City of Bennington
City Council Budget Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 8, 2025; 6:00 p.m.
City Office, 15505 Warehouse Street
Bennington, NE
402-238-2375

Call to Order - Roll Call – Open Meetings Act

Mayor Clint Adams called the 2025-2026 budget meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2025. In attendance were City Council Members Kaye Bridgeford, Rob Hamilton, Adam Lee, and Shane Pekny. City Clerk Mindi Laaker identified the Open Meetings Act location that is available to the public.

2025-2026 Budget Hearing, Budget Summary and Tax Request

Creative Planning Accountant Tim Lens presented an overview of the budget. The property rate for the fiscal year 2025-2026 will be set at $0.558512 calculated at $0.356559 for the General Fund and $0.201953 for the Bond Fund. The 2025-2026 property tax request will be set at $1,021,355.06 for the General Fund and $578,491.00 for the bond fund, for a total of $1,599,846.06.

Adams opened a public hearing and there were no comments.

Adjourn

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Lee to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

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Monday, September 8, 2025; 6:00 P.M.
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402-238-2375

Call to Order - Roll Call – Open Meetings Act

Mayor Clint Adams called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2025. In attendance were City Council Members Kaye Bridgeford, Rob Hamilton, Adam Lee, and Shane Pekny. City Clerk Mindi Laaker identified the Open Meetings Act location that is available to the public.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A. August 11, 2025 City Council / School Board Meeting Minutes
B. August 11, 2025 Community Development Agency Meeting Minutes
C. August 11, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes
D. August 25, 2025 Community Development Agency Meeting Minutes
E. August 25, 2025 Special Budget Meeting Minutes
F. August 2025 Bills Paid

G. Keno Receipts: August 8.75%: $9,647.85
H. JEO Consulting Invoices for:
    i. General Engineering Invoice No. 163532 totaling $9,377.50
    ii. Neumeyer Farm Invoice No. 163436 totaling $28,942.50
    iii. Public Works Building Invoice No. 163415 totaling $8,967.50

BILLS PAID IN AUGUST	
CITY	
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEBRASKA	4,216.72
THE DAILY RECORD	637.31
GUARDIAN	223.59
GUARDIAN	223.59
MUD	52.95
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	244.90
OFFICE DEPOT, INC	50.29
PRESTO - X	41.42
YOUNG AND WHITE LAW OFFICES	3,918.00
I3 BANK HSA	163.50
I3 BANK HSA	226.00
I3 BANK HSA - LAYNE LAAKER	312.50
I3 BANK HSA - HEATHER LUTH	600.00
SAINT ARMOUR LIFE LINE	180.00
THE DAILY RECORD	48.67
LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES	12,425.00
OLD REPUBLIC SURETY GROUP	100.00
WM CORPORATE SERVICES, INC	278.50
GREAT OMAHA CONFERENCE	100.00
MAPA CONFERENCE	36.08
RATINA CRAWFORD	1,247.36
KEVIN HAND	2,674.31
MINDI LAAKER	866.75
NATIONWIDE	2,184.23
NATIONWIDE	4,296.80
LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES	156.00
LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES	592.00
IRS TAX PAYMENT	6,719.78
INTUIT	398.00
COX BUSINESS SERVICES	10.06
EMC INSURANCE COMPANIES	35,475.00
FILTER SHOP	9.48
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SERVICE	128.40

GUARDIAN	232.09
JEO CONSULTING, INC	18,512.50
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	244.90
OPPD	305.17
I3 BANK - HSA	226.00
USPS	156.00
RATINA CRAWFORD	1,139.37
KEVIN HAND	2,674.31
MINDI LAAKER	866.75
NATIONWIDE	2,173.38
NATIONWIDE	4,285.94
AT&T MOBILITY	46.22
THE DAILY RECORD	55.33
OFFICE DEPOT, INC	87.36
OMAHA NEON SIGN COMPANY	225.00
I3 BANK - HSA	226.00
I3 BANK - HSA	226.00
JP MORGAN	2,720.00
IRS TAX PAYMENT	10,168.33
CITY TOTAL	**123,407.84**
SEWER	
ONE CALL CONCEPTS	17.18
DARLAND CONSTRUCTION CO.	1,401.00
JEO CONSULTING, INC	415.00
PEOPLE SERVICES	1,430.00
CITY OF OMAHA CASHIER	33,644.99
SEWER TOTAL	**36,908.17**
LIBRARY	
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEBRASKA	5,301.28
FONTENELLE FOREST	175.00
GUARDIAN	50.43
GUARDIAN	50.43
DUNNING MUSIC & ENTERAINMENT	100.00
JESSICA ROWE-DESILVA	341.00
MUD	247.10
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	222.25
OFFICE DEPOT, INC	213.92

PRESTO - X	28.19
SAC MUSEUM	450.00
SAM'S CLUB MC/SYNCB	3,990.80
SAINT ARMOUR LIFE LINE	120.00
NLA/NSLA CONFERENCE	400.00
PLAYAWAY PRODUCTS, LLC	49.98
SPRINGSHARE, LLC	1,199.00
WM CORPORATE SERVICES, INC	270.65
LYNN BARNA	63.03
JOHNNA BIERMAN	1,344.96
LISA FLAXBEARD	1,649.32
NATALIE HARTLEY	497.78
HEATHER LUTH	1,048.23
LYDIA PILE	709.71
TARYN STERN	289.37
COX BUSINESS SERVICES	337.06
ASSOCIATION FOR RURAL & SMALL LIBRARIES	75.00
FILTER SHOP	27.80
GURADIAN	50.43
JANWAY COMPANY USA, INC	596.00
JESSICA ROWE-DESILVA	341.00
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	222.25
OPPD	138.60
JOHNNA BIERMAN	1,357.71
LISA FLAXBEARD	1,537.34
NATALIE HARTLEY	1,281.07
HEATHER LUTH	1,048.24
LYDIA PILE	608.95
TARYN STERN	597.09
ABDO PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC	3,103.60
BENNINGTON LION CLUB	80.00
FONTENELLE FOREST	300.00
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SERVICE	243.82
OFFICE DEPOT, INC	-1.80
LIBRARY TOTAL	**30,756.59**
POLICE	
ALL CREATURES VETERINARY CLINIC	249.36
AXON ENTERPRISE, INC.	87.20

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEBRASKA	10,116.38
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SERVICE	69.41
GUARDIAN	134.38
GUARDIAN	134.38
MUD	168.00
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	568.29
PRESTO - X	45.57
SAINT ARMOUR LIFE LINE	420.00
US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	3,037.54
ANDREW HILSCHER	52.09
WM CORPORATE SERVICES, INC	56.50
USPS POSTAGE	16.10
JORDAN BRADLEY	328.35
ANDREW HILSCHER	2,676.91
JAYME IVERSEN	1,634.37
NICOLE MARTIN	295.52
DONALD MCGUIRE	285.60
STACIA NELSON	1,828.47
MARK NOONAN	180.91
JONATHAN STARKE	2,081.10
DANIEL STOCKER	2,190.58
OMAHA AUTO WRAPS - DEPOSIT	710.01
OMAHA AUTO WRAPS - 2ND PAYMENT	710.01
CUBBY'S	1,445.33
FILTER SHOP	8.88
GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS	278.47
GURADIAN	161.21
IDEAL PURE WATER	24.99
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	568.29
OPPD	433.89
COX BUSINESS SERVICES	204.60
DEVIN CRINKLAW	461.37
ANDREW HILSCHER	2,676.91
JAYME IVERSEN	1,634.37
ROBERT JONES	285.60
NICOLE MARTIN	258.58
DONALD MCGUIRE	274.63
STACIA NELSON	1,821.71
MARK NOONAN	74.34

PAUL SMOOT	506.03
JONATHAN STARKE	2,081.10
DANIEL STOCKER	2,190.57
ERIC WHITE	129.69
CLOSE QUARTERS CONCEPTS COURSE	725.00
AT&T MOBILITY	242.57
BENNINGTON AUTO SALE	188.03
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SERVICE	90.28
POLICE TOTAL	**44,843.47**
PARKS	
VERMEER HIGH PLAINS	101.99
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEBRASKA	1,062.23
COX BUSINESS SERVICES	46.39
GUARDIAN	17.09
GUARDIAN	17.09
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES	57.95
MUD	991.04
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	156.24
PRESTO - X	32.07
ROB'S OIL COMPANY, INC	380.42
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY	979.48
SAINT ARMOUR LIFE LINE	60.00
CUBBY'S	183.71
PORT A JOHNS	112.50
WM CORPORATE SERVICES, INC	571.37
JOHN BOHRER	988.41
DEREK BRECHBILL	1,614.67
JACKSON CONRAD	708.56
NATHAN STIER	779.81
DARLAND CONSTRUCTION CO.	178,142.10
GURADIAN	130.94
JEO CONSULTING, INC	7,297.50
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	156.24
OPPD	734.66
JOHN BOHRER	988.39
DEREK BRECHBILL	1,614.67
JACKSON CONRAD	909.07
LAYNE LAAKER	1,907.08

NATHAN STIER	909.07
AT&T MOBIOLITY	23.11
MUD	3,002.62
PARKS TOTAL	**204,676.47**
STREETS	
VERMEER HIGH PLAINS	102.00
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEBRASKA	1,062.24
COX BUSINESS SERVICES	46.40
GUARDIAN	8.97
GUARDIAN	8.97
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES	57.94
MUD	237.00
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	9.97
PRESTO - X	32.06
ROB'S OIL COMPANY, INC	380.43
SAINT ARMOUR LIFE LINE	60.00
CUBBY'S	183.71
PORT A JOHNS	112.50
DARLAND CONSTRUCTION CO.	178,142.10
GURADIAN	17.94
JEO CONSULTING, INC.	8,110.00
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	9.97
OPPD	5,615.92
AT&T MOBIOLITY	23.11
STREETS TOTAL	**194,221.23**
CITY	**123,407.84**
SEWER	**36,908.17**
LIBRARY	**30,756.59**
POLICE	**44,843.47**
PARKS	**204,676.47**
STREETS	**194,221.23**
TOTAL OF ALL BILLS	**634,813.77**

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to approve the Consent Agenda. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

2025-2026 Budget Resolution 2025-06 Setting Final Tax Request
Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to approve Budget Resolution 2025-06 setting the property tax rate for fiscal year 2025-2026 at $0.558512. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Amendments to the City of Bennington Zoning Regulations to add a definition of "Motor Vehicle Collision Facility", to add Motor Vehicle Collision Facility as a Permitted Use or a Conditional Use in the C-1 Highway Commercial Zoning District, and amend Section 5.10.06(C) to permit the outdoor storage of vehicles awaiting service by a Motor Vehicle Collision Facility provided that such vehicles are in an enclosed and screened area
City Engineer Julie Ogden presented the amendments adding a Motor Vehicle Collision Facility as a Conditional Use.

Adams opened a public hearing and there were no comments.

Motion by Pekny, second by Bridgeford to approve the changes as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Special Designated Liquor Licenses – Founder's Day Saturday September 27, 2025
A. Monolithic Brewing Co., Hartung – 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.
B. JDUB's Hangout, West – 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. Sunday September 28, 2025

Motion by Lee, second by Bridgeford to approve the applications as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Street Closure and Event Application
Sons of the American Legion Trunk and Treat Event, Saturday October 25 from 5-9 p.m. Closing South Second Street between Stark and Allen Streets

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to approve the street closure. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Peddler's Permit Application for Everlight Solar Door-to-Door Sales for One Week October 13-18, 2025
Motion by Pekny, second by Lee to approve Everlight Solar a one-week permit. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Review and Approval of 2025-2026 One & Six Year Street Plan
Street Superintendent Julie Ogden explained the proposed Street Plan.

Adams opened a public hearing and there were no comments.

Motion by Pekny, second by Bridgeford to approve Resolution 2024-07 and adopt the One & Six Year Street Plan. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Traffic Study Agreement for Traffic Signal Changes at 156th Street and Bennington Road

Motion by Pekny, second by Bridgeford to approve the traffic study totaling $8505. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

2025 Douglas County Local Emergency Operations Plan

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to approve the plan as presented. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Douglas County 168th Street Armor Coat and 156th Street Patching Project

Motion by Lee, second by Pekny to approve and pay Invoice No. 55634 and 55645 to Douglas County totaling $33,362.00. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Public Works Building

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Lee to approve Pay Application #4 to Darland totaling $205,281.70. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Motion by Pekny, second by Lee to table Change Order #3 for $16,364.70 and approve Change Order #4 for $13,181.30. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Neumeyer Farm Park Phase ll Update

Motion by Pekny, second by Bridgeford to approve transfer from Keno Fund to General Fund the remaining balance due from Phase l totaling $230,085.27. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Ordinance No. 544 Amending the City of Bennington's Zoning Regulations Sections 2.03.270A, 5.100.03(F), and 5.10.06(C) regarding a Motor Vehicle Collision Facility Definition, including Motor Vehicle Collision Facility as a Conditional Use in the C-1

Highway Commercial Zoning District, and Amending Use Limitations and Outdoor Storage in the C-1 Highway Commercial Zoning District

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to introduce and waive three readings of Ordinance No. 544 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF BENNINGTON'S ZONING REGULATIONS SECTIONS 2.03.270A, 5.10.03(F), AND 5.10.06(C) REGARDING A MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION FACILITY DEFINITION, INCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION FACILITY AS A CONDITIONAL USE IN THE C-1 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT, AND AMENDING USE LIMITATIONS AND OUTDOOR STORAGE IN THE C-1 HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL ZONING DISTRICT. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 544. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Library, Police, Public Works, Office and Project Tracker Reports

All monthly reports are on file in the City Office.

Executive Session for Strategy Discussions with City Attorney regarding Contract Negotiations

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to go into Executive Session for contract negotiation discussions with City Attorney at 7:11 p.m.

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Pekny to come out of Executive Session for contract negotiation discussions with City Attorney at 7:44 p.m.

Adjourn

Motion by Bridgeford, second by Lee to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. all voted in favor and the motion carried.