU, 416.70; MAIN STREET GARAGE, SE, 1161.70; MEYERS, GEMMA, SE, 220.00; MILLER, RACHEL, RE, 10.00; MONSON, DEJAY, RE, 200.00; NCOA, FE, 450.00; NE DEPT OF REVENUE, TX, 6091.22; NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL, FE, 183.00; NEBRASKA GENERATOR SERVICE, SE, 5114.61; O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORES, SU, 23.56; PROGRESSIVE PROPERTIES, RE, 1000.00; QUALITY 1 GRAPHIC, SU, 50.00; SEALS & SERVICE, SU, 776.25; SIEVERS, TOM, RE, 1000.00; SILVER SILO DESIGN, SE, 134.47; SPIELMAN, MEGAN, RE, 150.00; STADIUM SPORTING GOODS, SE, 48.00; STAPLES, SU, 48.83; STATE FARM INSURANCE, SE, 563.00; WESCO, SU, 790.73

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

Austin Frideres, Assistant Fire Chief, introduced Logan Peterson and requested Council consideration to approving his membership application to the Wayne Volunteer Fire Department.

Councilmember Bratcher made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Houser, approving the membership application of Logan Peterson to the Wayne Volunteer Fire Department. Mayor Brodersen stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Eischeid who was absent, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Luke Virgil, Economic Development Director, on behalf of Joe and Lindsey Whitt, was present regarding their request to close the alley between 1st and 2nd Streets to foot traffic only between 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 25, 2025, for the grand opening of “Wild Nettle,” along with a “Maker’s Market.” There has been an amendment to the request to also close the alley across the street between Sweet Peppers and the Wayne Herald. Event insurance for this event will be covered through the Wayne America’s insurance policy if this is approved by Council. The adjoining property owners have been contacted about the alley closures and have no opposition to the same.

Councilmembers Bratcher and Houser had concerns regarding safety.

After discussion, Councilmember Bolte made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Spieker, approving the request of Joe and Lindsey Whitt to close both the east half and west half alleys on Main Street lying between 1st and 2nd Streets to foot traffic only between 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 25, 2025, for the grand opening of “Wild Nettle,” along with a “Maker’s Market.” Mayor Brodersen stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Eischeid who was absent and Councilmembers Houser and Bratcher who voted Nay, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Luke Virgil, Wayne Economic Development Director, was present representing the LB840 Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee. The Committee met on October 2, 2025, and reviewed a

revolving loan fund application to Wayne's Economic Development Program (WEDP) by the *4th Jug, LLC dba "The Max" (Hunter Jorgensen)*. The application was originally submitted on June 27, 2025, but the applicant had waited for the WEDP Fund to regenerate to a level that could satisfy his request before moving forward in the process.

The Review Committee met with Hunter Jorgensen on behalf of the *4th Jug, LLC dba "The Max,"* as he has a purchase agreement to buy the remaining 90 percent ownership of the bar/restaurant from Ken Jorgensen. Hunter is requesting \$400,000 in WEDP Funds, with a repayment term of 15 years, and a fixed interest rate of 2%. Hunter will utilize the WEDP Funds for the purchase of the existing business and property, as well as kitchen improvements. To match his request of \$400,000 from the WEDP, Hunter has secured financing from State Nebraska Bank & Trust for up to \$400,000 and has pledged personal equity of \$100,000, which includes his existing 10 percent ownership equity (\$90,000) and cash (\$10,000). The total project is estimated to cost approximately \$900,000.

Following the meeting with Hunter, the Review Committee discussed the request for an LB840 LF Loan of \$400,000. On October 17th, the LB840 Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee voted unanimously (via email) to recommend the following terms for a loan to the *4th Jug, LLC dba "The Max" (Hunter Jorgensen)*:

- A loan amount of \$400,000;
- A loan repayment period of 10 years;
- An interest rate to be set at one half the rate set by the primary lender; (State Nebraska Bank & Trust – 7.25%; WEDP Rate: 3.625%); and,
- The repayment of outstanding LB840 balances by The Jug Store, LLC (Ken Jorgensen).

It was noted that Ken Jorgensen paid the remainder of his LB840 loan today. There will still be around \$85,000 in this loan fund if Hunter's request is approved.

Hunter Jorgensen was present to answer questions and to request Council consideration to changing the loan repayment period to 15 years and the interest rate to 2%. He would like to make monthly payments.

In addition, Attorney Miller advised the Council they should not make Hunter's loan contingent upon Ken Jorgensen paying off his LB840 loan. However, it is a moot point at this time.

After discussion, Councilmember Webber made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Houser, to approve the recommendation of the LB840 Revolving Loan Fund Review Committee for a \$400,000 revolving loan fund loan to the *4th Jug, LLC, d/b/a The Max (Hunter Jorgensen)* with the following conditions:

- A loan repayment period of 15 years; and
- An interest rate to be set at 2%.

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

Tim Reinhardt and Derek Anderson, representing the Wayne Baseball Association, were present to request Council consideration to allowing them to install a windscreen on the exterior of the fence at Hank Overin Field. This would allow for some privacy and advertising to raise funds for the organization. This would be a 3-year commitment for those that want to pay for advertising on the windscreen.

It was noted the outfield fence will get replaced next year. This windscreen would be installed on the sides of the Hank Overin Field.

Some concern had to do with placing the windscreen on a new fence that cost over \$100,000. Administrator Blecke stated he did not want to see anything placed on the fence because of the investment the City put into it. However, it is a Council decision.

Administrator Blecke stated an agreement has been prepared, yet to be signed, between the City and the Softball Association stating that if the City would allow them to use the fence to hang banners, advertising, etc., that if the fence goes down when the banners are up, the Softball Association will pay for the repairs to that fence. Again, this has not yet been signed or come before Council for approval until staff gets some direction on the same.

Mayor Brodersen preferred the windscreen be placed on the backfield fence.

After discussion, Councilmember Houser made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Karsky, approving the request of Tim Reinhardt and Derek Anderson, representing the Wayne Baseball Association, to install a windscreen on the exterior of the fence at Hank Overin Field.

Councilmembers Bratcher and Webber would prefer a contract for the Baseball Association if there is a contract for the Softball Association.

Mayor Brodersen stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Eischeid who was absent and Councilmembers Webber and Bratcher who voted Nay, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Councilmember Spieker made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Houser, to table action on Resolution 2025-62 directing the City Clerk to certify mowing costs to the Wayne County Clerk and Wayne County Treasurer to become a lien on 204 E 6th Street – Kory and Lisa Leseberg - \$1,200. Mayor Brodersen stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Eischeid who was absent, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Discussion took place on the ordinance prepared by Attorney Miller regarding golf carts, riding lawn mowers, garden tractors and skid loaders being allowed on city streets.

Mayor Brodersen wanted Council consideration to allowing golf carts to go anywhere, and she wanted consideration given to changing the words “streets and alleys” to “public ways.”

Written in the ordinance is you must be 16 years of age, have a valid driver’s license, and have a slow-moving emblem on the vehicle if one of these vehicles is being driven on a city street.

A suggestion was to have two separate ordinances: one pertaining to golf carts and the other pertaining to riding lawn mowers, garden tractors and skid loaders.

This ordinance is to prevent people from using a lawnmower as their primary mode of transportation to go around town or a skid loader to drive around town to get groceries. These vehicles, however, do not need to be registered with the Police Department, like an ATV.

Attorney Miller was directed to do prepare two ordinances and bring the same back for Council consideration as follows:

- One for the off-road vehicles (riding lawnmowers, garden tractors and skid loaders), with everything included in the proposed ordinance that was prepared for this meeting, and to add the wording “but not limited to” Sec. 78-301 and 78-303 and to add flags to Sec. 78-303; and

- One for golf carts – to be able to go anywhere and follow the wording of the ATV ordinance.

Discussion took place in regard to possibly obtaining State Revolving Loan Funds for the City's lead service line replacement project. Casey Junck, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, stated that a decision has to be made as to whether or not to pursue State Revolving Loan Funds for lead service line replacement. Roger Protzman with JEO Consulting Group is starting to design some water main projects, and the lead service line replacement rule that is in effect is pushing this. It is not just lead pipes, but also galvanized pipes that need to be replaced. At this time, the funding is at 60% through the program and 40% by the City/homeowner. He wanted to Council to start thinking about how the other 40% would be paid for. JEO needs direction for cost opinions. The Water/Wastewater Department has around 175 lines that need replaced in the community.

Council consensus was to direct City Staff to apply for a 60/40 Revolving Loan Fund from the State; start looking at Windom/Nebraska/Logan Streets for the first phase of the replacement project; and develop a cost assessment to see how the 60/40 should be split.

Discussion took place regarding Wayne Municipal Code Section 50.02 Containers of Title V Public Works, Chapter 50 Solid Waste Management.

Joel Hansen, Street and Planning Director, wanted Council to consider an ordinance which required curbside garbage pickup throughout the residential areas in town (other than the downtown area). This would eliminate garbage trucks traveling through the alleys. The trucks have gotten larger through the years. Staff was going to contact other communities to see which ones have curbside only garbage pickup. In addition, staff would contact the haulers to see what percentage of their customers have alley pickup at this time.

Mayor Brodersen had concerns regarding the older neighborhoods. They do not have access from the alley to the front sidewalk/street. This would be extremely tough in the wintertime with snow.

Council consensus was for City Staff to work with the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance for Council consideration.

Administrator Blecke, on behalf of Olsson, presented Pay Application No. 1 from T.R. Harris Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$203,660.10 for the “Wayne Prairie Park Phase 4 – Parks & Rec/Roundabout Paving Project.” In addition, he updated the Council on the project.

Councilmember Bolte made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Houser, approving Pay Application No. 1 in the amount of \$203,660.10 to T.R. Harris Construction, Inc., for the “Wayne Prairie Park Phase 4 – Parks & Rec/Roundabout Paving Project.” Mayor Brodersen stated the motion, and the result of roll call being all Yeas, with the exception of Councilmember Eischeid who was absent, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mayor Brodersen declared the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.