CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, January 8, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 8th day of January 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, and Emily Hammer, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, City Attorney Joe McNally, Police Chief Mark Duncan, Water Commissioner Kevin Sonnichsen, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, and Library Director Lisa Macke. Council member, Kathy Zepf, entered the meeting room at 6:32 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments.

Mike Nutting at 908 Bryant was recognized. Nutting asked if the council was still contemplating moving city hall to the CCC & I. Nutting feels city hall should stay downtown, it is the heart and hub. If city hall moved, it would leave another vacancy downtown. Mayor Morrill responded it was just an idea. Nutting continued onto the apartment at the CCC & Inn, he asked if it would be part of the compensation package for the contract labor. If the apartment is not filled, the City is losing rent money. Nutting stated we have someone on staff who is a wonderful painter and interior designer, so let's get that thing going. Lastly, Nutting stated we need to be looking at work being done by public officials and employees, contracts, and following open and public processes if the contract is at $2,000 or more.
Dennis Eucker at 804 State Street was recognized by Mayor Morrill and took the podium. Eucker stated his question was directed towards council member Mark Ripp – is slander and terrorist threats becoming of a council member? Mayor Morrill advised Ripp not to answer.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Several reports were included in the council packet. Chief Duncan stated four houses have been torn down within the last 6 weeks. ACT Nelson will be contacting the Fire Department to give their annual report next month. ACT Nelson reported for Economic Development, stating Lulu's restaurant is close to moving in. ACT Nelson shared that two pool applications have been submitted and Maycee Zimmerer will be returning this year. The Park Board will be holding a meeting soon; they are looking into hiring a 3rd party/professional to trim park trees. Water Commissioner, Kevin Sonnichsen, stated the water plant had a water leak, which has been fixed, and they flooded the water tower to eliminate dust on the tower. No sewer updates. They have sanded icy streets and removed a little snow. ACT Nelson shared that Shelby Duncan passed her water test, receiving her Grade 4 water certification, and she will go into the on-call rotation starting in February.

The Library Annual Report was given by Library Director, Lisa Macke. She shared library statistical information from the past year, and activities included Bingo, Percolated conversation, adding a second book club, and various children's events. Macke has several kid and adult activities lined up for 2026.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Zepf, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting December 11, 2025. RCV; All Ayes.

Ostronic made a motion to approve the January 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Zepf. RCV; Ripp abstained from his bills and ayes on the other bills, Three Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved onto Agenda Item Number 10, hiring contract labor. ACT Nelson stated there was one application submitted. ACT Nelson explained the process to the applicant and believes the applicant is a willing and able person who will do a great job.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to hire Brooke Rafert as contract labor staff for the Creighton Community Center & Inn. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill stated he would like to enter executive session regarding possible litigation. Hammer made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to enter executive session regarding possible litigation. RCV; All Ayes.

The board and McNally entered executive session at 6:45 PM.

The board and McNally returned at 7:01 PM.

ACT Nelson had nothing further to add to the City Administrator's Report.

Zepf stated she was impressed with the apartment at the CCC & Inn. She asked if it would take a lot to update and rent out. ACT Nelson responded that the apartment needs painted and new flooring installed, this topic will be added to the February agenda. Ostronic stated the hospital is bringing in people from everywhere to work and they pay for their housing. ACT Nelson stated she has had inquiries from a group of workers currently staying in Brunswick. The space has huge potential.

Mayor Morrill stated a gun show will be held at the Community Center this weekend.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Ostronic seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:04 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, February 12, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

CITY OF CREIGHTON
KNOX COUNTY
NEBRASKA

CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
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Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

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The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments.

Mike Nutting at 908 Bryant was recognized. He wanted to address agenda item number 16, fixing up the apartment or options for the area. Nutting asked if they are still thinking of moving City Hall. Mayor Morrill responded that it will be addressed when they get to the agenda item. Nutting stated that is why is he asking. Mayor Morrill stated they will most likely fix up the apartment. Nutting stated money was lost in January and February, we should have been working on it, we are dragging our feet. Next, Nutting wanted to comment on agenda item number 17 wording being changed to apparatus. Mayor Morrill stated it would be discussed during the agenda item. Nutting stated it was listed as pumper tank truck earlier this week, is the City trying to pull a fast one, how much does it cost? Mayor Morrill stated this is comment time, not back and forth time. Nutting asked when he can ask questions? Nutting stated this is crap, not being able to have a conversation or ask questions. Mayor Morrill moved onto the next person.
Dennis Eucker at 804 State Street was recognized by Mayor Morrill and took the podium. Eucker stated slander, defamation of character and terrorist threats are not becoming of a city council member. He asked Mark Ripp to step down as council member. He stated the constituents would like to hear, the police already know, and asked Mark Ripp to step down.

Mayor Morrill opened the hearing at 6:36 PM of an administrative plat of a parcel located at Lot 6 & West Half of Lot 5, Block 13 Original Town of Creighton, NE.
ACT Nelson explained this individual purchased a lot and would like to purchase a smaller section of the next lot. The Planning Commission has already approved it. Zepf asked if they would be building on the property.
ACT Nelson stated there is already a house on the property, they just want to make the lot bigger.
The hearing was left open.

Mayor Morrill opened the hearing at 6:37 PM for the Repurposing of Community Development Block Grant Revolving Loan Funds and Proposed Project to Rehabilitate Owner Occupied Housing Units.
ACT Nelson stated this is the second public hearing for CDBG Program Income – Housing Revolving Loan

Fund. The Community Development Block Grants Program Income was generated from the following grants through the Nebraska Department of Economic Development: 86-CR-016, 97-HO-026, and 08-HO-2011. The current program guidelines will still apply to existing projects and loans with these activities discontinuing this Revolving Loan Fund with DED. The total CDBG Program Income expended is $91,997. The breakdown is as follows: housing rehabilitation $74,975, housing management $8,997, lead-based paint testing and clearance $4,500, and general administration $3,525. It has been confirmed that 100% of beneficiaries were low and moderate income persons, no local match was required, and no persons, businesses, or farms were displaced. ACT Nelson stated these federal funds helped several projects in the community and now they want to close out the program. They will let us know what we can do moving forward as funds are still coming in but will not moderated.
The hearing was left open.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Several reports were included in the council packet. Assistant Fire Chief, Garrett Carpenter, gave the annual Fire Department report. They had 47 calls in 2025 and are settling into the new fire hall. The department currently has 32 members; a full roster is 36. The average response to a call is 22 members. The department has 8 Red Card Certified members; they can assist with State and Federal situations. Bloomfield, Verdigre and Creighton have created a task force, which is able to go throughout the state to assist. They require yearly certification. The entire department is putting in lots of training hours. Mayor Morrill said they appreciate everything the fire department does. Ambulance Captain, Jane Wilmes, added additional comments to her emailed report. Regarding measles information, it is not an issue of if it will appear, but when. Zepf asked if kids are getting vaccinated. Wilmes stated it is a personal choice. Wilmes stated the Ambulance had 20 runs in January and 18 in February so far. The squad is still looking for volunteers and grants. Sarah Strehle was present to share for the Park Board. The board received tree cutting quotes from three companies, two of which were certified arborists. They hired Petrick Tree Service to cut some of the trees in the park. Riley Petrick walked through the park, spoke with Keep Creighton Beautiful, and gave guidance to City employees as they continue tree trimming. Strehle stated the sports pad project is moving forward. The Creighton Community Foundation Fund Youth Group passed phase one to be awarded a grant through Nebraska Community Foundation. The youth are also contacting other donors. The walking trail is in an environmental wetland review since they plan to put in a new bridge and culvert in wetland areas. Sewer Commissioner, Alan Novacek, stated the State conducted a sanitary survey at the water plant this week, no sewer updates, and the crew has been servicing equipment.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting January 8, 2026. RCV; All Ayes.

Hammer made a motion to approve the February 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Ostronic. RCV; Ripp abstained from his bills and ayes on the other bills, Three Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved on to Agenda Item Number 11, wage increase for Utility Maintenance, Shelby Duncan, for completing the Grade 4 Water Certification. ACT Nelson stated this is a huge achievement and Shelby will go into the on-call rotation.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve a wage increase for Utility Maintenance, Shelby Duncan. RCV; All Ayes.

Agenda Item Number 12 was regarding pool passes. ACT Nelson stated the Park Board met and approved to increase prices by $15.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Zepf, to approve the Park Board recommendation to increase the pool single pass to $55 and family pass to $100. RCV; All Ayes.

No further questions were asked or discussion held on the administrative plat; Mayor Morrill closed the hearing at 6:55 PM.

Hammer made a motion, seconded by Ostronic, to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation of the plat map application. RCV; All Ayes.

No further questions were asked or discussion held on the Repurposing of Community Development Block

Grant Revolving Loan Funds and Proposed Project to Rehabilitate Owner Occupied Housing Units. Mayor Morrill closed the hearing at 6:56 PM. No action needed.

Mayor Morrill started discussion on Agenda Item Number 16, the apartment at the CCC & Inn and options for City Hall. ACT Nelson stated Shelby has painted and pulled out carpet in the apartment. Carpet in the other rooms was purchased through Mohawk. Ripp confirmed the same carpet is available and we could get a discount. Nelson said we could order the carpet and pay Mohawk directly, then get quotes to lay it. Nelson already reached out to someone in Neligh and another local construction company, no response from either yet. The apartment can be rented out when it is ready, but it will take a bit. Shelby has done good work. It was an option to move City Hall up to the CCC, however, Nelson stated the restaurant area is booked for graduation several years out and space would be taken away from those events. Nelson suggested getting quotes on fixing windows and doors at the current City Hall, we need to keep it up if City Hall stays in the building. Zepf asked if she had quotes, Nelson stated no. Mayor Morrill recommends getting windows for City Hall and getting quotes for flooring up at the CCC & Inn. Zepf asked if the long room in the apartment could be divided into two bedrooms, making the apartment a 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Zepf asked Ripp if it would cost a lot. Ripp responded that the ceilings in the apartment need attention, which should be done before carpet is laid. Ostronic stated we would get quotes and wait another month to start work, is there anything that can be done right now? Ripp stated it will take a month to get the carpet.
A motion was made by Hammer, seconded by Zepf, to get quotes on laying carpet, repairing the ceiling, and building a wall to make the apartment a 4 bedroom at the CCC & Inn and getting quotes on windows and doors for the current City Hall. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill allowed the Fire Department to present information on Agenda Item Number 17 regarding a future purchase of an apparatus. Assistant Fire Chief, Garrett Carpenter, introduced himself along with Scott Carpenter, President, and Tyler Fuchtman, Secretary/Treasurer. Garrett explained the department currently has a 1994 and 2007 pumper, the main truck spraying water. The City owns half of each, which is why one pumper is left in town when the department receives a call. The department has a total of 10 trucks; Rural Fire owns the others. The current pumpers hold 750 gallons of water, which last roughly 4 minutes. The department would like to upgrade to a pumper tanker which holds 3,000 gallons of water, lasting 12-15 minutes. Garrett stated if they are able to get a 2026 truck, the completion time would take 2 to 2 1/2 years. The chassis would be completed in 6 months and the installation of equipment would take the remaining time. They have received numbers from two companies, $550,000 and $635,000 for pumpers, which may not be comparable. Historically, the City has paid for half of each pumper. Scott stated the last pumper was purchased in 2007, the next logical date of purchase would have been 2018, but they have held off. Garrett said they could purchase a 750 gallon pumper, but water supply is a concern, especially since everything is now oil based and burns hotter. The Fire Department would like to know what the City is willing to commit to the purchase. ACT Nelson stated there is over $100,000 in the sinking fund in addition to what the council wants to commit next budget season. She clarified that it is not in the budget right now and would be discussed again during budget time in July, August, and September. Ostronic asked if there are grants for this, does the Rural Fire contribute, and if there are numbers they can provide? Garrett stated vehicle grants are harder to apply for. Tyler stated the Fire Department was a recent recipient of a $200.000 grant towards the fire hall, so it would be harder to apply again. Garrett stated the Rural Fire owns all the other trucks but has asked the Fire Department to get them some numbers on a new pumper. Garrett restated the quotes of $550,000 and $635,000, which are through SourceWell. ACT Nelson stated they would have to advertise for bids in the paper since the purchase would be higher than $30,000. Hammer wanted confirmation that the sinking funds would go towards it. Nelson stated yes, along with the amount the council wants to commit. Sarah Strehle asked how money goes into the sinking fund. Nelson stated $10,000 gets transferred every year. Garrett stated they would be selling the 1994 pumper but estimated they would only get $15,000 to $30,000 for it. Mayor Morrill stated we want to get the guys the best equipment, if they are negligent, someone could get hurt. If they have good equipment, they can keep a good number of firemen. Ostronic stated she doesn't think we need the best to keep volunteers, it should be focused on safety and keeping the community safe. Scott stated they plan to design something safe and effective.
Ripp made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to earmark $350,000, which includes sinking funds, for the future purchase of an apparatus for the fire department. RCV; All Ayes.

Hammer made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve Mayor Morrill's recommendation to appoint Jane Yule to the Park Board. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson reported that the scheduled power outage for February 15th has been postponed. Nelson will graduate from Nebraska Leadership this next week, she stated it was a great experience.

Zepf asked if there are any time clock updates. ACT Nelson explained we are still waiting for the software company to fix an error from when computers weren't talking to each other last May/June. We can't move forward with onboarding to the new software until the error is corrected. The auditors were able to find where the error began. Nelson stated she has been keeping in contact with the software company.
Hammer referenced the code book section regarding dogs at large. She wanted to remind everyone to be mindful if they let their dogs out. There are lots of walkers and runners, so if you own a dog, be careful. She has received several dog complaints and was recently nipped by one herself. If someone has complaints, reach out to the police, her, or the City Office. ACT Nelson stated people can call the non-emergency number.

Mayor Morrill had nothing additional to report.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Hammer seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:36 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

CITY OF CREIGHTON
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COPY

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Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments.

Mike Nutting at 908 Bryant was recognized. Nutting stated on the February expenses, there were no reimbursements for Ambulance runs. ACT Nelson stated they are paid quarterly. Nutting went on to state there were ten expenses that were explained with "supplies" only, could they be more specific. Nutting stated he was looking at the February expenses, which were posted online within the first few days of the month, could they be posted after the meeting? ACT Nelson stated expense reports are run by the month and not run until the bank is reconciled for the month, which usually happens within the first few days of the following month. Nutting stated the City was billed by the Chamber for $85 for dues. For all the things the City does for the Chamber, they shouldn't be charged dues. Lastly, Nutting asked what bids were received for the apartment and what work is being done. ACT Nelson stated they received quotes to lay flooring and put up a wall, this will be discussed later within the agenda item. Nutting stated the apartment should have been ready the first week in December, money is being wasted, the Council is stealing money from the City, money is going down the drain, and we have stalled around on it. Ripp stated the flooring came in this week. Mayor Morrill stated Nutting's time was up.
Weldon Zepf at 1007 State was recognized by Mayor Morrill and took the podium. Zepf asked if it could be taken into consideration to purchase and install a speed limit indicator, so the unused police car does not have to be parked in town. Chief Duncan stated speed limit indicators cost around $5,000, but he could look into available grants.
No other comments.

Mayor Morrill opened the hearing at 6:38 PM for an administrative plat of a parcel located at SW1/4 of Section 20, T29N, R5W of the 6thP.M., Knox County NE described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest Corner of said SW ¼ of the SW ¼, thence a distance of 70.44 feet to the northerly right-of-way line of State of Nebraska Highway No. 59, as recorded in Deed Book No. 120 at Pages 648 and 649, said point also being the True Point of Beginning; thence N 89° 35′ 09″ E on said northerly right-of-way line, a distance of 727.50 feet; thence N 01° 05′ 29″ W on the west line of the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of the SW ¼; thence S 00° 05′ 29″ W on said west line of the SW ¼ of the SW ¼, a distance of 417.85 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 7.000 acres, more or less, of which the west 33.00 feet is occupied by a public road.

ACT Nelson explained this property is within the 1-mile radius of the City. The owners are sectioning off 7

acres from the homestead. The Planning Commission has approved the lot split.
The hearing was left open.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Several reports were emailed and included in the council packet. Chief Duncan stated it is nuisance property time; council members are welcome to email him any properties to address. ACT Nelson shared a Fire Department report from Garrett Carpenter. Members of the Task Force are headed to Valentine to help with a fire, the department had 4 calls this month, 3 members attended Iowa Fire School, and 8 members completed the Red Card refresher class. The Rural Fire Board has agreed to pay for half of a new pumper. When they get other bids back, they hope to order a pumper within the next two to three weeks. Mayor Morrill said we are sending our thoughts and prayers with the Task Force; they will be gone at least 48 hours. Sarah Strehle was present to report for the Park Board. Layne Pahl will be starting dirt work and once complete, Clausen Concrete will pour concrete. Cowboy Electric tested outlets and several are not working; he gave a quote to put in new conduit and outlets. Strehle stated she approached the Chamber and Santaland to help with the cost of the electrical work, they will ask their boards. Mayor Morrill asked for a walking trail update. Strehle stated they are waiting on Fed Highway. The next step will be more paperwork or call for bids. Water Commissioner, Kevin Sonnichsen, reported that the 5th grade class took a tour of the water plant, a check valve was put in, and Wigen cleaned two trains last week.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Zepf, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting February 12, 2026. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Ostronic made a motion to approve the March 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Zepf. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Mayor Morrill moved on to Agenda Item Number 10 regarding fixing up the apartment at the CCC & Inn. ACT Nelson shared the quotes submitted. Andy Miller quoted $5,000-$6,000 for flooring installation and $1,200-$1,500 to construct a wall, he could complete the project in March if flooring is here. McDart quoted $5,800 to install flooring and $1,000 for a wall, he could start the first part of April. ACT Nelson stated the flooring has arrived. Mike Nutting wanted to confirm the wall would be put up and make the area a 3 bedroom, he was corrected by the council, the wall would make it 4 bedrooms. Nutting stated that would open it up to renting to families with children, would it be a good thing with all the events at the community center? Mayor Morrill continued with council discussion. He stated they should move forward with flooring, and a wall could be put up later. ACT Nelson stated if they want to construct a wall, they will need to address the electrical work, which they would get an electrician for. Zepf stated it is more feasible to leave it as is, get the flooring done and get it rented. Zepf agrees with the wall, but how long would it take to put up? Ripp responded it would take a few days, but the ceiling needs repaired. He stated he was unable to put in a bid. Discussion was held on making a family suite and adding it on to the hotel, it may make it a selling feature to rent the ballroom. Ostronic disagrees with the addition of a wall; she personally doesn't see the value. Ripp stated the wall would add value, they could add more beds. Ripp stated a committee should meet with the contractors to compare the quotes and what they want done. ACT Nelson explained that two council members can be on the committee and invite the Mayor. Ripp and Zepf volunteered to join the committee. Attending resident, Cody Thoene, asked if they needed to vote on a contractor so they don't have to wait until the next meeting. ACT Nelson stated the committee can make the decision.
A motion was made by Ostronic, seconded by Zepf, to form a committee consisting of Mark Ripp and Kathy Zepf to discuss and finalize plans for the apartment. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Agenda Item Number 11 was regarding the Creighton Housing Authority project. Representatives from JEO Consulting Group presented information. They will be increasing the depth of the east side parking stalls and updating the sidewalks, so they are ADA compliant. This project will be funded by the Housing Authority, not requesting funds through the City. Construction could start as early as May and is projected to be completed by August 1. Millard Avenue will be one lane of traffic for no longer than 6 weeks. ACT Nelson stated she asked Miller & Associates review the plan. Ostronic asked if JEO finds the contractor. JEO stated they will assist the Housing Authority with advertising for bids and choosing the contractor.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Zepf, to approve the recommendation from the Creighton Housing Authority to make improvements within the City's right-of-way along the west side of Millard Avenue between Maple Street and Young Street. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Zepf, to approve Resolution 2026-1 to close Main Street for BerryPepper Days June 19-21, 2026. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

A list of Park Board approved applicants for summer help including pool staff and coaches was included in the council packet. ACT Nelson stated she would like to have two more lifeguards, for a total of ten. Ostronic asked who oversees the teams and the teams in the League. Cody Thoene replied the League is in charge, president is Garrett Hanefeldt.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve the Park Board's recommendations to hire summer help. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Mayor Morrill moved onto Agenda Item 14, updating the kitchen at the CCC & Inn. Zepf stated she thinks they should update and provide a decent, working fridge so big reunions can keep food cold. ACT Nelson stated there is a working fridge in the kitchen. The freezer is not working, but there aren't many requests to use the freezer. ACT Nelson and Mayor Morrill confirmed the stove is also working. Zepf stated never mind on making updates. Mayor Morrill and ACT Nelson stated they spoke with Debbie Ives, who uses the kitchen the most for catering, to see if she had suggestions. They could move out the freezer and dishwasher, both are not working, and put in more stainless-steel counters. The lighting was recently updated.
No action was taken at this time.

ACT Nelson shared information on updating our comprehensive plan. Our plan will be outdated soon and Five Rule Rural Planning reached out offering to update it, covering the cost with a grant. Five Rule would schedule a day to be at the City Office to meet with people one on one and in a group, asking for their suggestions on what they would like to see in our community.
Ostronic made a motion, seconded by Ripp, to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission to have Five Rule Rural Planning update our comprehensive plan through our ongoing Knox County Housing Resiliency Grant. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Ripp made a motion to approve the certification of local government approval for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) – Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (NENCAP), Zepf seconded the motion. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

ACT Nelson corrected the Park Board's recommendation from Cassidy Moeller to Cassidy Tyler.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve the Park Board's recommendation to add Cassidy Tyler to the Park Board. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

No further questions were asked or discussion held on the administrative plat; Mayor Morrill closed the hearing at 7:24 PM.

Ripp made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation of the plat map application. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

ACT Nelson had nothing further to add to the City Administrator's report

Zepf asked for a time clock update. ACT Nelson stated we had a software meeting on Tuesday. The software company will be pulling data from computers tomorrow at the end of the day. Once this is complete, we will need to confirm our sewer setting feature is working properly, which has previously prevented us from updating software. Zepf asked if once that is done, will employees be able to clock in with an app on their phone. ACT Nelson stated yes. Zepf asked if they would have to be within a certain range. ACT Nelson would look into it and stated this is when you need to trust your employees.

Mayor Morrill stated to keep the Fire Department and those deployed in Iran in our thoughts and prayers.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Zepf seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:28 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News,

Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

CITY OF CREIGHTON
KNOX COUNTY
NEBRASKA

CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, April 9, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 9th day of April 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, Emily Hammer, and Kathy Zepf, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, Police Officer Wally Holz, Water Commissioner Kevin Sonnichsen, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, Ambulance Captain Jane Wilmes, and Ambulance Co-Captain Amanda Warriner.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments.

Mike Nutting at 908 Bryant asked if the J&J contract is worth more than $30,000 doesn't it have to be bid on? ACT Nelson said it was bid on back when they were hired. Nutting asked for an update on the apartment, ACT Nelson stated it would be addressed in a board report.
No other comments.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Several reports were emailed and included in the council packet. Hammer asked how many nuisance properties Officer Holz wants. Holz responded they can start giving him a list. Hammer stated some properties may need a little longer to get rid of stuff, what happens if they don't follow the 30-day notice? Holz and McNally responded that once it goes to law enforcement, it is their decision, the council is no longer involved. As long as progress is being made on the property, they may get an extension to the 30-day notice. Discussion started on vehicles. Ostronic stated she was told if the vehicle is licensed, someone can have as many as they want. McNally stated vehicles need to be operative and licensed to sit on the property, it becomes the sole role of the nuisance officer to make the determination if it is operable. Ostronic asked what if the person doesn't have the resources to clean up their property? McNally stated they can ask the City for assistance. ACT Nelson stated the Fire Department sent in their report and they have been bringing in records for her to scan and file. Sarah Strehle was present to give updates on the park. Dirt work was recently completed; 1500-1800 yards of dirt or 61 loads were moved in. Six men spent 9 hours donating their time to complete dirt work. The dirt was donated by Cal Hinzmann. Side dump services were donated by Mike Doering (truck driven by Derek Tyler), Craig Moeller, Jack Pudenz, and West Hodson with a driver. Layne Pahl and Austin Pahl completed the dirt work. Cement work will start on Monday. Sarah thanked the City crew for cleaning up the light poles. New batting cage turf will be installed due to contributions of $1000 from Softball, $2000 from concession stand, $3000 from Legion, and $1500 from Park budget. The walking trail passed the environmental review; construction is planned to start in June and be completed in October. Kevin Sonnichsen reported on water, sewer, and streets. A new chlorine pump was installed at the well. Rock is being hauled in for armor coating, bids will go out and voting will take place at the May meeting. Lynn Yule stated a lengthy Recycling report was included in the packet, they had 2 meetings in March.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting March 12, 2026. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson stated Deputy Yule expanded on the expenditures descriptions this month and the RemoteLock expense is a yearly bill for all the hotel locks. Hammer made a motion to approve the April 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Ostronic. RCV; All Ayes.

A list of Park Board approved applicants for pool staff was included in the council packet. ACT Nelson stated, if approved there would be 12 lifeguards.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the Park Board's recommendations to hire summer help. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved onto Agenda Item 10, review of the J&J contract and rate increase. Mayor Morrill stated J&J is doing a good job, not seeing any problem with them, and they work well with us during clean up days.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the J&J Sanitation contract with rate increase. RCV; All Ayes.

Ostronic made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve the Park Board's recommendation to increase camping rates from $10 to $15 and from $15 to $20. RCV; All Ayes.

Jane Wilmes shared information on Agenda Item 12, the sale of an ambulance rig. Jane explained they were previously wanting to sell Unit 1; however, Unit 2 has had recent mechanical issues and the mechanic has suggested to sell it. Unit 2 has left them stranded twice. The rig has an updated lift, which will increase the resale value. Wilmes stated they will approach the council next month regarding replacing Unit 2 with a new rig since production time is 3 years out.
Ostronic made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve Resolution 2026-2 for the sale of Creighton Ambulance. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson stated a preliminary draft of the audit is being reviewed. Kevin, Alan, Shelby, Lynn, and Emily had their photos taken for the website. Kathy was unavailable for a photo.
ACT Nelson has priced furniture through BoxDrop. She found a King bed, Queen bed, 2 couches with sleepers, and 2 loveseats for $3700 and 1 murphy bed for $550. She is thinking of putting the King bed, murphy bed, couch and love seat in the studio apartment with small kitchenet. The larger apartment will have a King and Queen bed, couch, and love seat. All other furnishings will need to be purchased as well. The door between the apartments will need a lock system installed on both sides. The flooring is done, walls are up but still needing trim. Nelson stated big strides have been made over the last month. Mike Nutting asked what the rates would be for the units. Ripp responded he thinks it should be $150 per side. ACT Nelson stated the one with the full kitchen should be priced higher, but they aren't at the stage of discussing rates yet.
ACT Nelson gave a "shout out to Shelby, Kevin, and Alan for their extra effort and time spent hauling tree limbs at the park. A big thank you to Shelby for going above and beyond this month with her extra help at the hotel and her work painting at the City Office and to Kevin for his quick response helping 2 gentlemen get into their hotel rooms. Your hard work and willingness to assist in multiple areas is greatly appreciated. Thank you as well to Lynn for the additional time and effort at the recycle facility, your excellent communication with the recycling group, and your patience. We hope you enjoyed Clerk Institute – the office missed you! And thank you to Lisa for the extra effort put into a successful Easter basket fundraiser. Your hard work and dedication made a difference! We appreciate all that you do!"

Ripp stated he attended Herman's benefit last weekend. There were lots of people and several mentioned how good the Community Center looks.

Mayor Morrill stated he included a letter in the council packet concerning the time clock issue, he feels it is not a necessary item. There are no issues with how personnel clock time now and he reviews time sheets. Zepf asked if they would use the time clock at all? Mayor Morrill stated no. Zepf stated using pencil and paper is begging for mistakes to be made. Mayor Morrill explained with the new time clock, someone could log in from home, there is no fence around it, it is not worthwhile. He stated you must be able to respect and trust your employees, or you start going the other way. Zepf asked what he meant by that. Ripp stated employees would

start quitting. Ostronic asked Zepf if there was something in particular bothering her, where is this push coming from, is there someone not clocking in on time? Zepf responded not necessarily, she thinks we need to get up to date – it keeps you honest and open. Ripp and Mayor Morrill stated employees at the shop get there early, Mayor Morrill will sometimes talk with them regarding city stuff before 7 AM, but they won't clock in until 7. Weldon Zepf, in the audience, asked why we bought the program if it isn't working, the sewer isn't capable of doing what it is supposed to do. An audience member asked if he could ask a question, Mayor Morrill stated no. ACT Nelson stated the system we have is working and we are not paying for the upgrade yet.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Hammer seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:11 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

CITY OF CREIGHTON
KNOX COUNTY
NEBRASKA
(SEAL)

CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, May 14, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 14th day of May 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, Emily Hammer, and Kathy Zepf, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, Police Chief Mark Duncan, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, and Ambulance Captain Jane Wilmes.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments.

Mike Nutting at 908 Bryant had comments regarding the CCC&I or apartment. He stated he can't ask if it is finished or how much work is left to be done. He stated that over $22,000 was put towards the apartment in the April expenses, he didn't see any numbers for the installation of the carpet, and May expenses are not included yet. The City has gone 6 months without renting it, totaling $7200 of potential income. Did the committee run any kind of numbers? They have way over spent and overdone. He calculated using $200 per night, since no one has been able to give him that information, it would need to be rented 14 nights per month to pay for itself. He stated the City's mantra is "we're working on it." It would have been so easy to rent it as an apartment 6 months ago.
No other comments.

Brittney Koenig, Account Manager with NPPD, gave a presentation on how they are serving the community of Creighton and the State of Nebraska. Corey Boyle is the local NPPD manager in Creighton.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Several reports were emailed and included in the council packet. Chief Duncan stated the Police Department received a $10,000 donation, which may be used to purchase speed units for the community since no grants are available. He stated 30-40 nuisance letters have been sent out. Ambulance Captain, Jane Wilmes, stated that on May 21st the blue rig will be picked up to go to sale. The Fire Department has been good help on some of the Ambulance calls. In addition to the Economic Development report provided in the council packets, ACT Nelson gave an update on the apartment. The hold-ups for the south studio include a window replacement scheduled to be delivered first week of June, assembly of the murphy bed, and TVs being on back order. The west side will be finished first, but they are waiting on the dishwasher to be installed along with several little details. ACT Nelson stated it takes a while to fully finish an apartment, but they are making progress. Keep Creighton Beautiful will start planting flowers soon. Mayor Morrill stated Paul at Bomgaars would appreciate a shot at some of the plants town, they are not seeing a lot going out. Mayor Morrill asked Keep Creighton Beautiful and the Park Board to take them into consideration when purchasing. Park Board stated they will wait until the agenda items to share their updates. Shelby Duncan stated the water plant has been sassy lately, Kevin has been spending a lot of time out there, the plant

is being overworked. She stated yesterday alone, 400,000 gallons of water went out. Lobes were replaced at the sewer plant. There is no black stuff to fill potholes currently. Lynn Yule stated a Recycling report was included in the council packet, a gutter was installed on the east side of the building, and the 6th graders visited the Recycling Center today.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting April 9, 2026. RCV; All Ayes.

Hammer made a motion to approve the May 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Zepf. RCV; All Ayes.

A list of Park Board approved applicants for pool staff and a ballfield caretaker was included in the council packet. ACT Nelson stated Maycee Zimmerer is working on a schedule and the pool has been filled.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the Park Board's recommendations to hire summer help. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved onto Agenda Item 11, 2026 chip and seal. ACT Nelson stated information was provided in the council packet. Miller & Associates has recommended the bid from The Road Guy Construction for $69,557.10. ACT Nelson stated that they have done work for the City in the past and we have been happy with them. They have a deadline of September 30th.
A motion was made by Ostronic, seconded by Zepf, to approve Miller and Associates' recommendation to hire The Road Guy Construction Company, Bid A $69,557.10, for 2026 chip and seal. RCV; All Ayes.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve Mayor Morrill's recommendation to appoint Curt Dohmen to the Creighton Housing Authority. RCV; All Ayes.

Information from the Creighton Housing Rehab Board regarding application #100950 was shared in the packet. ACT Nelson stated the original applicant is deceased. The family is now in possession of the home and looking to sell it. She stated if the applicant passed away more than 5 years ago, it is recommended to forgive the loan. Ripp made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve the recommendation from the Creighton Housing Rehab Board to forgive the loan on application #100950. RCV; All Ayes.

On Agenda Item Number 14, ACT Nelson stated walking trail bids will be advertised for 30 days and the recommendation will be on the July agenda.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve the advertisement for bids for the Walking Trail Improvements Project (RTP# 2024-004) and authorize publication of the bid notice, with bids to be opened on June 23, 2026, at 2:00 PM at the office of Miller & Associates. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill started discussion on Agenda Item Number 15, sports court tiling. Sarah Strehle with the Park Board provided information in the council packet including a timeline, an expense chart, and overall total of funds raised. Strehle stated $30,000 of project funds came from the Park budget. A total of $142,000 was raised, which included 5 grants, 4 micro grants, and donations from businesses and individuals. Total projected cost is $128,000. They have a contingency of $13,000, if it is not used, they are looking into Wi-Fi for security and water fountains. Two pickleball, one basketball, and one tennis court will be included in the layout, which was designed by youth group. Strehle stated they have money sitting at Tauber Lumber, which is planned to be used for door frames and bathroom updates. Updates to the batting cages, including turf and nets, are scheduled to start on Monday. Other updates include fencing on the sandboxes, a new memorial tree being planted on May 18th, stump cutting and grinding continues, Legion field stairs will be updated, and the Park has a new Facebook page.
Discussion turned to the sports court surface tiling. Strehle explained she reached out to 5 different companies for quotes, only 2 companies service this area. The Park Board reviewed both and had communication back and forth. They preferred the tiling through Sports Construction Midwest, and the company is willing to coordinate with other planned park projects. Strehle stated the Youth group raised money for the tiles. She feels the Park Board has been transparent and she herself has been attending council meetings. Strehle provided information regarding the type of tiling and requests that the council approve the purchase of the tiling. Mayor Morrill stated it was brought to his attention that even if the funds are donated, they go through the City and it is required to

advertise for bids if the purchase if over $30,000, it needs to be in the paper. Audience member, Adam Strehle, asked if only 2 companies can provide the service, what is the point? Ostronic stated it is the law, anything costing over $30,000 requires bids. The new version of the law sets it at $90,000. Ostronic stated she looked for loopholes, but it is black and white and included in our Ordinances. McNally stated the $90,000 limit is not effective until July 18th. He stated unique or specialized products still need to be advertised unless it is an emergency. Sarah Strehle asked if they can wait until July 18th since it is under $90,000? The tiling hasn't been purchased, if the council approves and they don't proceed until July 18th, can they not advertise? McNally stated they can't wait for the new law if the project is already in progress. Ostronic stated there are certain things that can be waived, usually readings, but is there any way to waive the 3 weeks of advertising in the paper? Carrie Pitzer, Knox County News, stated that would be illegal and she would not do that. McNally stated the proposal is valid until June 30th, enough time to allow 3 weeks of advertising. Strehle asked if they got a note from the donor, would that help? McNally stated it would not make a difference. He also stated the urgency to purchase would need to be presented to the council. Cassidy Tyler, Park Board member, stated the urgency is to be able to host events during BerryPepper Days. McNally stated they still need to follow the law. Hammer asked how long this would set the project back, a month? Adam and Sarah Strehle stated there are multiple projects in the bid – basketball, tennis, tiling, and batting cages – covering multiple areas. Could the projects be separated and they proceed with the initial project. McNally stated they can't intentionally break up the bid. Mayor Morrill asked if the projects could be broken down? Sarah Strehle stated yes, they can be itemized and would be under $30,000. McNally stated there are 3 figures on the proposal and prime place surfacing is $48,000 alone. Adam Strehle stated they can break up the delivery and installation, and the painting of lines is an additional fee. McNally stated those proposals are not in front of the council tonight. Sarah Strehle stated if they recommend that, she can get them the itemized papers tomorrow. McNally stated they still need council approval for any purchases regardless of the amount. Adam Strehle stated they did get approval to move forward. McNally replied that they are missing the point, it was approval with the condition they bring purchases to the council. Adam Strehle asked what the purpose of the Park Board is? Sarah Strehle stated they have made purchases without approval. Hammer stated she has been on the council for 1.5 years and assumed purchases were okay if they were under $30,000. Adam Strehle stated momentum will be lost if it needs to be brought to the council every month. ACT Nelson stated the council sees and approves purchases in the monthly expense report. Mayor Morrill asked if they get itemized project figures, can they call a special meeting. McNally responded with a yes. Ripp asked if a private entity bought the mats and someone installed them, could the City pay them. McNally stated the City can't reimburse for work like that. Cassidy Tyler stated it would be good to get the project done so everyone can see what they have done, especially what the volunteers have done. Ostronic stated their work is not going unnoticed. Adam Strehle requested they consider a special meeting. ACT Nelson made some suggestions of dates for the special meeting, and it was decided to be scheduled for May 22 at 8:00 AM. McNally suggested making a motion to advertise for bids.
No action was taken on the purchase of sports court surface tiling. A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the advertisement for bids for the sports court surfacing. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson added to her Administrator's Report. Regarding the Reuse Loan Funds, she has been in contact with the State and Miller & Associates. The funds need to be used by December 30th. They have discussed using the funds for ADA sidewalks on City property, focusing on the park area including connecting the walking trail to the bathrooms and shelters. Miller & Associates suggested the pool steps, but they are exploring other options. There is close to $50,000 to spend and it will be on the June agenda, including an open hearing.
ACT Nelson stated on Wednesday, there is a workshop for the comprehensive plan.

The council had nothing further to add.

Mayor Morrill to commend the City workers during clean up days, 6 roll offs were filled. He stated the park looks nice; he appreciates everyone's time and effort.

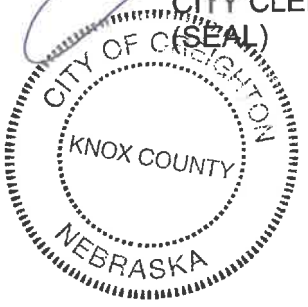
All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Hammer seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:48 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, June 11, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

(SEAL)



CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, June 11, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 11th day of June 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, Emily Hammer, and Kathy Zepf, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, Library Director Lisa Macke, Water Commissioner Kevin Sonnichsen, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, Police Chief Mark Duncan, and Ambulance Captain Jane Wilmes.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments.

Mike Nutting at 908 Bryant provided a handout to the council and ACT Nelson. He stated he looks at the "officials" page of the website and there is picture missing of the best employee of Creighton. She organizes activities for children, book club, poetry club, photo club, coffee club and adult activities at the library. She has stepped outside of her job description and should be recognized with a picture and applauded.
Nutting moved onto state he was sad to see a house being torn down. He understands there are problem properties, but could they be taken more seriously and be turned into housing for people. Studies over the years show the one complaint is housing. Housing would benefit the City and businesses would like to have more families in down. Several fundings require the house to be owner occupied, however, a program in Ord assists with fixing up houses to be sold. Nutting stated there are opportunities out there to take advantage of and he is hoping the City can do something about it. Mayor Morrill stated they have been looking into this and working on blighted areas.
No other comments.

Mayor Morrill opened a public hearing at 6:38 PM for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Revolving Loan Fund Reuse Plan Amendment and Bruce Park Sidewalk Project.
ACT Nelson explained this was funding used for housing and the State is done with the project. Remaining funds need to be used by the end of December. The plan is to pour new cement in the park shelters and construct cement paths from the road to the shelters. Ostronic asked if there is still money coming in from this program, ACT Nelson confirmed that there is. Ostronic asked if there is new program to take over this one. ACT Nelson said no, but the Creighton Development Corporation (CDC) helps with similar projects. Mayor Morrill stated they are working on blighted areas and provided brief information TIF.
The hearing was left open for discussion.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Chief Duncan stated he has ordered three radar signs. One will be placed at the school, and he is working on permits to place two on the highway. Zepf raised a concern regarding scooters and kids zooming through town, not paying attention to speed limits or stop signs. Duncan

stated this has been a hot topic in communities lately and codes are being drafted. He will be paying attention to what other towns are working on implementing. Duncan reported that nuisance properties continue to be addressed. The Fire Department provided a report in the council packet. Mayor Morrill wanted to thank the Fire Department for their work on the fire across the street. Ambulance Captain, Jane Wilmes, added that the Ambulance will be hosting a pancake feed on Saturday during BerryPepper Days at the Fire Department. Wilmes shared a photo in the Knox County News of the Ambulance volunteers with the new rig during National EMS week. Ostronic asked for some further information on the sale of the rig. Wilmes stated the 2010 rig went to York and is being prepared to get sold. The rig cannot be sold in Nebraska. They are hoping to get $70,000 or more when sold. Wilmes wrapped up the report by stating they had their 130th run of the year. ACT Nelson added to her Economic Development report by stating as of 2:00 PM today, both suites at the motel are on the website. The west wing has already been rented for the weekend and for a few days in July. Both rooms could use a few items, but they have the basics. Carrie Pitzer with Knox County News took videos, which will be posted online. Zepf asked if there were any comments or complaints about the price. ACT Nelson stated no. Library Director, Lisa Macke, stated the library report was included in the council packet. Nikki Davidson, park board member, shared park updates. New turf and netting were installed in the batting cages, trees were planted, the sidewalk from the sports pad is complete, and Derek Tyler recently leveled out dirt and laid chipped rock in the parking area. Mayor Morrill brought it to the council and public's attention that there have been issues with the park bathrooms. Kevin Sonnichsen stated people have been taking apart urinals, putting things in the toilets, and plugging the toilets. He stated Shelby has had to clean up some disgusting things. Ostronic asked if cameras could be installed. Sonnichsen stated they could not be installed on the inside of the bathrooms. Davidson stated the park board has plans to redo the bathrooms hoping that will help solve the issues. They also plan to install cameras throughout the park and will post signs of surveillance. Davidson stated they are willing to help Shelby by checking on the bathrooms throughout the day. Sonnichsen reported on water. One of the trains had a motor get hot and a fan blew up during the fire. They have taken the fan to Norfolk, but parts are 4-6 weeks out. Over the past month, they have capped water lines for housing being torn down, replaced some curb stops, collected several water samples, painted street lines, and did various jobs at the CCC & Inn. Mayor Morrill thanked them for being on top of things at the water plant during the fire. Sonnichsen stated 750,000 gallons of water were pumped during the fire, 230,000 gallons came from Rural Fire, and surrounding communities were bringing in water as well. Over 1 million gallons of water were used to put the fire out. Lynn Yule stated the recycling report was included in the council packet.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting May 14, 2026. RCV; All Ayes.

Hammer made a motion to approve the June 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Zepf. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson stated one bid was submitted for the sports court. Sports Construction Midwest's bid was $46,700 and they can get the work done by the deadline if everything aligns. Ostronic asked why the bid was less? ACT Nelson stated the batting cages were done separately.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the bid from Sports Construction Midwest for $46,7000 for the sports court. RCV; All Ayes.

Ostronic made a motion, seconded by Hammer, to approve Mayor Morrill's recommendation to appoint Deb Bloomquist and Skylar Long to the Library Board, replacing Tammi Schlote and Rachel Hammer. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill started discussion on issuing credit cards to the Fire Department. ACT Nelson stated the Fire Department discussed this item of business with her. The cards would be used for fueling up at other locations and for other items needed by the department. The cards would be included in the City's current credit card account and purchases would be itemized every month, as they have been. Jane Wilmes asked if the Ambulance could be added to this, one card for each rig, since they also purchase fuel outside of town while on runs. ACT Nelson stated they could do that.
A motion was made by Hammer, seconded by Ripp, to issue two credit cards to the Fire Department and two credits cards to the Ambulance. RCV: All Ayes.

ACT Nelson stated the CCC & Inn is down to one employee, unless you include herself. The motel has been busy. Alex works five days a week and more help is needed for the days she isn't there. McNally stated the

council can allow ACT Nelson to advertise without their approval, but hiring of the individual would need to be approved by council.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to allow ACT Nelson to advertise for contract labor for the Creighton Community Center & Inn when it is needed. RCV; All Ayes.

No questions or further discussion was held regarding the public hearing. Mayor Morrill closed the hearing at 7:06 PM.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund Reuse Plan Amendment and Bruce Park Sidewalk Project. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill started discussion on Agenda Item Number 16 regarding the Creighton Ambulance Service utilizing Sourcewell as a bidding source. Jane Wilmes asked McNally to share information. McNally stated this may be an item down the road. The council needs to consider purchasing an ambulance first, then look at the bidding source. The council can start the discussion of the purchase now. ACT Nelson and Mayor Morrill stated they need to have numbers or costs to look at. Wilmes stated they are looking at something similar to the last rig purchased with updated specs. She can get an estimated cost. New rigs are 36-48 months out once ordered and 10% down is needed. They are looking at roughly $400,000-$450,000 plus $35,000 for installing the stretcher equipment needed. Mayor Morrill asked where the money will come from? The City recently contributed to a $2.6 million fire hall, $600,000 pump tanker, and a new ambulance. Can the current ambulance be updated? Wilmes stated the money will come from grants, fundraising, and the Rural Fire plans to match what the City contributes. Repair parts for the 2009 rig are getting hard to find. Mayor Morrill asked if Avera could provide payment for transfers? Is the Ambulance making enough money off transfers to pay for the wear and tear on rigs? Wilmes responded that if Avera pays Creighton for transfers, they will have to pay towards everyone else. She explained billing rates from Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance. Wilmes said she can provide a breakdown at the next meeting. The Ambulance does receive $10,000-$15,000 from the City each year, but they may need more. Ostronic compared the Fire Department and the Ambulance; we should have the same mentality for both when it comes to purchasing. Ostronic stated they have a 2009 rig, will they be getting a 2026 rig or can they meet in the middle somewhere. Wilmes stated the State of Nebraska changed standards, they use the CAAS standards and not many used rigs meet those standards. Wilmes asked McNally what the next step should be. McNally responded that the Ambulance needs to put together numbers for the council to look at.
This agenda item was tabled; no action was taken.

ACT Nelson added to her Administrator's Report. She recently had a call to book a wedding at the CCC & Inn later in the summer, that makes two weddings for the year so far. ACT Nelson thanked the council for being understanding about attending an 8:00 AM meeting tomorrow to allow The 812 to continue business. Mayor Morrill stated he was glad to see they were able to work something out with Randy Strope, he wishes the best for everyone involved. He also thanked everyone for supplying food and drink the day of the fire.

Ripp stated he would like to see the insurance companies allow for clean up behind the barricades, junk is lying around.
Ostronic stated she received a phone call about the hospital ER. The ER door is locked, requiring patients to ring a bell. This person rang the bell, sat there, and nothing happened. They ended up going through the construction area to enter the inside of the ER. This is not the first time the ER has not functioned properly. Davidson stated there is a phone number to call for the ER. Ostronic stated the person called three times and it was busy. Ostronic wondered if hearing from the City Administrator or Mayor would help. Mayor Morrill stated he would look into it.

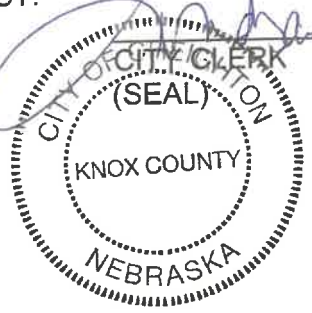
Mayor Morrill did not have anything further to share.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Ostronic seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:28 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK



CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Friday, June 12, 2026

A special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 12th day of June 2026, at 8:00 a.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Emily Hammer, Kathy Zepf and Amber Ostronic, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, and Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 8:00 a.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments, there were none.

Mayor Morrill opened the hearing at 8:01 a.m. for a Class C retail liquor license change of location for The 812 Partnership dba The 812 from 812 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska, to 715 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska.

Mayor Morrill asked if there was any discussion regarding Class C retail liquor license change of location for The 812 Partnership dba The 812 from 812 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska, to 715 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska. There being none, Mayor Morrill closed the hearing at 8:05 a.m.

Ripp made a motion, seconded by Hammer, to approve the Class C retail liquor license change of location for The 812 Partnership dba The 812 from 812 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska, to 715 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska. RCV; All Ayes.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Hammer seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 8:06 a.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, July 9, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

CITY OF CREIGHTON KNOX COUNTY NEBRASKA (SEAL)

CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, July 9, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 9th day of July 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, Emily Hammer, and Kathy Zepf, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, Library Director Lisa Macke, Water Commissioner Kevin Sonnichsen, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, Police Chief Mark Duncan, Fire Chief Cory Horstmann, Ambulance Captain Jane Wilmes, and Ambulance Co-Captain Amanda Warriner. City Attorney, Joe McNally, was absent.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments, there were none.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Chief Duncan stated a radar sign has been posted close to the school. The State will be meeting to choose where to put the other two radar signs along the highway. Duncan stated Office Holz is continuing to work on nuisance properties. The properties in non-compliance have been issued court dates. Fire Chief, Cory Horstmann, stated the fire department had six calls in June – four fires and two car accidents. The Task Force was called out twice to the Crawford area. Mayor Morrill thanked the fire department for their services. Ambulance Captain, Jane Wilmes, was not present during the board reports but a report was emailed to the council. ACT Nelson added to the Economic Development report stating the Visit Nebraska Passport is accepting applications for the winter passport. She passed the information out to businesses in town. Keep Creighton Beautiful is meeting tomorrow, June 10th. ACT Nelson reported out for the Park Board. They had a meeting last week. The sports court is going well, however, there have been recommendations for seating. There were also suggestions for more seating at the pool, so benches from the outside were moved in and an extra picnic table was moved to the area. ACT Nelson stated the pool will close on August 14th. Ostronic asked about more shade at the pool, she shared information about a shelter at the O'Neill pool. ACT Nelson and Kevin Sonnichsen stated that shade structures must be approved by the State. ACT Nelson stated it may be something they can look at during budget time. Water Commissioner, Kevin Sonnichsen, stated the town is using a lot of water. They received the motor for the train that got hot during the fire, it will be installed next week. The quarterly Wigen cleaning has been pushed back due to the motor. Lots of water and sewer samples are being taken. Street patching is taking place; Hammer stated the section on Clark is better. Mayor Morrill asked if they have received more water meters. Sonnichsen stated no that needs to wait until budget time to see what is available. Roughly 150 residences need new meters and/or radios installed. Deputy Clerk, Lynn Yule, stated the Recycling report was in the packet, nothing else to add.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting June 11, 2026 and Special Meeting June 12, 2026. RCV; All Ayes.

Ostronic made a motion to approve the July 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Zepf. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved on to the bids for the Walking Trail project. ACT Nelson stated bids came in over budget, but they can cut out some of the items out including taking out the bridge, signage and seeding of grass. These items can be completed later or done by the City. The budget will be tight, but ACT Nelson is confident and comfortable moving forward. The project will be good for the community. Hammer asked if we are still on target for getting it completed with it being over budget. ACT Nelson stated yes.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Ripp, to approve Miller & Associates bid recommendation of $425,296.00 from Nielsen Contracting, LLC of Kearney, NE for the Walking Trail Project. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson shared that Julie Broders reached out in June regarding working at the CCC & Inn. Julie is doing an excellent job and was able to cover June hours while Alex was gone.
Ripp made a motion to approve Julie Broders as staff for the Creighton Community Center and Inn, seconded by Ostronic. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved onto Agenda Item Number 11, the sidewalk project in the park. Information was included in the packet regarding the agreement for engineering services for the Creighton Sidewalk Improvements CDBG Program Income Project. ACT Nelson stated the surface in the two park shelters will be redone along with a pathway connecting the two and one shelter connecting to the bathroom. ACT Nelson explained they will get quotes or estimates, but it will not go out for bid since the threshold for bids has increased and this project will be below the threshold. They will be reaching out to Nielsen Contracting, since Nielsen Contracting will be working on the Walking Trail project in the park. Ostronic asked when the sidewalk project would start. ACT Nelson stated they would be talking with Miller & Associates and contractors regarding a start date.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Miller & Associates for engineering services for the Creighton Sidewalk Improvements CDBG Program Income Project. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson shared information regarding a grant for the Creighton Ambulance Services. She stated it is due on July 16th and there is no match, which is great. Ambulance Captain, Jane Wilmes, was present towards the end of the meeting and added they must go through several approvals and certifications to apply. There is no match requirement, and the awarded grant amount could be between $75,000 to $100,000.
Ostronic made a motion, seconded by Zepf, giving approval for the Creighton Ambulance Service to submit a grant application for the Rural EMS Training Program. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson added to her Administrator's Report. She shared that Deputy Clerk, Lynn Yule, received notification today that she was awarded her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) certification.

The Council had nothing to add.

Mayor Morrill stated a recent meeting was held regarding the buildings damaged by the fire. Ostronic stated two of the businesses – Hair Studio and Blooms & Beans – can't open, she asked if there is a time frame for tearing down. ACT Nelson stated this has been a recent topic, businesses want to move forward. They would like to see one contractor hired to demo of all three buildings. Hammer stated it is safer for her not to be in her building at this time. ACT Nelson stated they are giving everyone time to figure things out, but they will need to figure out a plan because moving snow in that area will be complicated.
Jane Wilmes and Amanda Warriner entered the meeting room and were given time to share Ambulance updates. Jane Wilmes shared additional information on the grant, noted earlier. Amanda Warriner stated their pancake feed went well. Businesses helped sponsor the event, covering all the expenses. The Ambulance was able to raise $8406, their biggest fundraiser yet. These funds will go towards a new rig. Amanda and Jane thanked the community and businesses.

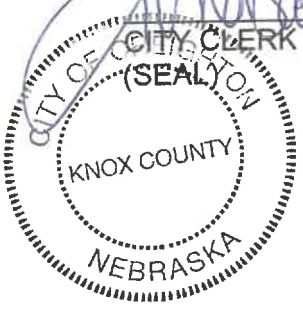
All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Hammer seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 6:59 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, August 13, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

(SEAL)



CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, August 13, 2026

A Special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 13th day of August 2026, at 8:00 a.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, Emily Hammer, and Kathy Zepf; Administrator/Clerk/ Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, Ambulance Captain Jane Wilmes, Water Commissioner Kevin Sonnichsen, and Sewer Commissioner Alan Novacek.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 8:03 a.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments, there were none.

A workshop to review the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget as it was currently assembled was held. ACT Nelson presented individual funds and answered questions from the Mayor, Council, and audience.

All business complete, Hammer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Zepf. All in favor. Council adjourned at 8:47 a.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to posted notices. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, August 13, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

CITY OF CREIGHTON KNOX COUNTY NEBRASKA

CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, August 13, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 13th day of August 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, Emily Hammer, and Kathy Zepf, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, Water Commissioner Kevin Sonnichsen, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, Police Officer Wally Holz, Ambulance Captain Jane Wilmes, and Ambulance Co-Captain Amanda Warriner. City Attorney, Joe McNally, was absent.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments. Jane Wilmes of 52875 875 Rd, representing the VFW and American Legion Auxiliary, attended the Korean Veteran Program. She stated it was an amazing event, and she is proud of the Veterans. She wanted to thank the City for working with the committee hosting the event.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports. Officer Holz gave an update on nuisance properties. He stated 30 letters were hand delivered and 4 mailed. Of those, 22 complied and 3 of the worst have not done anything. Officer Holz stated he emailed Attorney McNally the case reports but has not received a status update. Holz plans to follow up with McNally after the meeting. Ripp asked about the speed signs on the highway, any updates to install them. Holz stated Duncan is working on the signs, ACT Nelson stated they are working with the State regarding installation along the highway. ACT Nelson stated the Fire Department will hold their chicken feed on September 20th. The department had 4 calls last month – 3 fires and 1 utility. Ambulance Captain, Jane Wilmes, emailed the Ambulance report. She stated they had 14 runs in July and 174 for the year so far. The Ambulance has 3 new drivers, Anna Micciche recently earned her EMT License, and Corrie Key has submitted her application for paramedic after completing classes and 200 hours of service. Corrie will join Amanda Warriner as a paramedic on the squad. ACT Nelson reported on the Park board: last week's meeting was cancelled, the pool closes on Friday, August 14th, and the dog swim is Saturday, August 15th. Water Commissioner, Kevin Sonnichsen, reported out on water, sewer and streets. Wigen made a quarterly visit to clean 2 trains. A hose and pump at the water plant had to be replaced. The outside crew has been following up on sewer lines that have caused issues in the past, they are hoping to line the sewer lines in the next budget season. They continue to spray, fill potholes, and prepare for armor coating. Deputy Clerk, Lynn Yule, added to the Recycling report. She stated Jane Wilmes had been in contact with Avera; they are willing to accept needles/sharps from the public. Lynn plans to attend the Recycling Conference on September 16th.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting July 9, 2026. RCV; All Ayes.

Hammer made a motion to approve the August 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Zepf. RCV; All Ayes.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve a 25-cent wage increase for Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule for achieving the Certified Municipal Clerk certification. RCV; All Ayes.

Agenda Item Number 10 was regarding the Airport Authority Bond Distribution. ACT Nelson stated this is completed yearly before budget. She has encouraged Tom Borgmann to attend a council meeting to give an update on the Airport.
A motion was made by Ostronic, seconded by Zepf, to approve Resolution 2026-3 for the 2026-2027 Airport Authority Bond Distribution. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson stated the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance is a yearly resolution for the streets.
Ripp made a motion, seconded by Hammer, to approve Resolution 2026-4 to sign Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson stated the Fire Department would like to apply for a grant, there is no match, which is good.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve the Creighton Fire Department's summitting an application for the Jack Lewis Grant. RCV; All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved on to Agenda Item Number 13, Creighton Ambulance Service utilizing SourceWell. ACT Nelson and Ambulance Captain, Jane Wilmes, stated this will be for purchasing the new rig. They discussed with McNally on the steps to properly proceed. Wilmes continues to have conversations with Avera, regarding contributing to the purchase. ACT Nelson stated that as discussed during the budget workshop, the Ambulance will be able to cover the cost of the new rig with the $15,000 contributed by the City yearly and the revenue from Ambulance runs.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Zepf, to approve the Creighton Ambulance Service to utilize SourceWell as a bidding source. RCV; All Ayes.

The next item of business was the contract for the purchase of the new ambulance, with an estimated cost of $412,196. Jane Wilmes and Amanda Warriner presented information. They stated they are locked into that price until August 20th, after that date the cost could increase by $10,000. The Rural Fire Board has agreed to contribute up to $250,000. The equipment is not included in the $412,000, so the actual cost will be around $500,000. A 10% down payment is required, totaling $41,200. Zepf asked questions regarding where patients are transported on runs. Jane and Amanda stated patients are usually transported to the hospital in Creighton, however, they do have interlocal agreements and have taken patients to Plainview or Osmond. The Ambulance does most of their further transfers to Norfolk, Yankton, Sioux Falls, and Omaha. Wilmes stated we are blessed to have a hospital in town.
Ripp made a motion, seconded by Hammer, to approve the authorization of the City of Creighton to enter into a contract for the purchase of a new ambulance for the Creighton Ambulance Service at an estimated cost of $412,196. RCV; All Ayes.

ACT Nelson added to her Administrator's Report. Ladies Night is November 1; several vendors are lined up. ACT Nelson will submit the remaining paperwork for the C4K grant to fund a park project. The comprehensive plan survey is out. A new comprehensive plan will be on the October agenda. ACT Nelson is working on a resolution for the buildings that need to be torn down, this will be on the September agenda. She is looking into Micro TIF funds for demolition assistance and rebuilding. She stated the September meeting will be lengthy. Hammer questioned the Luau Party, an event shared in the packet, no location listed. ACT Nelson stated it will take place at the Care Center. Heather Stacken, Care Center Administrator, has expressed interest in getting involved with the C4K group and she wants to share Care Center events with the community.

Ostronic shared some information on tree limbs that fell on a power line the night before. All the neighbors have been helping the homeowner clean up since the tree is in the middle of all their properties and if it falls, could cause damage to all properties. Ostronic asked if there was anything the City could do to help since they might need a professional to come in to take down the tree. Mayor Morrill and Officer Holz stated it would be an insurance company issue, not a City problem.

Ripp asked if anything is being done to move forward on the cleanup of the sidewalk (of the burned buildings). Mayor Morrill stated himself, Chief Duncan, and ACT Nelson have been talking and working with owners to move forward and get the buildings cleaned up.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Hammer seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:07 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK
(SEAL)

CITY OF CREIGHTON
KNOX COUNTY
NEBRASKA

CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, September 10, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 10th day of September 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, and Emily Hammer, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, City Attorney Joe McNally, Water Commissioner Kevin Sonnichsen, Sewer Commissioner Alan Novacek, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, Library Director Lisa Macke, Police Chief Mark Duncan, and Ambulance Co-Captain Amanda Warriner. Council Member Kathy Zepf was absent.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports.

Police: Chief Duncan stated a meeting was held regarding the buildings across the street. They are waiting for a response from one owner regarding demolition. A 60-day notice was given; they have 30 days left. If nothing is done, the City will start making decisions regarding the building.

Nuisance Properties: McNally stated that him and Chief Duncan have been discussing nuisance properties. Three properties may require action by McNally; they will try to take action before the properties go to court.

Fire Department: Chicken Feed will be held Sunday, September 20th from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM.

Ambulance: A report was provided in the council packet. Ambulance Co-Captain, Amanda Warriner, stated that the Ambulance service signed a mutual aid agreement with Wisner for Thunder by the River, Dr. Strehle signed off on the agreement for liability purposes. ACT Nelson requested a copy of the agreement.

Economic Development: ACT Nelson stated Ladies Night has 30 vendors so far, she may need to add another location for vendor tables. Ostronic suggested utilizing the senior center, ACT Nelson stated that may be a possibility. Next year, Avera has expressed interest in hosting vendors in the future. Stacy Miller with Knox County Economic Development was present to share information. She shared a flyer with information on what Knox County Economic Development has achieved in housing, leadership, childcare, the workforce, and tourism. The City of Creighton invests $4014.00 towards an interlocal agreement, majority of which went towards housing studies. Stacy shared information on the Crown Program, which is a rent to own program currently being utilized in Hartington. She would like to see Creighton implement this program after she gathers more information. The Knox County Improvement Grant helped with $10,000 towards the recreational area and planned story walk in the park. Stacy said she would love to help with LB840 if the community decides to pursue it again. Hammer started discussion on LB840. ACT Nelson stated a group needs to take it on, Stacy can push LB840, the council cannot. Ostronic stated she thinks information regarding LB840 needs to be worded simpler and explain how the money could be used.

Emailed 9-11-26

Keep Creighton Beautiful: ACT Nelson reported the butterfly garden has a sprinkler leak.

Library: Library Director, Lisa Macke, stated she emailed in her report.

Park/Tree: ACT Nelson stated work on the Walking Trail has started.

Water/Sewer/Streets: Water Commissioner, Kevin Sonnichsen, stated the water plant lost power on Wednesday. A power line started sparking, burning the whole electrical line. NPPD sent 6 employees to work on the issue. Sonnichsen stated the transfer switch was not switching over; therefore, the generator ran Wednesday during the day and overnight. He stated there were issues with the wires when the transfer box was opened and closed, the problem was solved. Sewer Commissioner, Alan Novacek, had no updates for the sewer. Sonnichsen stated they are ready for armor coating, which is planned to start Tuesday, September 15th.

Recycling: Lynn Yule stated the Recycling report was in the council packet.

Mayor Morrill opened the budget and tax request hearing for discussion at 6:51 PM.

Mayor Morrill continued to Agenda Item Number 9, approval of minutes. A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the minutes from Special Meeting August 13, 2026, and Regular Meeting August 13, 2026. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Ostronic made a motion to approve the September 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Hammer. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Mayor Morrill moved Agenda Item Number 10, employee wages and contract labor pay, to the end of the meeting due to entering executive session.

No further discussion was held on the budget or tax request; Mayor Morrill closed the hearing at 6:52 PM.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the 2026-2027 budget as printed in the Knox County News and provided during the budget hearing. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Mayor Morrill stated increasing the restricted funds authority was a standard every year, information was provided in the council packet.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Ostronic, to approve increasing the restricted funds authority by 1 percent. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

A motion was made by Ripp to approve Resolution 2026-5 to set the tax request for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, seconded by Ostronic. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

ACT Nelson is working on recertifying as a Leadership Certified Community; a resolution is needed to submit the application. If approved, it will allow more access to grants.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Ostronic, to approve Resolution 2026-6 for Leadership Certified Community Recertification. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Agenda Item Number 16 was regarding the State and Millard Street project. Mayor Morrill stated there was a typo on the agenda, Millard instead of Miller. ACT Nelson stated information was shared in the council packet; this will be part of the 1- & 6-Year Project. Miller & Associates received a bid from Nielsen Contracting, LLC for $21,296.00. Nielsen Contracting is already working on several other projects in town, and they would be able to complete this project by November 30, 2026. ACT Nelson stated she allocated extra in the Street budget as a cushion for this project.
Mayor Morrill left the meeting at 6:57 PM. Board President, Mark Ripp, chaired the meeting until Mayor Morrill's return.
Hammer made a motion, seconded by Ostronic, to approve Miller & Associates recommendation of Nielsen Contracting, LLC for the State and Millard Project in the amount of $21,296.00. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Board President Ripp moved on to Agenda Item Number 17, Library cleaning staff. ACT Nelson stated the Library Board included their recommendation in the council packet. Hannah Macke submitted a proposal and quote for $325.00 per month for janitorial services. ACT Nelson confirmed this would be taken out of the Library budget.

A motion was made by Hammer, seconded by Ostronic, to accept the Library Board's recommendation to hire Hannah Macke as cleaning staff at the Creighton Public Library. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

Board President Ripp started discussion on potential youth helmet safety ordinance. Mayor Morrill returned to the meeting at 7:05 PM.
Dr. Adam Strehle and Dr. Ronald Morse were present representing the medical staff proposing the request for a youth helmet safety ordinance. ACT Nelson stated she sent the request to McNally and Chief Duncan. Dr. Strehle stated the medical staff met to put something together requiring individuals under the age of 18 to wear an appropriate protective helmet while operating an electric scooter, electric bike, or other gas or electric powered unenclosed vehicle, excluding lawn mowers, while within the City of Creighton. He thanked ACT Nelson for sharing the information. Ostronic stated this has been a hot topic for months and asked if they should add more than just wear a helmet. McNally stated himself, Chief Duncan, and ACT Nelson can work on this for the next month and come up with something covering age, speed, location, device etc. There is a standardized ordinance that many towns have adopted. Dr. Strehle stated there have been several incidents of e-scooter and e-bike injuries due to loss of control or hitting a rock. Dr. Morse stated head injuries are horrible, advising a speed regulation. Ripp stated he thinks 15 years of age is appropriate, not 16/17/18, he isn't sure a helmet would help. Dr. Strehle stated he would push for 18 years of age due to the medical standpoint of muscle and skeletal development. Dr. Morse stated the brain isn't developed until 18/19 or even 20 years of age. Ripp stated he knows of some people 35 years old whose brains are developed. Ripp did state there should be a timeline regulation, when it is dark, put them (e-scooters/e-bikes) away. McNally stated they would get an ordinance drafted before the next meeting for review.

Mayor Morrill returned to Agenda Item Number 10, employee wage and contract labor pay.

Ripp made a motion, seconded by Hammer, to enter executive session to discuss personnel. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

The board and McNally entered executive session at 7:13 PM.

The board and McNally returned at 7:36 PM. A motion was made by Hammer, seconded by Ripp, to return to regular session. RCV; Three Ayes, One Absent.

A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to set a 3.85% wage increase for City employees. RCV; Ayes: Ripp and Ostronic, Nay: Hammer, One Absent; Motion passed.

No further comments by ACT Nelson, Council, or Mayor Morrill.

All business complete, Hammer made a motion to adjourn, Ripp seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 7:37 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

CITY OF CREIGHTON
KNOX COUNTY
NEBRASKA
(SEAL)

CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA
MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, October 8, 2026

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Creighton, Nebraska was held in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street in said City on the 8th day of October 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were: Mayor Steve Morrill and Council Members Mark Ripp, Amber Ostronic, Emily Hammer, and Kathy Zepf, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer (ACT) Lindsay Nelson, Deputy Clerk Lynn Yule, Police Officer Wally Holz, Utility Maintenance Shelby Duncan, Ambulance Captain Jane Wilmes, and City Engineer with Miller & Associates Chris Miller. City Attorney Joe McNally was absent.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in at least three public places, as shown by the certificate of posting notice attached to these minutes. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Mayor was given notice before the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Morrill at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Morrill presided, and Deputy Clerk Yule recorded the proceedings.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Morrill publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated that a Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster was on display on the west wall of the meeting room.

Mayor Morrill read the guidelines for public comment and speaking.

Mayor Morrill asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments.

Mayor Morrill opened the hearing for the 1- & 6-year project at 6:32 PM.

Chris Miller with Miller & Associates was present to share information. He stated revenue from gas taxes and tags on cars is allocated back to communities. The amount received is based on lane miles within the community. The City is required to update and keep a 1-&-6-year plan with a prioritized list of projects. A project map was provided to the council. Chris stated last year that the community received $201,000 from the State and next year it will increase to $203,000, with 25% matched by the City. A large portion of that funding goes to the chip and seal project. Chris explained there are three projects planned for the 1 year, two drainage and one curb and gutter. The plan can always be amended if something comes up and maintenance is not included in the plan. Ostronic asked how these projects are chosen. Chris stated they are chosen by staff and what is a priority in the community.
The hearing was left open for any further discussion or questions.

Mayor Morrill continued to the Board reports.

Police and Nuisance Properties: Officer Holz stated Chief Duncan has stated October 16th is the deadline for the burnt buildings, after that, the council can hold a special meeting to move forward. Ostronic confirmed that all three buildings are not salvageable. ACT Nelson explained if no action is taken by the building owner, the City would take ownership, take down the building, and assess the cost to the owner's property taxes.

Fire Department: No report

Ambulance: Report was in council packet. Jane Wilmes added they had their 219th run as of this morning. Yesterday's meeting to look at the rig for sale was moved to next Thursday. Gary Opkis submitted his resignation, which was accepted with regret by the squad.

Economic Development: ACT Nelson shared updates during the City Administrator's report.

Keep Creighton Beautiful: No report

Library: Report was in the council packet.

Park/Tree: Report was in the council packet. ACT Nelson stated progress on the walking trail and shelters are coming along. The bridge was taken out, no problems.

Water/Sewer/Streets: Shelby Duncan stated Sargent has inspected the wells. No updates regarding the sewer. Staff will start sweeping streets soon.

Recycling: Lynn Yule stated the Recycling report was in the council packet. The committee had a meeting on Wednesday. A battery recycling bucket has been placed in the City Office.

Mayor Morrill continued to Agenda Item Number 8, approval of minutes. A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Hammer, to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting September 10, 2026. RCV, All Ayes.

Zepf questioned the revenue and expenses for the CCC & Inn. ACT Nelson showed where the information was taken from within the printed report and copied to a separate page. Hammer made a motion to approve the October 2026 Treasurer's Report, seconded by Zepf. RCV, All Ayes.

Mayor Morrill moved Agenda Item Number 10, Ordinance 823 establishing City salaries and wages for City employees. Mayor Morill read the opening of the Ordinance: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA, ESTABLISHING CITY SALARIES AND WAGES; REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
There were no comments or discussion from the council. A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to waive the three readings of Ordinance 823. Before roll call voting, Hammer asked for clarification that they were currently voting on the waiving of the readings and not the Ordinance. ACT Nelson stated that was correct. RCV: Ayes: Ostronic, Ripp, and Hammer, Nay: Zepf. Motion passed.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve Ordinance 823 establishing City salaries and wages for City employees. RCV; Ayes: Ostronic and Ripp, Nays: Hammer and Zepf. Mayor Morrill broke the tie by voting Aye. Motion passed.

Agenda Item Number 11 was regarding the sale of equipment. ACT Nelson stated the Park Board is wanting to sell the cattle shade as they would like to move onto another shade project. The City is wanting to sell the 1976 Ford dump truck. The last time equipment was for sale, items were posted on social media.
A motion was made by Hammer, seconded by Ripp, to approve Resolution 2026-7 Sale of Miscellaneous Equipment. RCV, All Ayes.

No further discussion on the 1- & 6-year project; Mayor Morrill closed the hearing at 6:52 PM.

A motion was made by Hammer, seconded by Ostronic, to approve Resolution 2026-8 1-&-6-year project. RCV, All Ayes.

ACT Nelson explained the Agenda Item Number 14 is regarding yearly tax credit paperwork completed by the Ambulance Service. Jane Wilmes and Tammy Reicks are already administrators, they are adding Anna Micciche but updating to include everyone in the minutes.
A motion was made by Ripp, seconded by Ostronic, to approve the designation of Jane Wilmes, Tammy Reicks and Anna Micciche as Certification Administrator for the Creighton Ambulance Department pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-3104(1) (Nebraska Volunteer First Responder Tax Credit). RCV, All Ayes.

ACT Nelson added to her City Administrator/ED report. FEMA paperwork, from the 2019 flood, will be wrapped up soon; she submitted photos this week. The VFW Chicken Feed is October 12th from 5-7PM. November 12th council meeting might be lengthy.

No report or further comments from the council.

Mayor Morrill stated he is ready to get moving on the burnt buildings and the walking trail looks nice.

All business complete, Ripp made a motion to adjourn, Hammer seconded the motion. All present in favor. Council adjourned at 6:57 p.m. Meeting of this date was held pursuant to published notice in the Creighton News, Creighton, Nebraska. The next regular meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2026, in the meeting room of the Creighton City Offices at 809 Main Street, Creighton, Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

CITY OF CREIGHTON (SEAL) KNOX COUNTY NEBRASKA