

MINUTES-October 20, 2025
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS-
1111 AVE E, WISNER, NEBRASKA 68791

The City Council of the City of Wisner, Nebraska met in regular session in the Council Chambers at the City Offices in Wisner, Nebraska, on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. Notice of the meeting was posted in three public places which are the Wisner Post Office, Wisner Public Library, and the Wisner City Office. Notice of the meeting and the agenda were mailed or emailed to the mayor and all members of the City Council. A true copy of their signed acknowledgement of the receipt of the advance notice of this meeting and the agenda is filed in the office of the City Clerk/Treasurer. An agenda for the meeting was kept continuously current and was available for public inspection at the City Offices three days before the meeting date. Agenda subjects were contained at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. The mayor presided and the City Clerk/Treasurer recorded the proceedings of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the general public.

Mayor Soden called the meeting to order, and announced the location of the posted Open Meeting Act, pursuant to Section 84-1412(8) of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. Mayor Soden also announced that this meeting is being recorded.

Present on the roll call: Cathy Gobar, LJ Parker, Barry Meyer, Andrew Schweers, and Mayor Terry Soden.

Staff present: Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, Stephanie James, City Clerk/ Treasurer, Doug Salmen, Chief of Police, and Sammye Nyman, Wisner Care Center Administrator.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – CONSENT AGENDA – AGENDA, MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2025 REGULAR MEETING, & CARE CENTER, CITY, & CITY/RURAL FIRE BOARD SEPTEMBER 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Parker to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Meyer, Parker, Schweers, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE BID OPENING FOR EAST HIGHWAY 275 UTILITY RELOCATION. Roger Protzman with JEO was in attendance at tonight's meeting to discuss the bid opening with the council. Mr. Protzman stated that this is the first of three bid lettings for the relocation of the utilities for the East Highway 275 construction. This bid opening is for the purchase of pumps and electrical control panel due to the long lead time. Mr. Protzman said that two bids were received and technically one of the bids was not in compliance with the bid specifications. The other bid was. As per JEO's opinion of cost was at \$75,000.00 and the bid from Iowa Pump Works came in at \$60,773.00. This bid includes the pumps, lows, control floats, guide rails, and control panels. Mr. Protzman said he recommends approval to be awarded to Iowa Pump Works in the amount of \$60,773.00 and execute a contract with them. The estimated delivery for the panels is sixteen weeks so Mr. Protzman said he is glad we are doing this. The plan is to reassign this contract to the contractor who builds the lift station and installs the pipe. Then the third

contractor would be who will be doing the electrical work. Mr. Protzman said the next step is to get the next set of plans completed and come back to council in another month or so for the next bid letting. Russ Breitzkreutz asked if there was any option on who we can choose to provide. Mr. Protzman said there were originally four bidders and several manufacturers. Mr. Protzman said that only 2 bids came in due to several of the manufacturers choosing not to bid. Moved by Parker and seconded by Meyer to approve JEO's recommendation of Iowa Pump Works with a bid amount of \$60,773.00. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Schweers, Meyer, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 – RESOLUTION NO. 2025-15 – A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA FOR PROJECT NO. S-275-6(1062). Mayor Soden introduced Resolution No. 2025-15 entitled: A Resolution Adopting and Approving the Execution of an Agreement with the Department of Transportation of the State of Nebraska for Project No. S-275-6(1062), Control No.32024A, Agreement No. XL2527, Project Name: Wisner-West Point North. Mayor Soden then asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-15. Moved by Meyer and seconded by Schweers to approve Resolution No. 2025-15 to adopt and approve the execution of an agreement with the Department of Transportation of the State of Nebraska for Project No. S-275-6(1062). Roll call: Ayes: Schweers, Meyer, Parker, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried. Mayor Soden declared Resolution No. 2025-15 adopted.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – WISNER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (WCD) – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING GENERAL MEETING NOTES FROM 07/28/2025 AT THE SENIOR CENTER. Alan Harms, WCD President presented some background on this agenda item. WCD and the City of Wisner held a strategic planning session in January and in this meeting WCD wanted to have a meeting with the forty and under group to see what ideas they had. WCD also thought that it would be a good idea to talk to the forty and older group. This was set up and was done on July 28th. Mr. Harms went over the three questions that were asked during the meeting in July. They are as follows: Things we Miss, Areas of Improvement, and Wish List. WCD met after this meeting and went over the list and decided that some items were not items that they could deal with and thought it would be a good idea to share them with the council so that the council knows what the public is thinking. Mr. Harms stated that in the column under things we miss, there is not a lot that the council can do with that. The things we would like to look at the most is the areas of improvement. One or two people said all of these items during the discussion. They are as follows: a bigger marquis sign for community events, landscape around welcome signs, walking trail extended, zero entry to pool, lawn/yard maintenance, step ups on sidewalks, more handicap parking, improve/fix sidewalk, repair some gravel road on Avenue K, new Christmas lights, new welcome flags, slow main street traffic down, improve parking for Senior Center. A copy of this list is attached to these minutes. Mr. Harms said that we are here to bring their words here to the council. If you don't know what they are thinking you can't deal with it. Our mission at WCD is try to make Wisner a better place to live, work, play, and worship. Russ Breitzkreutz added by saying that it was not their intent to create any problems to our city council. The idea was to create a venue for people to share their ideas publicly who don't want to speak in larger groups. Some of these items seem small but these citizens felt better to share their ideas. Mr. Breitzkreutz share that in the forty and under group brought up in a previous meeting about some of their kids are too little to go to the pool who need a splashpad and we all know the outcome of that and it was a very positive outcome. Maybe there is some interest out there that could get together to present a plan for some of these items. Councilman Schweers asked how the attendance was for the forty and older group. WCD thought there were roughly forty-five people or so. Mr. Harms said they

have some items that they are going to work on. Councilwoman Gobar stated that she can understand the zero-gravity pool, but a few years ago we had a pool study done and a public meeting was held regarding the pool at the auditorium and not a lot of people showed up. Mr. Harms stated what brought this up was a lady was trying to get out of the pool and could not get herself out by using the ladder. There are steps that could be used for handicap accessibility in the three-foot area. Holy Schroeder asked how old our pool is. Mr. Woldt stated that it was built in 1981. Mayor Soden said that it was inspected a few years ago and for its age, is in very good condition. The main concern was the bathhouse. Senior housing was discussed a lot in the meeting. Having land is a lot of the problem. Mr. Harms thanked the council for taking the time to listen to them and also all the work that was done in the Grandview Addition. Councilman Meyer asked if any more homes were going to be started up there. Mr. Harms stated that there are two that will be started this fall and a purchase agreement signed for another lot. Councilwoman Gobar asked how many lots are left to be sold in the first phase. Mr. Harms stated that there are eight left to be sold. If the buyer does not start to build within eighteen months, WCD has the option to buy back the lot at 75% of the purchase price. Russ Breitreutz took this time to thank Randy and his crew for addressing a maintenance problem that WCD had in the Grandview Addition. Mr. Breitreutz said they did a great job and really appreciate their help.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 – POLICE DEPARTMENT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF A POLICE VEHICLE. Chief of Police, Doug Salmen explained to the council that he would like to get on a five-year rotation with the police vehicles. The cheapest state bid is from Gregg Young for a four-wheel drive Tahoe at \$53,650.00. With additional recommended options added in the Tahoe will cost about \$55,000.00. This does not include a trade in. Chief Salmen has discussed trading in the pickup or keeping it with Mr. Woldt. The miles are not so concerning as the hours that are on the vehicles. There are a lot of idling hours on the vehicles. Chief Salmen stated this was figured into the budget. The additional recommended options get installed at Gregg Young. Councilman Schweers asked how old Sargent Rhodus' car is. Chief Salmen stated it is a little over three years. In a couple of years, the warranty will expire. Councilman Schweers asked how much money we have put into the pickup. Chief Salmen said it has really been just general maintenance. Nothing really mechanically has been done to the pickup. Councilman Parker asked how long will they honor this quote. Chief Salmen said he talked to a rep from Gregg Young at conference and was put on a list to receive a vehicle. The dealership is allotted so many cars. Councilman Parker explained that he wanted to know how long the quote was good for because he would like to know for sure what the plan is for the pickup. Chief Salmen thought at one time the nursing home may have a need for the pickup or the city could use the pickup. The pickup is a 2017. Councilman Schweers said it sounds like the pickup is not nickel and diming the city and that maybe looking into trading in Sargent Rhodus' vehicle. Councilman Barry said not trying to jump ahead but noticed the next agenda item had in-car cameras and just wanted to make sure those will be able to be placed in any vehicle or if they are made for a certain type of car. Councilman Meyer just wanted to make sure that the cameras are interchangeable. Chief Salmen said yes, they will fit into any vehicle. Discussion was held to maybe get some more information on which vehicle to replace. Chief Salmen said they have their department meeting tomorrow at 10 AM and will talk to the other two officers. Chief Salmen said that Officer Lanagan's biggest complaint on the pickup is that he has to do a three point turn around and Sargent Rhodus' biggest complaint on the car has been that it has been a problem since it was picked up. Councilman Meyer asked if we did do a trade in what the difference would be if the car was traded versus the pickup. Which one would have the better trade in. There are a lot of things to consider. Moved by Gobar and seconded by Meyer to table this agenda item until the next regular meeting to give Chief Salmen some time to gather more information on what was

all asked by the council. Roll call: Ayes: Meyer, Parker, Schweers, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – POLICE DEPARTMENT – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A CONTRACT WITH BRITE – IN CAR AND BODY CAMERAS. Chief Salmen explained that this is a four-camera system with body cameras. How this works is if you turn your body camera on and you are outside of your vehicle it automatically turns all of your cameras on. If you turn your cameras on in the vehicle, it automatically turns your body camera on. All of your action is being recorded, from the front to the back and the sides of the vehicle. This is one part of a two-part system. The state is offering e-citation grant. It is a 75% state to 25% department match. This system will tie in altogether. New computers are needed for the cars and this includes the computers. There is not a grant available for the camera system. The camera system will be an annual payment for five years. The grant for the e-citation is about complete, just need to have three quotes to send in with the grant and that will be ready to be submitted for the e-citations. The e-citations will also be from Brite. Same company as the in-car and body cameras. Chief Salmen stated that they just had a meeting with the county attorney and he stressed the importance of having the 360-camera view and body footage. It makes court so much easier when he can just show a video of the incident. All the footage is saved on the cloud and the county attorney can view the footage from the cloud. Right now, the view is just the body cameras and what is in front or back of the car. Mayor Soden said that a lot of time is spent downloading body and vehicle footage in the office. Councilman Parker verified that the annual payment for the cameras was already put in the budget. Chief Salmen did confirm that this payment was put into the budget. Moved by Parker and seconded by Meyer to purchase the camera system from Brite with an annual payment for five years. Roll call: Ayes: Meyer, Parker, Schweers, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7 – WISNER CITY PARKS – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PARK UPGRADES. Mr. Woldt explained to the council that he would like to have Al Vacanti help with grant writing to get grants to help with a bathroom/shower house for the River Park, new playground to replace some older playground equipment for the Dinklage Pool Park, new playground to replace some older playground equipment at the River Park, and a basketball court in memory of Cole Uhing at the Dinklage Pool Park totaling about \$830,177.00. The Uhing Family is also working on funding for the basketball court. Mr. Woldt is asking how much the city is willing to help with funding. There are funds in the sales tax infrastructure to help put towards the city match. Councilman Parker asked if the new playground equipment is for the replacement of playground equipment over by the big baseball field. Mr. Woldt said yes, to replace the metal slides and merry-go-round. Moved by Meyer and seconded by Parker to approve the city putting in \$100,000.00 of sales tax infrastructure funds and having Al Vacanti move forward with grant funding for a city match of about \$415,089.00. Roll call: Ayes: Parker, Schweers, Meyer, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8 – MONTHLY POLICE REPORT – D. SALMEN. Doug Salmen, Chief of Police made available the monthly police activities report to the mayor and council. Chief Salmen said that traffic calls went up some and calls of service was about the same as last month. Russ Breitzkreutz wanted to take this time to let council know that he has had a lot of comments on Dusty's article of the police report in the paper. It is very much appreciated.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 - BUILDING PERMITS. Randy Woldt, City Administrator/Utility Superintendent, stated he has one building permits at this time. It is for 304 Cemetery Road to build a garage with a breezeway.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10 - COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS, COMMENTS BY COUNCIL, CITY OFFICIALS AND GENERAL PUBLIC.

- A. Councilman Schweers asked if the city has thought about charging for building permits. Stephanie James stated that we do charge \$100.00 if a building permit is not filled out. Councilman Schweers stated that in another community that the permit fee is so much for the estimated dollar value. Randy Woldt stated that this has been discussed before and that the extra fee would scare them away and not build. Councilman Parker said that it would be something to think about and would be an extra revenue source. Councilman Schweers asked if the city did charge for the building permits where would this revenue go to. Mr. Woldt stated that it should be put towards a building inspector. Mr. Woldt went on to say that the county has talked about going to a county wide building inspector. Councilman Schweers stated that would be a good idea to have a building inspector. Councilman Parker stated that this would be something to really think about.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11 - MOTION TO ADJOURN TO MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2025, AT 6:00 PM. At 7:01 PM moved by Parker and seconded by Gobar that the City Council adjourn to meet in regular session on November 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chambers at the City Office. Roll call: Ayes: Schweers, Meyer, Parker, Gobar. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk/Treasurer