

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MINATARE CITY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 11, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated that a quorum of the Council was present, and City business could be conducted.

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.

1. **Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Roll Call: All Council Members present. Also present were members of the public: Gail Hobday, Kevin Lojka, Tom Case, Pattie Yowell, Christy Manka, Wayne Kilmer, Eric Longoria and Caryle Covalt.**
3. **Public Announcements: The City office will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2025 in observance of Presidents' Day.**

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 January 14, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting.**
2. **Approve Claims – Clerk/Treasurer Lojka read the claim aloud for the 1st Half of the Audit, in the amount of \$9,337.50, as it was too late to make the claims list.**

APPROVED CLAIMS APPEAR ON LAST PAGE

Motion by Councilmember Ross to approve the Minutes of the January 14, 2025 Council Meeting, and the claims submitted to be paid seconded by Councilmember Lally, Mayor Nelson called for the vote. **“AYES”:** Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstaining:** None. **Absent:** None. **Motion Carried.**

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. **AARP Grants** – Jordan Dietrich from Twin Cities Development explained the AARP Grants and what they can be used for. The deadline for submission is March 5, 2025. After some discussion, Council Member Ross made a Motion to look into the grants and Council Member Costa seconded the motion. **“AYES”:** Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstaining:** None. **Absent:** None. **Motion Carried.** Council Member Lally and Council Member Costa will meet with Jordan on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. for the purpose of choosing which grant(s) to apply for.
2. **Insurance Stipend** -- Clerk/Treasurer Lojka asked if an insurance stipend would be considered for her since she is not on the city's insurance which is saving the city at

least \$1000.00 a month. After some discussion, it was decided to table this item for now.

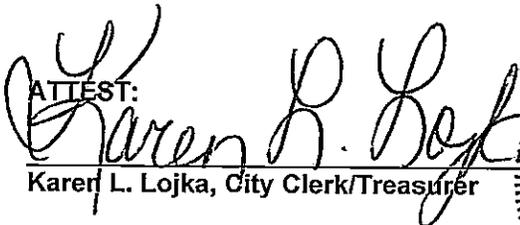
3. **Weather Picnic/Block Party** – David Park asked the council about having the community block party on June 28, 2025, in the park. It was discussed about food trucks, insurance, local volunteers including Region 22 Emergency Management, Fire Department, etc. David explained there would be a dunk tank with the proceeds going to DOVES. Council Member Lally asked about a liability waiver for that. David said he has been in touch with Kendall Henderson regarding insurance for the event. He said they would have port-a-potties brought in. Parking and blocking off the street was also discussed. Attorney Ellison asked about a Special Event Permit and said he would forward one to the office for David. After the discussion, Council Member Lally made a motion to approve the block party date and Council Member Ross seconded the motion. **“AYES”:** Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstaining:** None. **Absent:** None. **Motion Carried.**
4. **Patrol Vehicles** – Mayor Nelson inquired about the Tahoe we are purchasing from Colorado. OIC Winget explained that they have been very poor communicators during this process. He asked if the money was wired last time or if Jared took a check and Mayor Nelson said he took a check down. Mayor Nelson stated that one of the vehicles needs to remain in town for whoever is working. Discussion was also had regarding the on-call schedule, how on-call works, personal insurance does not cover if an officer is responding to a call in their personal vehicle. It was decided to leave the vehicle situation and the on-call schedule as is for now since Officer Shannon is resigning at the end of the month, so having two officers and two vehicles will be a non-issue until someone new is hired.
5. **GPS In patrol vehicles** – Mayor Nelson had Attorney Ellison check into Verizon’s GPS system. The Council and officers discussed different systems and which one might work best for the city. Verizon’s prices are relatively low and would give the most transparency from the officers to the city. Some systems had been approved in the past, but none of them were ever installed. The cost from Verizon is only \$15-18 per month, per vehicle. Motion by Councilmember Ross to approve the GPS system from Verizon, seconded by Councilmember Lally, Mayor Nelson called for the vote. **“AYES”:** Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstaining:** None. **Absent:** None. **Motion Carried.**
6. **Installation Fees for new meters and new sewer hook-ups** – Tom explained the new price list and why the prices need to go up. It has been quite some time since we have had an increase in prices. The price increases are a direct result of an increase in our cost of labor and supplies. The increases range from \$65 to \$166. It is recommended that the customer be charged \$4000 for same side of the street digging and \$5000 for opposite side of the street digging. The digging and tamping was quoted by Henning Brothers and the materials are through Municipal Supply. A motion was made by Council Member Lally to approve the price increases and Council Member Costa seconded the motion. Attorney Ellison will bring a Resolution for the increase to the March meeting. **“AYES”:** Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. **“NAYS”:** None. **Abstaining:** None. **Absent:** None. **Motion Carried.**

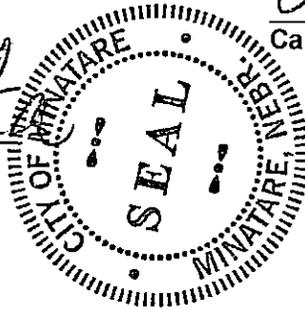
Open Comments: Wayne Kilmer notified the council regarding the Planning Commission vacancies and its bank account. The Council couldn't discuss it any further since they can't respond during open comments.

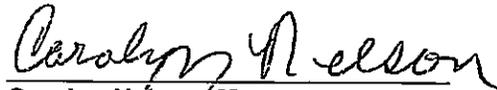
7. **Meter Testing** -- Under advice of Counsel, a motion was made by Council Member Costa and seconded by Council Member Main to go into executive session for the purposes of discussion regarding a legal matter and potential litigation. **"AYES": Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.** Discussion was held in closed session and Council Member Costa moved to come out of closed session. **"AYES": Lally, Ross, Main and Costa. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion Carried.** Once out of closed session a motion was made to allow Attorney Ellison to proceed with litigation against the customer whose meter was tested and is working properly. No money has been paid on the bill for over a year and they need to start paying or the litigation will commence.

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

ADJOURN: 7:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Karen L. Lojka, City Clerk/Treasurer




Carolyn Nelson, Mayor