



# City Council Regular Meeting

## Minutes

Monday, September 16, 2024 at 7:00 pm

### Meeting Location

1029 Court Street, Gibbon, Nebraska

#### 1. Opening Procedures

**Minutes:**

The Gibbon City Council, Buffalo County, Nebraska met in open public session at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on Monday, September 16, 2024. Notice of the meeting was given by posting on the City's website, published in The Shelton Clipper on September 12, 2024, and by posting at Gibbon City Hall, Gibbon Post Office, and Gibbon Exchange Bank.

**a. Call to Order**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Deb VanMatre called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Open Meetings Notice is posted on the south wall of the Council Chambers. The City of Gibbon abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business.

**b. Pledge of Allegiance**

**c. Announcement of Open Meetings Act**

**d. Roll Call**

**Minutes:**

Roll Call: Leon Stall: Present; Derrick Clevenger: Present; Bob Krier: Present; Kevin Kraenow: Present

#### 2. Submittal of Requests for Future Items

**Minutes:**

None.

#### 3. Reserve Time to Speak on Agenda Items

**Minutes:**

None

#### 4. Presentations and Proclamations

**a. Buffalo County Sheriff's Department--Contract Law Enforcement**

**Minutes:**

Buffalo County Sheriff's Department—Captain Anderson: Captain Anderson reported that

August is the busiest month for the department. With good weather and schools back in session there was an increase in calls. Back to school went well. The department had training on school safety and continues to have a good working relationship with Gibbon Public School. The recent community event held by the Fire Department went well with no incidents. The department welcomes AJ Faz as he just graduated from the training center. Mayor VanMatre complimented the department on the social media posts in keeping the public informed.

**b. Mayor Report--Deb VanMatre**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Report—Deb VanMatre: Mayor VanMatre gave an explanation on the need to amend the 2023-2024 budget. Additional repairs and maintenance at the cemetery, grant funding for the park and flood damage to the Fox building were expenses which were unanticipated and not included in the current budget. Mayor VanMatre indicated public hearings were held prior to the council meeting on the 2024-2025 budget and the final tax request, with no citizen comments. We are required to participate in the Joint Public Hearing with Buffalo County on Tuesday, September 17 due to the proposed property tax increase. Mayor VanMatre gave a brief update on the Legislative Special Session. Beginning with the 2025-26 budget cycle, cities and counties will have a 0% hard cap or an inflation factor, whichever is greater, on property tax requests. This will be challenging for many municipalities. She encouraged everyone to pay attention to the Legislative Session which begins in January, as there will likely be additional bills introduced of consequence to municipalities, including provisions regarding sales tax, keno proceeds and TIF. There will be three council members, the city administrator, city clerk and city treasurer attending the League of Municipalities Annual Conference in October, in addition to Mayor VanMatre.

**c. City Administrator Report--Matt Smallcomb**

**Minutes:**

City Administrator Report—Matthew Smallcomb: Mr. Smallcomb provided the monthly operations report. He informed the council that we are waiting on the windows to finish the renovation on the west end of the fire hall. Nebraska Public Power District has put the field lights in at Rosen. The parks department is in the process of painting the current tennis court for pickle ball. The new drain valve at the pool has been installed and there will be a concrete approach installed at Rosen walking track. Mr. Smallcomb indicated the influent station's control panel was installed last weekend and there will be a planned shut down to place the new valves next week. Crews have been busy doing locates as Hamilton Communications is installing fiber within the city limits. The city continues to work on collecting information on lead service lines from residents. Crews will be going door to door as the city will need to turn in an inventory in October.

**d. City Attorney Report--Barry Hemmerling**

**Minutes:**

City Attorney Report—Barry Hemmerling: Mr. Hemmerling requested the council enter into closed session to discuss proposed settlement of property damage claims related to the

May 3, 2024, sewer backup, due to potential litigation. Mayor VanMatre indicated this would be done prior to action on the settlement, which is the last agenda item.

**e. City Treasurer Report--Susan Tonniges**

**Minutes:**

City Treasurer Report—Susan Tonniges: Ms. Tonniges reported on the financials. There is only one more month in this fiscal year. The sales tax numbers seem to be less than expected. Mayor VanMatre complimented Susan Tonniges and Matt Smallcomb for their work in preparing the budget.

**5. Consent Agenda**

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Leon Stall to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Derrick Clevenger. Leon Stall: Yea; Derrick Clevenger: Yea; Bob Krier: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

- a. Minutes of the August 19, 2024 Regular Council Meeting
- b. Minutes of the August 26, 2024 Budget Work Session
- c. Claims for the Month of September 2024
- d. Buffalo County Sherriff's Department Report
- e. Treasurers Report
- f. Planning Commission Report
- g. Building Permits
- h. Cemetery Board Report
- i. Gibbon Volunteer Fire Department Report
- j. Library Report
- k. Board Appointment
- l. Board Reappointments

**6. Resolution and Motions**

**a. Consider a Motion to Adopt the Amended 2023-2024 Budget**

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Leon Stall to adopt the Amended 2023-2024 Budget, seconded by Bob Krier. Leon Stall: Yea; Bob Krier: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea; Derrick Clevenger: Yea Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**b. Consider a Motion to Approve an Additional 1% Increase in the Allowable Growth Rate**

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Leon Stall to approve an additional 1% increase in the Allowable Growth Rate, seconded by Derrick Clevenger. Leon Stall: Yea; Derrick Clevenger: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea; Bob Krier: Yea Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**c. Consider a Motion to Adopt the 2024-2025 Budget**

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Derrick Clevenger to adopt the 2024-2025 Budget, seconded by Leon Stall. Derrick Clevenger: Yea; Leon Stall: Yea; Bob Krier: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea  
Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**d. Consider a Motion to Confirm the Understanding of Services Agreement with Dana F. Cole & Company LLP for Services Related to the Financial Audit for the Year Ending September 30, 2024**

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Bob Krier to confirm the Understanding of Services Agreement with Dana F. Cole & Company LLP for service related to the Financial Audit for the Year Ending September 30, 2024, seconded by Leon Stall. Bob Krier: Yea; Leon Stall: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea; Derrick Clevenger: Yea Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**e. Consider a Motion to Approve the Settlement and Payment of Claims for Property Damage Related to the May 3, 2024 Sewer Backup as Recommended by the League Association of Risk Management Upon Receipt of the General Release of Liability from the Affected Parties**

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Leon Stall to enter into closed session for the protection of the public interest to discuss the proposed settlement of property damage claims related to the May 3, 2024, sewer back up, seconded by Derrick Clevenger. Leon Stall: Yea; Derrick Clevenger: Yea; Bob Krier: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

The Mayor, Council, City Attorney, City Administrator and City Clerk entered into closed session at 7:28 p.m.

The Mayor, Council, City Attorney, City Administrator and City Clerk returned from closed session at 7:46 p.m.

A motion was made by Leon Stall to approve the settlement and payment of claims for property damage related to the May 3, 2024, sewer backup as recommended by the League Association of Risk Management upon receipt of the general release of liability from the affected parties, seconded by Kevin Kraenow. Leon Stall: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea; Bob Krier: Yea; Derrick Clevenger: Yea Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**7. Other Items**

- a. Joint Public Hearing on Proposed Property Tax Increases will be held on September 17, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Buffalo County Extension Building**
- b. Special Council Meeting will be held on September 18, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**
- c. Next Regular City Council Meeting will be held on October 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**

## 8. Adjourn

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Leon Stall to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kevin Kraenow. Leon Stall: Yea; Kevin Kraenow: Yea; Bob Krier: Yea; Derrick Clevenger: Yea Yea: 4; Nay: 0; Absent: 0. Motion carried.

Mayor VanMatre adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

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Contact: Matt Smallcomb (gibboncityhall@cityofgibbon.org (308) 468-6118) | Minutes published on 09/19/2024,  
adopted on 10/21/2024