Regular City Council Meeting
April 9th, 2025
6:30 p.m.

The City of Terrytown Council met on Thursday, April 9th, 2026, at 6:30 PM, for a regular meeting of the City Council at the Community Room in the Carpenter Center, 116 Terry Blvd in the City of Terrytown, Nebraska. Notice of said meeting was published in the Star-Herald according to Nebraska State Law and posted in the following three prominent places 89A Woodley Park Road, 116 Terry Blvd, and 120 Terry Blvd as outlined by ordinance. In the absence of Mayor Chris Perales, Council President, Tyler Feil called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council Members present in person were Brandon Ettleman, Mike Minzey, and Emily Norman. City Clerk, Jeni Matten was present and took minutes. Also present: Attorney - Libby Stobel, Utility Supervisor - Hugo Chairez, and City Engineer – Mike Olsen.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance. President Feil pointed out the location of the poster for the Open Meetings Act.

All correspondence was received and reviewed.

There was no discussion regarding the Special Meeting Minutes from March 9th, 2026. Minzey moved to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting held on March 9th, 2026. Ettleman seconded the motion. Aye's: Norman, Minzey, and Ettleman. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

Ettleman moved to approve the February 2026 claims report. Minzey seconded the motion. Aye's: Minzey, Ettleman, and Norman. Nay's: none. Motion carried. *available following the minutes

Minzey had a question on Page 1 the last item, paid to the Nebraska Department of Revenue – Penalty for $100.00. Mattern stated that she received what appeared as a "bill" from the NDR, so she paid it with a check, then received another one for a penalty of $100.00, when she contacted the NDR they stated that a municipality makes payment it is outlined by State Statute that the payment must be made online, so this was penalty for not doing so and paying with a check. Minzey stated that on page 5 the last address from the bottom was noted at 1 Stable Club Drive, this was a NPPD invoice. Mattern explained that NPPD gives their poles address names and pole numbers. She stated that you will notice on some of the billings it will show "Area lights" or "Terrytown", this is more defining for NPPD than it is descriptors for Terrytown. Norman moved to approve the March 2026 claims report. Ettleman seconded the motions. Aye': Ettleman, Norman, and Minzey. Aye's: none. Motion carried. *available following the minutes

Stobel explained that Allo is discontinuing their cable franchise, however, they desire to continue to offer internet and require a license agreement to continue to occupy the City's right of way. Allo agrees to pay at the same 1.5 % rate as the existing cable franchise should anyone in Terrytown utilize Allo's internet services. Norman moved to approve the Non-Exclusive Public Row License Agreement with Allo Twin Cities. Minzey seconded the motion. Aye's: Norman, Minzey, and Ettleman. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

Norman moved to postpone approval of the Agreement with City of Gering for Mosquito Spraying 2026 as Mayor Perales would like input on the agreement. Minzey seconded the motion. Ayes: Minzey, Ettleman, and Norman. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

Mattern explained that there was an agreement approved by the Council, however, the prior director of the Humane Society did not sign it as she did not feel it necessary the agreement needed signed as automatic renewal was in place. Mattern communicated with Catie Baird, (new) Director for Panhandle Humane Society, agreement was made to no longer have the auto renewal as these documents need reviewed regularly. Otherwise, there were no additional changes to the agreement. Minzey asked about paragraph 4 on page 1, it only says 2026 with no date. Mattern will revise to reflect April 1, 2026. Ettleman moved to approve the 2026 Agreement with Panhandle Humane Society. Norman seconded the motion. Aye's: Ettleman, Minzey, and Norman. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

Council received the revenue and expense reports.

Council received the communications reports. Chief Krissa Brass reported that for the first quarter of 2026 there were 146 calls for Terrytown: less 911 hang ups, most calls were assist the public and suspicious circumstances. There is one Flock Hit ALPR (Automatic License Plate Reader) in Terrytown on Stable Club and where it has had substantial hits. There were 22 traffic stops. Working with Mattern for a Cops and Bobbers event in May. Game and Parks will be providing a trailer with fishing equipment. Brass has spoken to the Scotts Bluff County Sheriffs Department, Nebraska State Patrol, and Gering Police Department, all will be participating in the event.

Safety Committee member Anne Reker submitted her resignation from the Safety Committee. Mattern noted that she didn't feel she was able to give time and attention necessary now. Stobel stated that there has to be an equal number of "employer" to "employee" ratio. Norman currently serves on the committee, Mattern appointed Chairez.

Chairez reported that the Housing Authority sprinkler meters have all been installed and are running. He said there are a couple of apartments that are still not working, they are working on them as they have time, but they are very dirty.

Chairez pointed out to the Council that between Hennings Construction and Budge-it plumbing there is only about $300 difference in the cost of the installation of the meters at the parks. He would prefer Hennings Construction do the work as they are familiar with the system and can get the job done timelier. Ettleman moved to approve the Hennings Construction bid for meter installation at the parks, due to Hennings knowing the Terrytown meter system and needing them installed in a timely manner. Norman seconded the motion. Aye's: Minzey, Norman, and Ettleman. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the Utility Assistant/Seasonal Worker. Feil asked when Chairez thinks they could use the person. Chairez said there is time as nothing is growing yet. Norman asked if this is a temporary or permanent position. Chairez noted that at this point would like to have seasonal with potential for being full-time. Feil asked if the person would start May 1st, Chairez let them know that would be a good time. Wage discussion led to starting will be $17/hr. Chairez recommended 32 hours a week should be enough for the season. Mattern was directed to post the position on Facebook, wehavejobs.com, and Indeed. Interview committee will consist of Chairez, Robert Blanco, and Mayor Chris Perales.

Mattern reported that the AARP Grant has not made decision on the application for Bus Canopies, that should happen in May. Grant applications have not been started for Park Rehabs, but there are many opportunities for grants. Plans are to begin applying next week.

Urban and Community Forestry Grant was applied for. Mattern explained that Reker spoke with the UNL Extension Center and they made her aware of a grant that is a tree for tree grant. We applied for about 40 trees to be removed that are dead or diseased and will be replaced in an adjacent location. This will be a 2 year project and we are required to maintain them for minimum of 3 years following the installation. The grant should be awarded Mid-May.

Mattern updated the council on the ACE Project of the year award. Mattern applied for the award for the Mural project at Hascall park. Terrytown received the award on behalf of Cities of the Second Class. There was a trophy received and $200 to go into the community betterment fund from ACE.

Council discussed the drawings done by Michael Marquez for the crosswalk project. Mattern provided the drawings that "won" the Facebook polls. Chairez voiced concerns about the crosswalks needing to be white. Mattern explained that this is an approved grant for crosswalks. Chairez referred to Olsen, Olsen will refer the question to the Street Superintendent when he returns to his office. Norman and Feil expressed concern about the Flag drawing. Norman is uncomfortable driving over the American flag. Council decided to go with option 2 instead of the Flag drawing. Norman asked Mattern if she remembers discussion at the March Special Meeting regarding how much the city was going to pay Marquez for the drawings and stenciling the outlines at the crosswalks. Mattern recalls $3,000. Norman moved to approve payment in the amount of $3,000 to Michael Marquez for drawing and stenciling the crosswalks. Minzey seconded the motion. Aye's: Ettleman, Minzey, and Norman. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

The city had been working with Panhandle Diesel regarding purchase and installation of the approved Salt/Sander for the new pickup. There was discussion regarding the wrong size salt/sander being purchased as the one that was attempted to be installed was too large for the pickup bed. Chairez declined offers to "make it work" by leaving the tailgate down as this would be hard on the pickup. The city received an invoice for items related to the salt/sander including but not limited to freight to receive and send back and a re-stocking fee that were not disclosed at the time of approval. Council directed Mattern to draft an email agreeing to pay for work performed on behalf of the City and denying responsibility for other charges with Stobel proofing prior to sending it.

Norman requested to begin discussions as to household carts for recycling. Chairez pointed out that it has been tried in the past to have recycling trucks and it doesn't work. Norman said she understands that the single stream trailer doesn't work but would like to investigate individual containers. Mattern stated she has spoken to Steve Mount, Director of Environmental Services, he stated that he budgets $45,000 per year to "get rid of" recycle. He said he's not sure the expense is worth it. Mattern has had conversation with Waste Connections in the past and they were in the same lines as City of Gering but would reach out to Waste Connections to see if options have changed.

Council reviewed options with the Speed Sign replacement that was broken due to high winds. Radar Sign is the lowest bid and has the option of data collection. Norman moved to approve purchase of the Speed Sign from Radar Sign with data collection. Minzey seconded the motion. Aye's: Norman, Ettleman, and Minzey. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

Hennings Construction updated their proposal for shop floor drain that was priorly approved. Prior proposal was $8,732.80 current proposal is $10,979.20, the update was due to the increased cost of concrete. Norman moved to approve the new proposal from Hennings Construction for the shop floor drain. Ettleman seconded the motion. Aye's: Ettleman, Minzey, and Norman. Nay's: none. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding 2026 street project. Olsen discussed the Martha/Stable Club area. Olsen stated it is written to reconstruct those with concrete which is the best material to use in that area. Project 37 and Project 51 from the 1 – 6 year street plan would be prepared to be put out for bid with all necessary updated paperwork sent to the state. More than likely this project would be late in the year or possibly into 2027.

At 7:52 Norman moved to adjourn. Ettleman seconded the motion. Aye's: Minzey, Ettleman, and Norman.

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Mayor, Chris Perales

Attest

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City Clerk, Jeni Mattern