Regular City Council Meeting

**9-9-25**

Mayor Kovar called the meeting to order at 7pm

Present: Breann Krebs, Mike Grote, Rebecca Ferderer, Tom Gorek, Rex Fitch, Chris Fitterer

Excused: None

Motion by Rebecca, seconded by Breann to approve the August 2025 minutes as amended. Motion carried.

There was no county policing report this month. Discussed an aggressive dog amongst the City Council. We were informed if there was a victim, the victim must file a complaint for the police to take further action. The person with the aggressive dog must be told he needs to contain the dog.

**Mayors Report**

All cities are required to have a public comment policy. This allows individuals to talk at a city council meeting if they wish to. This must be an agenda item. Here are some of the highlights of the public comment policy. To provide public comments, each individual must submit a speaker card prior to the meeting. Each individual will be allotted three minutes to make comments. Total public comment time will only be 30 minutes. All comments must address the agenda item on the speaker card, be pertinent to the City of New England and be directed to the board as a whole. Comments cannot be defamatory, abusive, harassing or unlawful and cannot interfere with the orderly conduct of the meeting. An individual can only comment on an agenda item from the previous meeting or the current meeting.

Motion by Rex, seconded by Breann to approve the public comment policy. Motion carried.

**Water & Sewer**

Fitterer Oil would like to run a water line to their Quonset on the south end of town. Possibly a 2-inch line from 2nd Ave East. This will include sewer as well. An engineer will sign off on putting the water line in to reassure that everything is done according to code.

**Street & Lights**

Nothing to report

**Buildings & Grounds**

Automobiles are sitting in areas of town in a state of disrepair. They should be enclosed or behind a fence. There are many places in town where vehicles are parked on the grass of people’s yards. It was reiterated by a council member that anyone must go through the proper channels to file a complaint. First, inform the City Auditor of where the violation is and what the violation is. Pictures would be helpful. The City Auditor will send a letter along with the ordinance that is being violated to the resident. The City Auditor can also give this information to our police department and they will hand deliver the letter.

**Equipment**

Nothing to report

**Ordinance**

Nothing to report

**City & Government Affairs**

Rebecca and the City Auditor are working with Roosevelt Custer on a committee for the purchase of the old laundromat. Roosevelt Custer now owns this building and would like to see a business come into the building.

Jon Fielding did apply for the grocery store grant at the state level.

**Zoning Commission**

Nothing to report

**Auditors Report**

Motion by Breann, seconded by Tom to approve the following bills for payment. Motion carried.

9/3/2025 16200 Southwest Water Authority Monthly Water -12,878.49

9/3/2025 16201 Visa 1864 Dues & stamps -555.00

9/3/2025 16202 VISA 8078 Paper & office supplies -159.65

9/3/2025 16203 Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance -1,609.71

9/3/2025 16204 MDU Utilities -3,142.35

9/9/2025 16212 Consolidated City Hall Phone -515.98

9/9/2025 16213 Consolidated Ambulance Phone -51.35

9/9/2025 16214 NE Community Grocery Store Cleaning Supplies -105.25

9/9/2025 16215 Hanson Plumbing & Excavating 2 cans of marking paint - zoning -15.96

9/9/2025 16216 One Call Concepts Call Tickets -13.70

9/21/2025 16217 Western Dakota Energy Association Dues -200.00

9/21/2025 16218 The Hub Convenience Stores Fuel -774.31

9/21/2025 16219 Runnings Shop supplies -218.57

9/21/2025 16220 Hanson Plumbing & Excavating Repair Sewer Line -2,557.70

9/21/2025 16221 Postmaster Box Rent -162.00

9/21/2025 16222 Newby’s Ace Hardware Lawn Food, Fertilizer & Weed & Feed -210.07

9/21/2025 16223 Edward H Schwartz Construction Blade Roads -1,061.50

9/21/2025 16224 Southwestern Dist. Health Unit Water Samples -25.00

9/21/2025 16225 Menard's Ballast -99.96

9/21/2025 16226 Vestis Rug Cleaning 4 Months -510.52

9/21/2025 16227 NE Library August Taxes -27.36

9/21/2025 16228 NE Cemetery August Taxes -5.07

9/21/2025 16229 Special Assessment Deficiency City Share -99.76

9/21/2025 16230 Special Assessment Deficiency Specials Water 4-35 -506.89

9/21/2025 16231 Special Assessment Deficiency Specials street 3-35 -1,362.77

9/21/2025 16236 Kahm Construction Remove and Install Door Old Shop -3,240.00

Motion by Rex, seconded by Mike to approve the Pledge of Securities from Bravera Bank. Motion carried.

Discussed a bill for a sewer line repair. Initially it was a city issue in the beginning and now it is a resident’s issue. Motion by Breann, seconded by Mike to pay half of the back hoe services on the bill and the resident will have to pay the remainder of the bill. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

There are no veterinarian offices in the area that are willing to come to New England for a rabies clinic at this time.

Motion by Breann, seconded by Rex to approve putting the house we received from the county up for bids. Motion carried 5-1 with Chris voting nay. The bid opening may be at the November meeting as the City Auditor wants to follow all legal guidelines and timelines for bid advertisement.

**New Business**

Discussed the possibility of spraying for mosquitos next year. The City Auditor received information from the City of Belfield on how they conduct their spraying. It has been very successful in Belfield and there have been no resident complaints. The city will ask the Park Board if they are interested in cost sharing as they may want to spray the football field and the track. We will follow up with this item in the future.

Discussed a garage that it is in bad shape. A building permit was put in and the owners built the garage themselves and there was no inspection. The new owner went to the zoning meeting to address this issue. The Zoning Board may or may not be following through with our building inspector. We will invite Bobbi Strait (building inspector) and the Zoning Board to our next meeting to discuss the process of inspection.

**Public Comments**

None

**Council Comments**

None

Motion by Breann, seconded by Tom to adjourn. Motion carried.

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Mayor City Auditor