

Broken Bow City Council

Meeting Minutes January 13, 2026

The Broken Bow City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, in the Broken Bow Municipal Auditorium. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Custer County Chief, the designated method for giving notice. Advance notice of the meeting, a copy of the agenda, and related council materials were given to the Mayor and all members of the City Council. These items were also given to various local media outlets. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Rod Sonnichsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, with the following Councilmembers present: Russ Smith, Travis Kleeb, Joe Wamsley, and Paul Holland. Absent: none. Also in attendance was City Administrator David Schmidt, City Clerk Jennifer Waterhouse, Deputy Clerk Jacob Holcomb, and City Treasurer LeeAnn Morgan. Mayor Sonnichsen announced the availability of the Open Meetings Act, followed by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Wamsley to approve the consent agenda for January 13, 2026. Said motion includes approval of the Minutes of the December 9, 2025, Council Meeting, Minutes of the December 12, 2025, Special Council Meeting, Bills to Date, and the November 2025 Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleeb, Wamsley, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

AKRS Equipment, Maint and repairs, \$5.41, \$1,561.99, Aflac, Insurance, \$511.52, \$119.50, \$283.95, Amazon Capital Services, supplies/equipment, \$251.72, \$187.05, \$827.12, safety equipment, \$1,293.30, American Legal Publishing, Codification of Ord, \$2,968.50, Andy C Holland, Ambulance Incentive, \$792.00, Aussie Hydraulics, LLP, Maint/repairs equipment \$311.59, Auto Value Broken Bow, Maint/repairs/supplies, \$36.97, \$45.97, \$637.00, \$165.23, Beaver Bearing Co Albion - Equipment repairs, \$3.69, \$146.00, Benchmark Governmental Solutions, Meals at academy, \$654.15, Billy Hendricks, Ambulance Incentive, \$240.00, Black Hills Energy, Utilities, \$1,845.26, Bloomberg Businessweek, subscription, \$105.94, Bobbie Summerford, Ambulance Incentive, \$83.00, Bound Tree Medical, Supplies/Equipment, \$1,445.83, \$2,722.38, Breanna Holmes, Ambulance Incentive \$193.00, Brittiany Rozman, mileage reimbursement \$222.60, Broken Bow Airport Authority, Interlocal Agreement \$1,083.33, Broken Bow Mun Utilities, Fuel \$1,569.26, Utilities \$7,291.53, Broken Bow Rural Fire Board, Utilities, repairs, and maintenance \$1,028.35, Utilities/Internet \$883.95, Callaway District Hospital, Medications \$169.69, Card Services, Training \$300.00, Uniforms and starlink \$672.88, Software fees \$3.20, Century Link, Phone/internet/radio \$86.03, \$86.03, \$139.31, \$369.55, \$102.91, Chad Hempstead, Ambulance Incentive \$128.00, Chris Henderson, Supplies Reimbursement \$163.32, Christina Watson, Ambulance Incentive, \$90.00, City Flex Benefit Plan, FSA \$405.00 City of Broken Bow Health Insurance \$4,493.94, \$43,521.64, City of Broken Bow Pension Fund, RETIREMENT LOAN PAYMENT \$2,933.42, 414H RETIREMENT - \$1,2955.92, 457 RETIREMENT \$1,904.48, Colonial Insurance, Insurance \$702.29, \$373.73, \$945.85, Cornhusker Press, dog tags \$88.95, Credit Management Services Inc, WAGE GARNISHMENT \$194.13, Custer County Chief, Supplies \$50.07, printing/publications \$484.01, \$480.08, Custer County Treasurer, communications interlocal agreement \$19,384.45, Custer Public Power, CD Cell Power \$53.00, Custer Transfer Station, Equipment repairs \$250.00, David Baltz, Ambulance Incentive \$439.00, Demco, Supplies \$105.40, Dennis Schiller, Ambulance Incentive \$103.00, Dinges Fire Company, Structure hoods \$316.98, Doyle Wood, Ambulance Incentive \$133.00, EFTPS Online Payment, MEDICARE \$3,771.20, FEDERAL \$9,986.59, FICA \$16,124.98, EZ IT Solutions, IT Services \$7,000.00, Eakes Office Products, supplies and office phones \$486.86, \$255.91, Elan Financial

Services, Supplies \$310.77, Title fee/annual membership fee \$109.25, Maintenance/repairs/annual membership fee \$118.33, Supplies and internet \$374.20, Supplies, equipment, meals, maintenance - \$489.75, POAN Handbooks, annual membership fee \$223.00, Annual membership fee \$99.00, Elizabeth Baumgartner, Ambulance Incentive \$246.00, Evans Feed Co, Fish food \$21.90, \$21.90, FMNE Insurance Company, subrogation claim power plant \$1,300.00, Family Handyman, book \$0.70, Family Heritage, Insurance \$25.50, First Interstate Bank, Safe Deposit Box rent \$30.00, First Response Billing Associates, LLC, EMS Billing \$1,620.03, Fyr-Tek, Yearly pump test Engines 30, 32, and 53 \$1,567.10, Choc holder for 32 \$209.66, \$209.66, General Collection Company, Inc, WAGE GARNISHMENT \$611.15, Gibbons Electric, wiring for doors at City Hall \$510.35, Gina Gorham, Ambulance Incentive \$30.00, Great Plains Communications, Phone and internet \$195.98, \$289.95, \$214.95, \$150.00, \$185.00, Grocery Kart, EMS Snacks \$29.40, Hometown Leasing, Copier \$73.57, \$116.65, \$291.12, Ingram Library Services, Materials \$1,274.62, Island Supply Welding Co, Oxygen \$54.80, JEO, Recreation Center \$7,250.00, Street Superintendent \$4,000.00, Floodplain Assistance \$1,380.00, Memorial Drive \$5,500.00, 2024 water main replacements \$990.00, BB general engineering: Flood model \$270.00, Jason Edward Morey, Ambulance Incentive \$20.00, Jennifer Waterhouse, Mileage \$54.60, Jess Hightower, Ambulance Incentive \$65.00, Kelvin Kreitman, Ambulance Incentive \$145.00, Kirkpatrick Cleaning Solutions, Supplies \$32.64, Janitorial \$3,725.00, Mold remediation \$2,356.55, Carpet cleaning \$334.80, Lance Oatman, Ambulance Incentive \$160.00, Londa Wood, Ambulance Incentive \$133.00, MacQueen Equipment, Maintenance/Repairs/equipment \$457.90, \$9,112.68, Mason Holmes, Ambulance Incentive \$324.00, Mead Lumber, Grounds maintenance, fuel containment \$281.94, \$641.49, Megan Svoboda, mileage \$91.00, Michael Jilg, Ambulance Incentive \$543.00, Mishele Wooters, Ambulance Incentive \$385.00, Motorola Solutions Inc., Visor bracket \$63.00, NEBRASKA LIFE MAGAZINE, subscription \$52.00, Nebraska Child Support Payment Center, CHILD SUPPORT \$769.86, Nicholas Gaddy, Transport for 11/14/25 \$97.80, Ambulance Incentive \$343.00, Nissa Shelby, Ambulance Incentive \$120.00, Novus Glass, Repairs \$140.00, Paper Tiger Shredding, shredding \$45.00, Pareto Health, Cost management \$76.00, Paulsen Inc, concrete \$8,397.74, \$2,191.39, People Magazine, subscription \$50.00, Platte Valley Communications \$250.45, Plumbing & Heating Wholesale Inc, Maintenance \$695.36, Presto X Company, Monthly service \$82.01, Quincy Eggleston, Boot Reimbursement \$177.55, R&S Radiator, Maintenance/repairs \$985.64, RT Ace, LLC, Supplies \$193.85, RT Ace, LLC - Supplies/Bldg maintenance and repairs \$100.94, RT Ace, LLC, Maintenance \$251.47, Plumbing, electrical, and equipment repairs \$613.32, Ranchland Ford, maintenance \$69.82, \$77.14, Rebecca Neumiller, Ambulance Incentive \$105.00, Rebeka Anderson, Ambulance Incentive \$120.00, Reed Schaefer, Ambulance Incentive \$190.00, Robert Harrold, Ambulance Incentive \$451.00, S&L Sanitary Service, Trash pickup \$58.30, \$58.30, Safety-Kleen Systems Inc, Equipment Maintenance on \$203.08, Sandhills Custom Creations, engraving \$206.80, Sara J. Hulinsky, Cleaning service \$837.00, Schaper and White Law Firm, Legal fees \$3,000.00, \$3,000.00, State Income Tax WH NE Online Payment, Taxes \$4,339.04, Sylvia Schiller, Ambulance Incentive \$90.00, Tracker Systems, Handi Bus monitoring \$16.99, Trotter Service, Oil change \$106.00, Fuel \$259.37, \$5,354.29, \$528.45 megaflow \$160.00, Trotter Whoa & Go West BB, Fuel \$258.75, \$183.06, \$99.78, \$224.11, \$320.38, Tyler Edwards, Ambulance Incentive \$251.00, United States Treasury, taxes \$656.00, \$3,511.00, \$3,128.36, Verizon Wireless, equipment/wifi/phones \$5,547.36, \$155.92, \$280.10, Vermeer High Plains, Eagle Crest, plow rent, install duct and lights \$425.00, Wade Williams, Ambulance Incentive \$158.00, Wenquist Inc, Maintenance \$28.98, \$256.79, \$2,708.34, Wesco Receivables Corp, Light poles/lights \$6,050.00, Eagle Crest materials \$72,622.35, Total \$340,822.02 Bi-Weekly Payroll (12/17/25) \$80,778.20, (12/31/25) \$92,382.11 Grand Total \$513,982.33

During public comments Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce Director Stephanie Grafel explained that she received a lot of positive feedback regarding the 10th Ave holiday displays and

thanked the City for their support in making the activity possible. She further explained that she hopes to make it an annual event. City Administrator David Schmidt likewise thanked Grafel for spearheading the project that highlighted the holiday season.

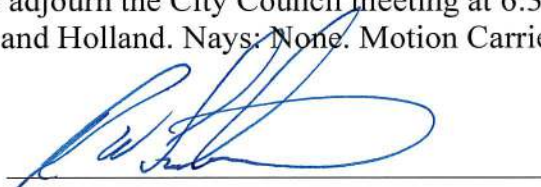
Steve Weatherly, a citizen at 1336 South F Street, spoke about his concerns regarding the New Years' fireworks displays, asking the Council to find a way to make the fireworks more neighbor-friendly. Weatherly noted the extended hours of darkness in December, the disturbance to animals, and the trash left on streets as some of the reasons that the Ordinance should be reevaluated, possibly eliminating fireworks over the New Years holiday altogether. Mayor Sonnichsen thanked Weatherly for bringing his concerns to the Council and explained that they would take his comments and concerns under consideration.

During Mayor and council comments Mayor Sonnichsen explained that over the last few months he has received between 7 and 8 anonymous letters in the mail. Sonnichsen likened receiving comments with no name or return address to hearsay at best and indicated that no action would be taken regarding such matters. He further emphasized that every comment, situation, and citizen concern, is a concern that Council takes seriously as they serve the community. He concluded by directing the public to include their name and contact information with any concerns so that the Council could directly address the issue in the appropriate manner.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Kleebe, to adjourn into Closed Session at 6:09 pm for the purpose of evaluating the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting, to include the Mayor, City Council members, City Administrator David Schmidt, City Clerk Jennifer Waterhouse, Deputy Clerk Jacob Holcomb, and City Treasurer LeeAnn Morgan. Roll Call Vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleebe, Wamsley, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

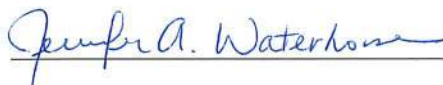
Moved by Holland, seconded by Wamsley, to exit closed session at 6:34 pm. Roll Call Vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleebe, Wamsley, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Holland, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 6:35 pm. Roll Call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleebe, Wamsley, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion Carried.



Rodney W. Sonnichsen, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer A. Waterhouse, City Clerk

