

## Broken Bow City Council

### Meeting Minutes March 10, 2026

The Broken Bow City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, March 10, 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 Attorney Jason White, City Clerk Jennifer Waterhouse, 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 Kleeb to approve the consent agenda for March 10, 2026. Said motion includes approval of the Minutes of the February 24, 2026, Council Meeting, and Bills to Date except for items 39371, 39391, 39406, and 39413. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleeb, Wamsley, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Kleeb to approve Bills to Date item 39371 for Joe Wamsley for repayment of league cost fees. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleeb, and Holland. Abstain: Wamsley. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Wamsley to approve Bills to Date item 39391 for Paul Holland for repayment of league cost fees. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleeb, and Wamsley. Abstain: Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Wamsley to approve Bills to Date item 39413 for Travis Kleeb for repayment of league cost fees. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wamsley, and Holland. Abstain: Kleeb. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Holland to approve Bills to Date item 39406 for Russ Smith for repayment of league cost fees. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Kleeb, Wamsley, and Holland. Abstain: Smith. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Aflac, Insurance \$511.52, \$119.50, \$189.30, Andy C Holland, Ambulance Incentive \$839.00, Auto Value Broken Bow, Maint/repairs, equipment \$138.99, Beaver Bearing Co Albion, Maint. of equip, \$688.52, Billy Hendricks, Ambulance incentive \$316.00, Bobbie Summerford, Ambulance incentive \$60.00, Breanna Holmes, Ambulance incentive \$130.00, Brian Keezer, CDL renewal \$15.37, Broken Bow Airport Authority, Interlocal Agreement \$1,083.33, Broken Bow Mun Utilities, Fuel \$1,505.61, Utilities \$8,488.01, Broken Bow Rural Fire Board, Utilities, internet \$1,647.32, Capitol One Bank, WAGE GARNISHMENT \$67.62, Card Services 5174, Equipment \$225.01, Card Services 0609, Software fees \$3.20, Central Nebraska Bobcat, Parts, Snow removal, and Skid Steer lease \$ 10,958.69,

Central Nebraska Pest Control, Pest control at Fire Hall \$69.55, Century Link, Basic & long distance, Radio tower, credit card \$86.03, \$139.19, Century Link \$127.28, Chad Hempstead, Ambulance incentive \$80.00, Christina Watson, Ambulance incentive \$105.00, City Flex Benefit Plan, SELECT FLEX-UNREIMBURSED M/D/V \$869.79, SELECT FLEX-DEPENDENT CARE \$192.30, City of Broken Bow, Health Insurance \$5,602.30, February 2026 health insurance reimbursement \$44,739.42, City of Broken Bow Pension Fund, RETIREMENT LOAN PAYMENT \$3,065.38, 414H \$12,919.34, 457 \$1,797.40, Cody Neville, Ambulance incentive \$123.00, Colonial Insurance, insurance \$826.41, \$372.81, \$631.18, Credit Management Services Inc, WAGE GARNISHMENT \$40.97, Custer County Treasurer, Interlocal Agreement \$19,384.45, Custer Public Power, CD Cell Power \$56.00, DWEE Fiscal Services, Pool permit \$40.00, David Baltz, Ambulance incentive \$382.00, Dennis Schiller, Ambulance incentive \$202.00, Doyle Wood, Ambulance incentive \$120.00, E-470 Public Highway Authority, Toll charges \$40.30, EFTPS Online Payment, MEDICARE \$3,355.92, FEDERAL \$9,327.00, FICA \$14,349.50, EZ IT Solutions, IT Services \$7,000.00, Eakes Office Products - Office supplies, office phones, and copier meter readings - 616.48, Elan Financial Services - Tomahawk restroom project - 6385.90, Elizabeth Baumgartner, Ambulance incentive \$355.00, Evans Feed Co, Fish food \$22.50, Family Heritage, Insurance \$25.50, Gina Gorham, Ambulance incentive \$331.00, Great Plains Communications, Internet \$190.98, \$150.00, \$214.95, \$289.95, Great Plains Uniforms LLC, police vests \$1,500.00, Grocery Kart, Cleaning supplies \$11.58, Hometown Leasing, Copier lease \$116.65, \$73.57, Island Supply Welding Co, Oxygen \$106.72, JEO, Mud Creek Low Water Crossing \$9,941.00, Streets and Parks drainage improvements \$8691.00, Jason Edward Morey, Ambulance incentive \$90.00, Jess Hightower, Ambulance incentive \$30.00, Joseph Wamsley, Mileage and park at League \$279.20, Kelly Cardoza, Refund Auditorium rent \$150.00, Kelly Gorham, Ambulance incentive \$173.00, Kelvin Kreitman, Ambulance incentive \$358.00, Kirkpatrick Cleaning Solutions, Janitorial \$3,725.00, Lance Oatman, Ambulance incentive \$75.00, Logan Watts, Training \$633.26, Londa Wood, Ambulance incentive \$105.00, Macqueen, Structure helmets, Hydrant bags \$3,301.50, Mason Holmes, Ambulance incentive \$105.00, Mead Lumber ,Tomahawk Park project \$105.77, Melham Medical Center, New employee membership \$126.00, Michael Jilg, Ambulance incentive \$190.00, Mishele Wooters, Ambulance incentive \$75.00, Nebraska Child Support Payment Center, CHILD SUPPORT \$769.86, Nebraska EMS Association, NEMSA Conference \$900.00, Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, Lodging for training \$75.00, Nebraska Pasture Door, City promotions, hat \$25.00, Nicholas Gaddy, Ambulance incentive \$451.00, Nissa Shelby, Ambulance incentive \$105.00, PANHANDLE EMS EDUCATION, AEMT Class \$1,000.00, Paper Tiger Shredding, Paper shredding \$45.00, Paul Holland, Reimbursement, Mileage for league \$255.20, Paulsen Inc, Cement \$1,097.00, Petty Cash, Supplies \$38.62, RT Ace, LLC, materials \$16.91, Bldg maint and repairs \$38.98, Equip. repairs \$151.88, \$77.72, Maint. Grounds \$504.76, Ranchland Ford, Maint. and repairs \$296.98, \$483.74, Rebecca Neumiller, Ambulance incentive \$175.00, Rebeka Anderson, Ambulance incentive \$135.00, Reed Schaefer, Transport meals on 2/25 \$80.00, Reed Schaefer, Ambulance incentive \$365.00, Robert Harrold, Ambulance incentive \$287.00, Russ Smith, mileage and parking at league \$282.20, S&L Sanitary Service, Trash \$58.30, Sara J. Hulinsky, Cleaning service \$837.00, Sargent Pipe Co, Parts \$55.62, Schaper and White Law Firm, Legal fees \$3,000.00, State Income Tax WH NE Online Payment, STATE \$3,729.03, Sylvia Schiller, Ambulance incentive \$201.00, Tracker Systems, Handi Bus tracking \$16.99, Travis Kleeb, mileage for league

\$255.20, Wade Williams, Ambulance incentive \$400.00, Wenquist, Inc, Block heater cord \$32.49, Wesco Receivables Corp, Eagle Crest materials \$1,194.00, Total \$209,012.50 Bi-Weekly Payroll (2/25/26) \$80,927.76 Grand Total \$289,940.26.

In other communication, Broken Bow Fire Chief Dustin Watson provided an update on the Department's activities over the last year. He noted 119 total calls for the department in 2025 that included 13 carbon monoxide calls, 31 grass or bale fires, 13 structure fires, 17 false alarms, 19 vehicle accidents, 1 elevator entrapment, 3 gas meter calls, 4 vehicle fires, and a variety of other miscellaneous calls to the department.

Watson also provided an update on how burn permits are being received and approved by the Broken Bow Fire Department through an updated, online permit. He explained that previously, residents wishing to complete a burn permit had to visit the station and complete a paper permit. He said that the new online permit is receiving a lot of positive feedback as it can now be approved within minutes. The link to access the burn permit burn is located at [www.cityofbrokenbow.org](http://www.cityofbrokenbow.org).

Watson explained that due to the continued dry and windy conditions, when permits are approved, they are limiting the number of controlled burns to only four during each 7 to 10 day period. He concluded by saying that no permits for brush or tree piles are being issued until conditions improve and reminded the public that no open burning can take place in the City as it is prohibited by City Ordinance.

In new business, bid opening for Resolution 2026-03, Sale of Surplus Personal Property of the City of Broken Bow. The city received the following bids listed by item ID numbers: 2026-02 Aubrey Patton \$1,100.00, 2026-02 Cody Neville \$500.00, 2026-01 Julie Toline \$800.00, 2026-01 George Mills \$716.66, and 2026-01 Cody Neville \$500.00.

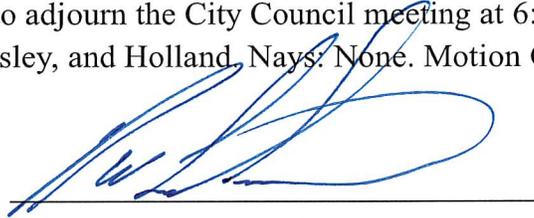
Moved by Holland, seconded by Wamsley to approve temporarily closing South D St. between S 8th & S 10th Ave on April 3rd, 2026, for the Easter Egg Hunt around the Square from 1:00-3:00 pm. Administrator Schmidt explained that although this is a recurring event, he felt that it needed to come before council because they have not closed this street in the past. He said that after evaluating previous events and talking with Stephanie Grafel, they feel that there is a benefit to closing the street to safely manage foot traffic. Mayor Sonnichsen expressed his support because of the added protection it provides to those attending the event. Roll Call Vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleeb, Wamsley, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

There were no public comments.

During Mayor and Council comments, Councilmember Smith noted he had recently spent time at Melham Park and saw several groups of children using the Story Walk. He said that it was heartwarming to see, and he congratulated the Library and Parks Departments for the successful project. Mayor Sonnichsen added that he would be asking Darren Marten, Overseer of Streets and Parks, to give an update regarding the improvements throughout the City at the next City Council

Meeting. He also thanked Fire Chief Watson and the Broken Bow Fire Department for their dedication and hard work.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Wamsley, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 6:17 pm. Roll Call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Kleeb, Wamsley, and Holland, Nays: None. Motion Carried.



Rodney W. Sonnichsen, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer A. Waterhouse, City Clerk

Jacob Holcomb, Deputy City Clerk

