

Minutes
City Council
Monday, March 10th, 2025
5 pm

The meeting opened with the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Pitzl called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with council members Chad Altermatt and Roger Baumann present.

Also present were Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator Brandon Baune, City Attorney Matt Novak, and Public Works Director Jim Jenniges.

Councilmember, Mike Remiger, arrived about 5:15

EDA Update – Mr. Eichten provided a brief EDA Update. He noted this month’s spotlight on Arvig, a possible housing grant which Mr. Baune is looking into, and gave an update on the progress on past due RLF payments.

Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator – Mr. Baune provided the CTA Report which included the following items:

1. **125th Celebration Progress** – Mr. Baune provided an update on the schedule of events for the 125th celebration this summer. He noted that Friday included a meal put on by the Lions, axe throwing and DJ Chopper. Saturday includes a craft sale, softball tournament with food and beverages at the park, bouncy houses, parade, and evening entertainment by Rhino. The festivities conclude on Sunday with a pancake breakfast by the Wabasso Fire Department.
2. **Eye-on-Water Ap** – Mr. Baune noted that he and Michelle had devised a plan to distribute information on the ap to the public. A 1-page document with instructions and the resident’s account number will be included with everyone’s utility bill later this month. If necessary, the city may hold workshops to assist residents with getting set up. The ap allows residents to watch their water usage and alerts them to issues such as water leaks.
3. **Softball Field Flag/Memorial** – Mr. Baune noted that he was approached by the softball coach about placing a flag and memorial beyond the fence of the softball field. When the scoreboard was moved, the flag was taken down and never put back up. The Softball Association received a generous donation and would be funding the project. It was a consensus of the council to have the Softball Association move forward with their plans but requested a building permit with information about their plans as soon as it becomes available.

Street Report – Mr. Baune and Mr. Jenniges provided a street report which included the following subjects:

- 1. Golf Carts on City Streets** – Council requested a conversation on golf carts and other motorized non-passenger vehicles on city streets. Mr. Baune provided the current ordinance, while Mr. Novak provided a history of this ordinance, including that council looked at updating the ordinance a few years ago but decided not to at that time. The council asked Mr. Novak to bring an updated golf cart ordinance for consideration at the next meeting. The council also asked Mr. Baune to alert the sheriff's office to the council's concerns.
- 2. Downtown snow Removal** – Council requested a conversation on the city and residents' obligation for removing snow, specifically with the downtown businesses. Mr. Novak noted that the ordinance was clear. Downtown businesses, and the contractors that remove snow for them, should move snow to the streets prior to the snowplows going by. They should not pile the snow up. If snow is removed after plows have gone by, the city may charge those businesses to come back and clean it up.

Mr. Altermatt asked Mr. Baune to make sure that the light issue has been fixed at Mr. Nelson's house.

Water/Wastewater Report – Mr. Jenniges brought up the possibility of the city having special large commercial rates for water. He noted that most cities do this. Mr. Baune to research this. Also, the council brought up charges for fire calls, questioning if we need to increase our rates and if we could charge for water. Mr. Baune to research this for the council.

Parks Report/Parks Keys – At the request of the council at the last meeting, Mr. Baune presented a document showing who had what keys pertaining to the ballfields at each park. He noted that he would update this document yearly. The council also recommended that the city begin working on fixing/painting picnic tables.

Resolution 4-2025 – Establishing Procedures Relating to Compliance with Reimbursement Bonds – Motion by Altermatt, second by Baumann to approve Resolution 4-2025 – Establishing Procedures Relating to Compliance with Reimbursement Bond Regulations Under the Internal Revenue Code.

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger – yes

Community Center Improvements Update – Mr. Baune noted that he and Jim had reached out to the two contractors with items left and that they did not have a definite timeline for completion but expected that it would be in the next couple of weeks. Also, Mr. Baune noted that he needed to reach out to contractors who renovated the exterior last year to find out if they can complete the North wall this year. If not, we will need to request bids. It was a consensus of the council to reach out to contractors about finishing the North side, in hopes of being done by the 125th Celebration.

Consent Agenda – Motion by Baumann, second by Altermatt to approve consent agenda as follows:

1. Approve Council Minutes – February 10th and 19th, 2025
2. Approve Farmer’s Co-op Renville/Wabasso C-Store Application for Tobacco License
Pitzl – yes, Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger – yes

City Bills – Motion by Remiger, second by Baumann to approve the bills as follows:

General Checking

101 General Fund	\$34,071.58
225 Fire	\$487.60
230 Ambulance	\$3,343.35
319 Cedar Street Improvements	\$1,064.00
320 USDA RD Sewer Rehab	\$15,491.00
601 Water	\$6,975.64
602 Sewer	\$6,689.74
603 Refuse (Garbage) Fund	\$3,092.94
604 Stormwater Utility	<u>\$258.75</u>
Total Checks	\$71,474.60

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger – yes

Motion by Baumann, second by Altermatt to adjourn at 6:25 p.m.

Pitzl – yes, Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger - yes

Brandon Baune

Clerk/Treasurer Administrator