

REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

March 11, 2026

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Syracuse, Nebraska met at Syracuse City Hall Council Chambers at 495 Midland Street at 6:00 P.M. on March 11, 2026 for a regular meeting. The meeting was open to the public and notice of meeting was given by posting in five places: Syracuse City Hall lobby, First Bank of Nebraska lobby, Countryside Bank, U.S. Post Office lobby and Syracuse Fresh Market window. Proof of publication in Syracuse Journal Democrat was shown. Mayor Dettmer was present and requested roll call; present were Council members, Wesley Halvorsen, Robert Johnson, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton; no one absent. A copy of the publication notice and acknowledgement of notice to the Council is attached to these minutes. Dettmer explained anyone can speak on an issue with a time limit of three minutes and must sign in with their name and address on sheet in front of room. Dettmer noted the Open Meetings Act was posted. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public. Minutes for the February 11th 2026 regular City Council meeting were approved as written.

PARKS AND REC – Director Sonni Graves present. Mayor Dettmer led the presentation and discussion on proposed skate park at Williams Park. SDA Civics Class students and Teacher Sarah Burr present. The two groups of students and Mrs. Burr on proposed potential locations, pros of having a community skate park, and also materials such as concrete, rebar, steel rails, plywood as well as concrete sealant. The groups acknowledge costs can be expensive, roughly \$500,000.00, due to the large amount of concrete necessary as well as maintenance and upkeep. Mrs. Burr explained the goal is for the project to potentially be something to consider in the future. Graves explained the project could go in phases to help stretch the costs overtime. Grants and fundraising opportunities would be pursued.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion on request for reduction of softball field usage fee; Ryan Beach and Matt Tuxhorn present. They are interested in holding a softball tournament at the Syracuse Sports Complex during the weekend of April 17th -19th. They had received the contract for field usage which requires a fee of \$200 per field per day making field fees around \$2000.00. The two wondered if this is something new as this was not brought up when they initially reached out in September. Jessica Meyer explained the contract has been in place for a long time and that she and Graves do not have the authority to waive fees therefore the issue needed to come in front of the City Council. Discussion was had on what has been charged in the past, what other towns do and if the fees could be removed for this tournament or if a separate fee schedule needs to be developed for Syracuse teams. The tournament has 25 teams playing; not all are Syracuse teams. Concerns include if the request will set a precedent and the City's costs involved with staffing for the tournament and field prep. Council Member Nate Patton explained the City doesn't have a lot of non-league games at the complex because the field's are typically already full. Graves explained Nebraska Baseball Academy has been playing at the complex on Sundays for the past few years and they do pay the field rental fees as well as some co-ed teams. Patton proposed if the Council feels it needs to be something they want to look at, to wait until next season as it's too late to start implementing new fees and contracts for 2026. Council Member Robert Johnson discussed bringing the item back to the April 8th City Council meeting. No motion was made. Jessica Meyer suggested a committee be formed to include a couple of City Council members, Meyer, Graves, Tuxhorn and Beach to discuss further.

Recognition for Ron Rosenthal tabled until a future meeting.

Mayor Dettmer led the approval of claims and Treasurers Report; Todd Blome of BMG not present. Blome provided the February 2026 Treasurer's Report and disbursements exceeding \$3000.00 for the month. Dettmer read comments by Blome reporting all accounts, loans have been reconciled. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the Treasurers Report and to pay the claims, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Robert Johnson, Jerry Werner, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION - 1418.40, ANTES FAMILY HARDWARE LLC - 643.51, BARAGARY CONSTRUCTION, INC. - 2950.00, BMG CPA'S - 3452.00, BOLDT TIRE SUPPLY & SVC - 77.42, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC. - 29.40, BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC - 314.90, BRANDT, HORAN, HALLSTROM & STILMOCK - 858.00, BRIAN VODICKA - 51.48, BRINKMAN BROS. - 693.60, CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC. - 16.24, 115.35, CASS COUNTY LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL - 100.00, CITY OF SYRACUSE - 1625.19, CLEANING AUTHORITY - 246.03, 277.98, COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC - 206.55, CUBBY'S INC. - 1267.56, CULLIGAN WATER - 54.99, DAN'S TIRE & REPAIR - 305.73, DISPLAY SALES - 2451.00, DON JOHNSON HOMES - 200.00, DONN SCHROEDER - 200.00, DUTTON LAINSON CO. - 2215.20, ERIN BETH DESIGNS - 35.00, FIVE NINES

TECHNOLOGY GROUP - 3504.48, HOLIDAY OUTDOOR DECOR - 1600.60, INVOICE CLOUD INC - 483.60, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 4556.25, KUHL CONSTRUCTION LLC - 3013.91, MANLEY SOLUTIONS, INC. - 960.00, MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC - 111.18, MELISSA JUILFS - 291.60, MIDWEST ALARM SERVICES - 885.84, MIDWEST LABORATORIES, INC. - 146.32, MIKE'S WINDOW SERVICE, LLC - 405.78, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY OF OMAHA - 1633.95, NE DEPT OF REVENUE - 100.00, NEBRASKA CITY UTILITIES - 2392.80, NEBRASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB - 556.00, NEBRASKALAND - 44.00, NEXT-GEN CLEANING - 570.00, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC. - 10.62, OPPD - 130157.74, PETTY CASH PARK & REC. - 100.00, PINPOINT COMMUNICATIONS - 13.30, POINT C - 269.00, POWERMANAGER - 820.00, SARGENT DRILLING - 1350.00, SEGRA - 2340.42, SID DILLON FORD - 365.62, SOUTHEAST SEAMLESS GUTTERS & HOME IMPROV - 35.00, JH SPORHASE LLC - 31.30, STATE FIRE MARSHAL TRAIN. DIVISION - 50.00, SYRACUSE FRESH MARKET - 93.47, SYRACUSE LUMBER CO. - 743.79, SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY - 854.15, SYRACUSE VOL. FIRE DEPT. - 84.65, TYLEIGH MILLER - 37.50, ULINE - 3311.91, VAN KIRK BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION - 125435.45, VERIZON - 1010.99, WESTRUM LEAK DETECTION - 3950.00, WINDSTREAM - 99.78

Claims paid outside of the March 11th meeting date include: ADAM BADBERG – 3587.37, JARED BICKFORD – 1372.86, TYLER COLLIN – 3264.69, TERA EDEN – 2495.91, KELLY FARMER – 4901.38, LEAH GANZEL – 1215.95, SARAH GANZEL – 215.84, SONNI GRAVES – 4352.19, MELISSA JUILFS – 3705.81, JESSICA MEYER – 6015.47, IAN MITCHELL – 3208.67, JULIE SLAFTER – 2572.97, CURTIS STANBERRY – 4209.46, BRENT TETEN – 4132.95, DEB MCWILLIAMS – 505.15, BRIAN VODICKA – 3661.95, JEFF VOGT – 4575.85, DEB DETTMER – 621.26, ROBERT JOHNSON – 187.78, WESLEY HALVORSEN – 207.78, BRUCE NEEMANN – 1473.31, NATE PATTON – 207.78, JERRY WERNER – 207.78, HILLARY WIEBUSCH – 200.00, JEN STAACK – 250.00, KODY CARDINAL – 300.00, MARCIA SCHEINOST – 350.00, SCOTT WIEBUSCH – 450.00, TIM WILSON – 400.00, SCHUYLAR ARGO – 150.00, AFLAC – 124.44, JUSTINE THOMAS – 277.05, SHARON VANHOUSEN – 69.54, KATE ZOST 277.05, AMANDA ENSOR – 124.39, CANON FINANCIAL – 101.06, USPS – 613.05, ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS – 3853.22, PRINCIPAL – 1682.04, MEDICA – 18,339.98.

HEARING OF THOSE PRESENT – No one present to speak.

AMBULANCE REPORT – Chief Tim Wilson not present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to advertise for bids for 1992 Chevy K1500 Suburban. Sealed bids will be accepted at City Hall until 4:00 P.M. Wednesday April 8th, 2026. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the City advertise for the sale of the 1992 Chevy K1500, Robert Johnson seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Robert Johnson. Nays: none.

LIBRARY REPORT – Director Melissa Juilfs not present; no report distributed.

PUBLIC WORKS – Superintendent Jeff Vogt present. Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and resolution to approve Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons Installation Agreement between City of Syracuse and NDOT, authorizing Mayor's signation. Vogt explained concerns regarding language in the proposed agreement pertaining to the painting the crosswalks on Highway 50 going through town be the City's responsibility. Vogt explained it requires a number of staff due to the level of much needed traffic control and the City is not equipped with the staff such as NDOT is. City Attorney Ryan McIntosh advised the City reach out to NDOT to ask for the language to be revised. The item was tabled.

OLD BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the appointment of Planning Commission members. Jessica Meyer explained the commission will have two new volunteer members to be appointed along with five returning members. The returning members include Andy Brace, Charley McWilliams, Eldon Mannschreck, Tammy Kelch and Rachel Zahn. The two new members are Tom Haynes and Jarrod McAlevy. Council Member Nate Patton moved to approve the Planning Commission appointments, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Robert Johnson, Jerry Werner, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

NEW BUSINESS – Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 26-05 to approve Downtown Revitalization Grant Contract extension, authorizing Mayor's signature. Jessica Meyer explained there are a few projects that have been approved by City Council and a couple more that are either processing or going to be brought to City Council soon which a 9-month extension would allow for these to be completed. After these projects, the remaining funds will be used up. Council Member Robert Johnson moved to adopt Resolution No. 26-05 for the DTR Contract extension, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: YEAs: Nate Patton, Jerry Werner, Robert Johnson, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and Resolution No. 26-06 setting the Micro TIF application fee, authorizing Mayor's signature. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the Micro TIF fee be \$50.00 per application, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Robert Johnson, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval of Micro TIF application for 307 5th Street, Bloom Haven. Jessica Meyer explained Tammy Ingwerson, owner of Bloom Haven has

completed the first application to utilize Micro TIF in the downtown area. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to approve the application for Bloom Haven, Robert Johnson seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Robert Johnson. Nays: none.

Discussion and resolutions for Franchise Agreement renewal and Pole Attachment Agreement renewal between Zito Media and City of Syracuse were tabled until a future meeting to allow for contract language to be negotiated.

Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing, discussion and Ordinance No. 1169 for Application for Conditional Use Permit for consideration to allow sale of automobiles at the property located at Lot A Grotrian Subdivision; A Subdivision of Lots 1 & 6 Block 9 14th Addition & Lot 1 & North 18 feet of Lot 2 Block 7 Williams Addition to Syracuse, Otoe County, Nebraska. Jason Lee of Big Red Motorsports at 1201 Park Street present to explain he is required to show sale of automobiles in order to sell ATVs due to titles, etc. No further discussion; Dettmer closed the public hearing. Council Member Wesley Halvorsen moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1169 and move statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Robert Johnson, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Dettmer read the ordinance by title. Council Member Nate Patton moved for final passage of the ordinance, Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Robert Johnson, Nate Patton, Wesley Halvorsen. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer opened the public hearing, discussion and Ordinance No. 1170 for Application for Antes Acres Small Tract Subdivision of the following-described real estate: A Subdivision of Tract 9-A located in the part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 9, Tract 8 North Route 11E of the 6th P.M., Otoe County, Nebraska. Lynn Wilhelm present for Kent Antes along with buyers of Lot 1 Katie and Neil Slater. The expense of the infrastructure lies on the developer. The property will have City electricity, rural water and septic for sewer. NDOT has approved a driveway be placed to access Lot 1. Dettmer closed the public hearing. Council Member Robert Johnson moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1170, Jerry Werner seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton, Robert Johnson, Jerry Werner. Nays: none. Dettmer read the ordinance by title. Council Member Robert Johnson moved for final passage of the ordinance, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Jerry Werner, Robert Johnson, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

Mayor Dettmer led the discussion and approval to use Williams Park on Saturday April 4th for the 2026 Easter Egg Hunt. Council Member Jerry Werner moved to approve the usage of the park as done as used in the past, Nate Patton seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Wesley Halvorsen, Robert Johnson, Nate Patton, Jerry Werner. Nays: none.

Council Member Nate Patton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 P.M., Wesley Halvorsen seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Jerry Werner, Robert Johnson, Wesley Halvorsen, Nate Patton. Nays: none.

I the undersigned City Administrator hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting; kept continually and available for inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such subjects were contained in the said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to the said meeting; that at least one copy of the reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for the examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting of the body; that all news media requesting notification concerning time and place of said body were provided advance notification of time and place of said meeting and subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

City Clerk

Mayor