

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES CHAPPELL NEBRASKA

A regular meeting of the Chappell City Council was held September 8, 2026 at the Chappell City Hall at 5:00 P.M. The following members were present; Riley, Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. Staff members present were Administrator/Clerk Ashlea Bauer, City Treasurer GERALYN KONRUFF, CDD Shaunna Mashek and Utilities Superintendent Todd Rust. Others present included Sean Holloway, Cori Koehler and Marge Freeman.

Notice of the meeting was posted as required by law. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present. Mayor Riley informed the public of the location of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act on the back wall of the council room.

Public Comments:

No public comments.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Johnson to approve the consent agenda, minutes of the regular meeting August 17, 2026, dept head reports and sheriff's July report. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

Aqua Tap, A Utah LLC - Tools - \$1105.00 * Arrowhead Distributing, Inc - Beer Expense - \$253.30 * ASAP Express - Lab Testing - \$20.00 * Black Hills Energy - Utilities - \$366.00 * Border States Industries, Inc - Community Improvement - \$96.68 - Supplies - \$96.69 * Cash-Wa Distributing - Candy/Pop - \$182.10 - Liquor Expense - \$164.64 - Perishables - \$989.96 - Supplies - \$578.64 * Century Link - Telephone/Communications - \$61.68 * Chappell Municipal Utilities - Utilities - \$9748.91 * Chappell Register - Ads, Forms & Printing - \$652.95 * Croell Inc - Gravel & Concrete - \$6971.60 * Deuel County Treasurer - Law Enforcement - \$8166.66 * Dietrich Distributing - Beer Expense - \$4.45 * Doty & Sons Concrete Products, Inc - Community Improvement - \$2710.00 * Dutton-Lainson Company - Supplies - \$405.81 * Eakes Office Products Center - Supplies - \$43.13 * Enviro Service Inc - Lab Testing - \$30.00 * Grainger - Tools - \$192.39 * Halie Brott - Liberty Park Maintenance - \$600.00 * Hansen's Petroleum - Fuel - \$3413.64 * Highline Electric Association - Utilities - \$334.63 * HireRight, LLC - Drug Testing - \$133.80 * Ingram Library Services - Books/Video - \$48.08 * Kurtzer's - Supplies - \$761.98 * Livengood Backhoe Service - Gravel & Concrete - \$500.00 * Michael Todd Industrial Supply - Street Signs - \$1828.64 * Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska - WAPA & MEAN - \$57,436.09 * Municipal Supply Inc of Nebraska - Supplies - \$4911.56 * Nebraska Rural Water Association - Continuing Education - \$750.00 * Nippon Sanso Matheson Inc - Oxygen - \$114.44 * Pepsi-Cola of Alliance - Candy/Pop - \$778.78 * Pitney Bowes, Inc - Licenses, fees and permits - \$206.31 * Premier Auto Parts & Service, LLC - Repair - \$239.13 - Supplies - \$589.72 * Rod Hanson - Supplies - \$216.84 * Ron's Chappell Auto Repair - Repair - \$4664.05 * Sedgwick County Sales - Trash Hauling/Recycling - \$2872.80 * Simon East Region NE - Gravel & Concrete - \$648.00 * Stephanie Behrends - Books/Video - \$32.12 * Todd's Custom Welding - Repair - \$675.00 * US Bank - Books/Video - \$163.01 - Maintenance - \$189.04 - Supplies - \$394.04 * Verizon Wireless - Telephone/Communications - \$278.43 * Vistabeam Internet - Telephone/Communications - \$259.75 * Vistabeam Phone Bill - Telephone/Communications - \$657.56 * WESCO RECEIVABLES CORP. - Supplies - \$800.34 * Wheat Belt Public Power District - Utilities - \$54.50 * Total Payroll - \$51,806.74 *

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business.

New Business:

Utilities Superintended Rust interviewed a new candidate for the lineman apprentice/water department position. He unfortunately couldn't make it to the meeting to be introduced to the council. A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Carlson to hire Joshua Kler for the electric and water department per Utilities Superintendent at \$22.00 per hour. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried. Mr. Kler will be introduced to the council at their next regular meeting.

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Johnson to approve the building permit for a house and garage located on lots 2, 3, 4, 5 of Johnson Heights Subdivision. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Ortgies to accept the resignation of Kelle Brott from the Ambulance Board and to appoint Zach Oliverius to the ambulance board. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on a handicap parking spot at Appearance Salon. The city was required by the Federal Highway Administration to remove the stall that was there prior due to not being ADA compliant. Owner of the salon, Cori Koheler, asked the council if there were any options to allow for senior citizens only or salon client parking only in the old handicap

spot. Clerk Bauer will email the information to the city attorney for her recommendations and also be in touch with Wilson Engineers to come and inspect the area and provide their feedback if there are any options.

Communications:

Mayor Riley commended Aaron and Sarah Stegeman, Terry Livengood and the gentleman that came from Haxton, for all their efforts this past weekend during the storm. They were a huge help and did a great job.

Council member Johnson passed on to the board that if the city ever wanted to go a different route with animal control, Lori Harmon would be interested.

Shaunna provided an update on all the things she's currently working on. The airport grand re-opening was a huge success and very well attended. She's working with Premium Surface Solutions for the multi-use court. She's working on renewing the city's leadership certified application that is due every five years. The concrete corn hole boards for the swimming pool park were delivered this week. She will be advertising for the LB840 renewal that will be on the ballot in November. The chamber's business sign that is located at the lake will be swapped out with a new metal one.

Marge Freeman inquired why there was no help during the storm the past weekend and only 1 electric person on call to help. The electric department has 2 employees who rotate being on call and one of them is on call at a time. Marge also asked if there was a way to have some sort of block party to get people to gather together to help cleanup the streets, curbs from the latest storms.

Council member Carlson asked if the dirt and debris at the bottom of the elementary block was on the list for cleanup. The street department has it on the list as they currently work through each street. He doesn't have a full crew this week and the electric/water department is also helping out.

A motion was made by Council member Johnson, second of Council member Hahn to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 p.m. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

Dan Riley, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ashlea Bauer
City Administrator/Clerk

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CHAPPELL NEBRASKA**

The 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget Hearing was held at 5:00 p.m. on September 21, 2026. The following members were present; Riley, Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn and Johnson. Staff members present were City Attorney Kendra Strommen, City Administrator/Clerk Ashlea Bauer, City Treasurer Geralyn Konruff, CDD Shaunna Mashek, Street Overseer Jerrod Elms and Utilities Superintendent Todd Rust. Others present included Adam Shart, Bob Meyer, Marge Freeman, Stacy & Stephanie Hanway, Larry & Janet Flohr, Troy and Brandy Isenbart, Loren & Tonya Engle, Brenda Parsons, Jim Behrends, Mr. Rotz, and Mark Huaracha.

Notice of the meeting was posted as required by law. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present. Mayor Riley informed the public of the location of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act on the back wall of Council room.

The budget hearing for the 2026-2027 Budget Hearing was opened at 5:00 P.M.

Mayor Riley opened the floor for public comments. There were multiple comments from the public in relation to the proposed property tax request. The proposed tax request for 2026-2027 is less than what was submitted for the pink postcards by \$100,000.00.

City auditor, Bob Meyer, reviewed the presented 2026-2027 Budget and was available to answer any questions on the budget. He responded to multiple public comments that were made on the budget.

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Johnson to close the budget hearing at 5:45 p.m. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

A regular meeting of the Chappell City Council was held September 21, 2026, at the Chappell City Hall immediately after the Budget Hearing for the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year.

Public Comments:

Council member Hahn thanked Jerrod and Todd for continually doing more with less. They can't buy the new equipment that they deserve and they do their best with what they have.

Stephanie Hanway would like to see more people clean up their yards.

Brandy Isenbart thanked Jerrod and Dan for their work on cleaning up the drainage on South Court Ave. The baby steps have helped tremendously. After the last rainfall, it was the first time in 25 years they didn't have water in their basement. It's a start and they appreciate their efforts.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Carlson to approve the consent agenda, minutes of the regular meeting September 8, 2026, treasurer's report and sheriff's August report. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

Bomgaars - Supplies - \$85.99* Cash-Wa Distributing - Candy/Pop - \$350.88 - Perishables - \$1066.09 - Supplies - \$59.22* Chappell Super Foods - Perishables - \$20.74 - Supplies - \$44.62* Comfort Inn-Kearney - Travel Expense & Per Diem - \$258.00* Cranmore Fire Protection - Maintenance - \$809.00* Culligan - Supplies - \$129.50* Enviro Service Inc - Lab Testing - \$30.00* Frenchman Valley Co-op - Chemicals & Fertilizer - \$527.00 - Fuel - \$2097.01* Hometown Leasing - Leases - \$108.67* Ideal Linen Supply - Supplies - \$1024.29* Ingram Library Services - Books/Video - \$18.74* MacQueen Equipment - Repair - \$2707.62* Municipal Supply Inc of Nebraska - Supplies - \$4233.78* Nippon Sanso Matheson Inc - Oxygen - \$190.30* NMVCA - Continuing Education - \$50.00* One Billing Solutions, LLC - Collections Expense - \$336.71* Outdoor Restore - Supplies - \$125.00* Rod Hanson - Candy/Pop - \$163.82* Ron's Chappell Auto Repair - Repair - \$778.18* Sidney Regional Medical Center - Supplies - \$137.52* SMS Powertrain & Hardware, LLC - Supplies - \$910.31* Stephanie Behrends - Books/Video - \$29.22* Verizon Wireless - Telephone/Communications - \$360.91* Western Resources Group Inc. - Trash Hauling/Recycling - \$301.00* WEX BANK - Fuel - \$1552.44 - Mow, Trim & Spray - \$81.94* Total Payroll - \$55,777.03 *

Unfinished Business:

Adam Shart, with Wilson Engineering presented a few different options for handicap accessibility by Appearance Salon. He reviewed the location and drafted three options to go over. The second rendering shown looks to be the best option and the most reasonable cost-wise. He will get more measurements before he leaves and then will provide drawings to the council in the near future so they can start on the project.

New Business:

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Johnson to accept the final tax request and approve Resolution 2026-30 Setting the Property Tax Request. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

**SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST
2026-30**

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of the City of Chappell passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and
WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the City of Chappell, resolves that:

1. The 2026-2027 property tax request be set at:

General Fund: \$165,404.00

Bond Fund: \$ 75,000.00

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 6.49 percent.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be 0.345712 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. The City of Chappell proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.519821 per \$100 of assessed value.

5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of The City of Chappell will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by -177.45 percent.

6. A copy of this resolution will be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2026. Total tax requirement for the 2026-2027 budget is General Fund: \$165,404.00 and Bond Fund: \$75,000.00. A motion was made by Council member Johnson, second of Council member Hahn to adopt the 2026-2027 budget. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

Street Supervisor Elms provided Council with an estimate for the loader repair that has multiple leaks. A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Ortgies to approve the loader repair estimate in the amount of \$13,075.24 from NMC Cat. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Ortgies to approve the building permit for a metal building at 1291 Rd 167. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council member Johnson, second of Council member Hahn to approve blocking off Vincent Avenue between 3rd and 4th street for Beulah's Fall Festival on October 18, 2026. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

Communications:

October 1st is Dave Lane's last day and the new hire for the electric/water department will start on Oct. 1st.

Council member Hahn asked Jerod if he had spoke with Shaunna about any potential grants for crowd control for blocked off streets. Shaunna will do some checking.

Shaunna is continuing to work on multiple grant applications for the multi-use court and she is working to the get chamber sign here for the replacement at Chappell Lake.

Street department will be spraying for mosquitos this week in the evenings as weather permits. The street sweeper is broke down, currently waiting for the parts to get it repaired and back out sweeping. A question was asked about e-scooters and e-bikes be rode in the city parks. There are reports of children riding them in the grass and killing the grass and making paths throughout the park. Attorney has an ordinance drafted in relation to the e-scooters and will provide for council at a future meeting.

Todd inquired about some easements for the utilities in a few locations in town. Kendra will research and an item will be on the next agenda. Todd also expressed concerns for the condition of the electric and safety on the owner's side of the trailer park property, this item will be on the next agenda. The bucket truck needs repaired, a service tech with Altec will be in this week to fix.

A motion was made by Council member Hahn, second of Council member Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. "Yes" Ortgies, Carlson, Hahn, Johnson. "No" None. Motion carried.

Mayor Dan Riley

ATTEST:

Ashlea Bauer
City Administrator/Clerk