

**THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MINATARE CITY COUNCIL, JANUARY 14, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 5:58 p.m. and stated that a quorum of the Council was present, and City business could be conducted.

1. **Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Roll Call: All Council Members present. Also present were members of the public: Chris Lally, Kevin Lojka, Pattie Yowell, Christy Manka, Brandon Main, Wayne Kilmer and Eric Longoria.**
3. **Public Announcements: The City office will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2025 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.**

OPEN MEETINGS ACT - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14

Mayor Nelson stated: That the Open Meetings Act is posted for the public to see.

CONSENT AGENDA:

(Items under the Consent Agenda are proposed for adoption by one action for all items unless any member of Council requests that an item be considered separately.)

1. **Approve minutes of the December 10, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting(s).**
2. **Approve Claims**

APPROVED CLAIMS APPEAR ON LAST PAGE

Motion by Councilmember Lally to approve the Minutes of the December 10, 2024 Council Meeting(s), and the claims submitted to be paid seconded by Councilmember Ross, Mayor Nelson called for the vote. **“AYES”:** Lally, Ross, and Costa. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstaining:** None. **Absent:** None. **Motion Carried.**

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. **Annual Library Report-Librarian Caryle Covalt – Caryle updated the Council and public on the libraries financials for 2024. Council Member Costa asked if there is a subscription to the Star Herald at the library and Caryle said no.**
2. **Appointment of new Council Member – Mayor Nelson said she had 4 people put their names in for the open seat on the Council to replace Celeste Sanchez. They were Anna Loomis, Sean Suhr, Kenneth “Dan” Manka and Brandon Main. The Mayor and Council Member Lally interviewed all 4 people and said they all did really well. Mayor Nelson nominated Brandon Main because he ran for the position as a write-in candidate. Brandon accepted the nomination and was sworn in by Clerk Lojka.**

3. Police Vehicle – Mayor Nelson asked about the new Tahoe we are getting and Officer in Charge Winget gave the particulars of the vehicle. Mayor Nelson asked if there was a plan to sell one of the other police vehicles and Winget said they weren't planning to get rid of it in case one of the Tahoes was wrecked and they needed a backup. Council Member Lally asked about the maintenance of them. If one was to be sold, it should be the pickup as it doesn't have pursuit rated wheels on it, along with some other downfalls of it being a police vehicle. Council Member Lally asked if the F150 could go to the street department as it would be better on gas mileage than the current street pickup. This might be a possibility.

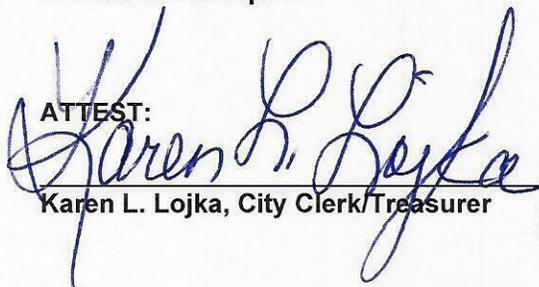
4. Police Department Schedule – Council Member Lally asked Interim Officer in Charge Winget questions regarding how the schedule reads when it looks like they are working 24 hours a day for multiple days in a row if there was a way to narrow down when someone would be "on duty" and around town. Discussion was had about the public knowing when and where the police will be on certain days and times. Officer Rockwell indicated maybe the schedule discussion should be in Executive Session, so the public isn't aware of when an officer would be in town and on patrol. Council Member Lally asked about Officer Shannon's hours at the Sheriff's office and making sure that he isn't getting paid from both places at once. Council Member Ross brought up the elementary school and said that parents are pulling up on the wrong side of the street. It isn't safe for the students and there so if an officer could be present during pickup and drop off that would be great. Council Member Costa asked about hiring another part-time officer and Winget said he was still working on that. Mayor Nelson then asked about Officer Shannon being on call for a 24-hour period of time, but he wouldn't come down to Minatare when he got a call. Discussion was had regarding a crossing-guard and traffic control at the elementary school.

5. Clerk School – Clerk Lojka said that Clerk School is coming up in March and asked permission to go before she registered and found a hotel, etc. Motion by Council Member Costa to approve Clerk School, seconded by Councilmember Ross, Mayor Nelson called for the vote. **"AYES": Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.**

Open Comments: Wayne Kilmer discussed the possibility of getting a Cracker Barrel in Minatare. He is sending a list around for people to sign if they would like a Cracker Barrel here. Officer in Charge Winget talked about the laptops for the police and how much replacements will cost. Jim announced the clean up day in Scottsbluff and Gering in April and said we might consider having ours concurrent with theirs, so we can take advantage of the extra free advertising there will be.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Council member Ross and seconded by Council member Costa. AYE all in favor, Motion carried.

ADJOURN: 6:28 p.m.

ATTEST:

 Karen L. Lojka, City Clerk/Treasurer




 Carolyn Nelson, Mayor