Kimball City Council
Regular Meeting
June 02, 2026

A City Council meeting was convened in open and public session at 5:00 p.m. on June 2, 2026, at the City Council Chambers, 223 S. Chestnut St. Council members present were, Jamie Murdoch, James Shields, Austin Garner, and Greg Robinson. Also, present was Mayor John Morrison, City Attorney Matt Turman, City Administrator Annette Brower, City Treasurer Jean Klassen, and City Clerk Paula Tarango. 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 called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. On roll call the following votes were recorded: Austin, Robinson, Morrison, Murdoch, and Shields. Absent: None.

Morrison acknowledge the Open Meetings Act.

Motion by Murdoch, seconded by Garner to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on May 19th, 2026. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Robinson, Garner, Murdoch, and Shields. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Morrison opened a public hearing at **5:02pm** to to receive public input regarding an application request to rezone from ½ C-2 General Commercial and ½ R-2 Medium to High Density Residential to All R-2 Medium to High Density Residential for property legally described as follows:

28-15-55 Lot 1 Block 1 Downey Subdivision
Parcel ID#530017334; 235 Kearney St, Kimball, NE 69145

No public comment.

Morrison closed the public hearing at **5:03pm**.

Motion by Robinson, seconded by Shields to approve the recommendation from the Planning Commission Board to approve the application request to rezone from ½ C-2 General Commercial and ½ R-2 Medium to High Density Residential to All R-2 Medium to High Density Residential for property legally described as follows:

28-15-55 Lot 1 Block 1 Downey Subdivision

Parcel ID#530017334; 235 Kearney St, Kimball, NE 69145

The following votes were recorded: Aye: Robinson, Garner, Shields, and Murdoch. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Morrison read Ordinance #852 out loud as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING CERTAIN PARCELS FROM ½ C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL AND ½ R-2 MEDIUM to HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL to R-2 MEDIUM to HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL FOR THE FULL PARCEL PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE AND PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM.

After further discussion, motion by Garner, seconded by Murdoch to approve the passage and adoption of Ordinance #852, and wave the three readings. Ord 852 **-AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING CERTAIN PARCELS FROM ½ C-2 GENERAL COMMERCIAL AND ½ R-2 MEDIUM to HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL to R-2 MEDIUM to HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL FOR THE FULL PARCEL PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE AND PUBLICATION IN PAMPHLET FORM.** The following votes were recorded: Aye: Robinson, Garner, Shields, and Murdoch. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motin carried.

Motion by Garner, seconded by Shields to approve the adoption of 2026 Kimball Local Emergency Operations Plan Resolution #2026-02 pending clarification from Region 21 and KCTS on changing/moving the ICC (Incident Command Center) The following votes were recorded: Aye: Robinson, Garner, Shields, and Murdoch. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Further discussion was held regarding the continuation of the LB840 Program. Board members participated by asking questions of legal counsel and providing input on the specific wording they would like included in the ordinance, resolution, and related documentation.

Legal counsel, Matt Turman, advised that a public hearing will need to be held during the July 7 City Council meeting to satisfy statutory requirements. This discussion served as an overall review of the proposed documents to ensure the language reflects the requests and intent of the City Council members prior to the public hearing.

Reports:

Mayor Morrison – It is June and summer has arrived, it is Frontier Finds weekend, hoping for a good turnout and we get to showcase the city of Kimball.

Board Member Greg Robinson reported that he attended the County Commissioners meeting, where they met with Air Force personnel to discuss county roads and the anticipated impact of the Sentinel Project on those roads. He noted that there is considerable concern regarding the potential effects on local infrastructure. This discussion marked the beginning of ongoing coordination efforts between the county and Air Force representatives. Preliminary plans include utilizing one-way traffic routes to help minimize congestion and reduce the overall impact on county roads. Mr. Robinson stated that all parties will continue working together to address concerns and develop effective traffic management solutions as the project moves forward.

Board member James Shields – Nothing to report currently.

Board Member Austin Garner reported that the Victory Garden project is underway and has proven to be a great addition to the Kimball community. He noted that the

project has received strong volunteer support and expressed hope that even more community members will become involved as the project continues.
Mr. Garner also reported on ongoing work with the Tree Board regarding tree grant processes, next steps, and any actions necessary to move the project forward. He clarified that there is no application process associated with the grant, contrary to some information that has been circulating. Decisions will be made in accordance with established protocols, with the Tree Board ensuring compliance with all applicable state requirements, city ordinances, and local policies. He emphasized the importance of maintaining a fair and transparent process so that there is no perception of favoritism or preference. Mr. Garner encouraged community members to stay informed and watch for additional information as it becomes available.

Board member Jamie Murdoch – None of the boards have met, nothing to report.

City Administrator – Annette Brower announced that Frontier Finds and the Kimball FM Downtown Takeover will be held this weekend. The event will feature food trucks and other activities. Second Street will be temporarily closed for the event, while Chestnut Street will remain open to traffic. Activities are expected to continue until 10:00 p.m.

An update was provided on several public works projects. The electric crew is currently working on multiple projects, including installation of lighting at the City Park, which is expected to be completed by tomorrow. Staff also repaired damage at Burg Street and Second Street caused by a boring company.

The City Administrator reported that a meeting with the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is scheduled for Thursday to discuss tornado siren replacement and next steps since we were awarded the grant.

The municipal pool is now open. Appreciation was expressed to Paula Tarango, the water department crew, and all staff members for their hard work in preparing the facility opening day. Plans are already underway for a special Fourth of July event at the pool.

On Wednesday at 9:00 a.m., representatives from Kansas State University Technical Assistance to Brownfields (KSU TAB) will be in Kimball to tour blighted and dilapidated properties throughout the community, including the site of the former wastewater treatment plant. The purpose of the tour is to identify potential redevelopment opportunities and available grant funding. It was noted that properties generally must be owned by the city to qualify for certain grant-funded demolition or redevelopment projects.

The City Administrator also provided an update on the underpass. While the city does not have direct authority over the structure, staff have been working with Kelly O'Brien regarding the graffiti issues. After several years of advocacy on behalf of the community, permission has been obtained to paint over the graffiti. Appreciation was expressed to Kelly O'Brien for her efforts and to Daniel Reader and the school for their assistance. The city is coordinating with Union Pacific Railroad and hopes to have the project completed prior to Farmers Day. The City Administrator expressed enthusiasm about improving the appearance of the underpass and completing the project in a manner that will benefit the community.

Public Comment – No public comment.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16th at 5:00pm. There being no further business, motion by Murdoch, seconded by Shields, to adjourn the meeting at 5:28p.m. The following votes were recorded: Aye: Murdoch, Shields, Garner, and Robinson. Nay: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

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John Morrison, Mayor City Clerk