Kimball City Council
Regular Meeting
December 02, 2025

A City Council meeting was convened in open and public session at 5:00 p.m. December 02, 2025, held at the City Council Chambers, 223 S. Chestnut St. Council members present were, Jamie Murdoch, Austin Garner, James Shields and Greg Robinson. Also, present was Mayor John Morrison, City Clerk Paula Tarango, City Administrator Annette Brower and City Treasurer Jean Klassen. The public was represented at the meeting.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Western Nebraska Observer. Notice of the meeting was given to the members and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is on record at the office of the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice and in the notice to the members. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Morrison acknowledge the Open Meetings Act.

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Garner to approve the minutes from the City Council meeting held on November 18, 2025. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Robinson, Garner, Shields, and Murdoch. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Morrison opened a discussion regarding the Keno request for the Junior Class Post-Prom. Carly Norberg, along with several other students, spoke on behalf of the post-prom activities, noting that donations would support prizes, gift cards, games, and other organized activities. They asked the City for assistance toward these efforts. When Robinson proceeded to make a motion, board member Murdoch noted that post-prom is not a 501(c)(3) organization and emphasized the need for consistency in following grant guidelines. It was then clarified that post-prom is partnered with the

Booster Club, which is a nonprofit. Legal counsel recommended making a motion to approve the $2,000 request, contingent upon the application being completed and submitted directly by the Booster Club.

Motion by Garner, seconded by Murdoch, to amend the previous motion to approve the Keno request from post-prom subject to the application being completed and submitted directly by the Boster Club which meets the requirements of the 501(c)(3). The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Garner, Robinson, And Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Streets Department Supervisor James Shoup was present to answer questions regarding Resolution 2025-14, which outlines equipment and service fees for the City of Kimball Streets Department. He explained that these fees apply to various services provided by the department, including clean-up work, yard mowing, concrete sawing, and similar tasks.

Motion by Murdoch, seconded by Garner to approve Resolution 2025-14 Equipment and Service fees for city of Kimball Streets Department. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Garner, Robinson, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Morrison opened a discussion on **ORDINANCE NO.848**
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KIMBALL, NEBRASKA, TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NO. 670 AND TO AMEND CHAPTER 110 OF THE CITY OF KIMBALL CODE OF ORDINANCES; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIMBALL, NEBRASKA: Chapter 110: Building Contractors; Registration

City Administrator Annette Brower explained that the primary purpose of the proposed updates is to ensure contractors are properly registered and provide proof of insurance. She noted that an existing ordinance was already in place, but the language was vague, prompting the need for added wording, revisions, and updates. The $100.00 fee remains unchanged. Morrison emphasized that this item was for

discussion only and could be amended as needed. The Building Inspector was present to address questions regarding the draft ordinance. This was a draft copy presented for discussion only, and no action was taken.

Motion by Shields, seconded by Robison to approve the Mayor's appointment of Samantha Barp to the Kimball Housing Agency. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Garner, Robinson, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Murdoch, seconded by Robinson to approve the Mayor's appointment of Kerry Bohhac to the Kimball Housing Agency. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Robinson, Garner, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding the approval of all appointed positions. A board member suggested holding a discussion prior to taking action on the appointments. Garner inquired about the processes currently in place to verify that appointed officials are performing to standard. The Mayor noted that he conducts annual performance reviews with his appointed personnel. Garner also asked about the metrics used for staff evaluations. Morrison stated that if any council member has concerns regarding an appointed official, they are encouraged to speak with him at any time. He added that a personnel committee could be created to promote ongoing communication and transparency regarding these roles. Board member Murdoch said that she did not feel she had sufficient information to make an informed vote and suggested that more preparation prior to appointments would be beneficial. Legal Counsel Matt Turman clarified that such a committee could establish general rules and expectations, but board members cannot access confidential HR information from employee files. He noted that while the Mayor would still make the nominations, the committee could facilitate dialogue regarding rules, goals, and expectations for staff, providing a helpful way for the board to stay informed.

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Shields to approve the Mayor's appointment for City Administrator Annette Brower. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Garner, Robinson, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Murdoch, seconded by Garner to approve the Mayor's appointment of the City Clerk Paula Tarango. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Garner, Robinson, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Garner, seconded by Shields to approve the Mayor's appointment of City Treasurer Jean Klassen. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Garner, Shields, and Robinson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Garner, seconded by Shields to approve the Mayor's appointment of the Chief of Police Jose Ruiz. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Robinson, Garner, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Murdoch to approve the Mayor's appointment for Boards and Committees, Newspapers, Radio Stations, and Banks upon corrections and with the addition of KIMB Kimball. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Robinson, Garner, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Murdoch, seconded by Garner, to ratify the Kimball Police Department Active Police Officers for the 2026 year. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Garner, Robinson, Shields, and Murdoch. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Garner, seconded by Shields to ratify the Kimball Volunteer Fire Department active members for the year 2026. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Garner, Robinson, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Garner to approve the purchase of the in-car computers/MDT's for the police department fleet: *Purchase of equipment covered by approved grans. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Robinson, Shields, and Garner. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding selecting council members to various boards/committees for the 2026 year. The updates are as follows:

- Loan Advisory – Austin Garner will be removed
- Airport Authority Board – Austin Garner will be added
- Board of Adjustment – James Shields
- Board of Public Works – Austin Garner
- CRA – Austin Garner
- Loan Advisory – Greg Robinson
- Park and Rec – John Morrison and Greg Robinson is the back up
- Planning Commission – James Shields
- Board of Health – Austin Garner

Reports –

Mayor's Report – John Morrison – There were some minor errors on the agenda and just wanted to make sure we let the public know to avoid confusion.

City Administrator - Annette Brower- The installation of electricity at the Lighthouse Subdivision is ongoing. The Wastewater Treatment Plant project is halted until spring, and work at the Power Plant is also paused until approximately mid-summer. She noted that representatives from the State of Nebraska, including surveyors and hydrologists, will be in Kimball on December 18 to conduct additional studies on Janicek Dam. Approximately 13 individuals will meet at the Transit Building before receiving a briefing and then proceeding to conduct their work at the dam. The purpose of these studies is to evaluate the viability of the dam.

Public Comment –

No public comment

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, at 5:00pm.
There being no further business, motion by Murdoch, seconded by Garner, to adjourn the meeting at 5:53p.m. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Shields, Robinson, Garner, and Murdoch. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

John Morrison, Mayor	City Clerk