

**Broken Bow City Council**  
**Meeting Minutes April 9th, 2024**

The Broken Bow City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, in the Broken Bow Municipal Auditorium. Notice of the meeting was given in advance as required by Nebraska statutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Rod Sonnichsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, with the following Councilmembers present: Russ Smith, Luke Wassom, and Paul Holland. Absent: Chris Myers. Mayor Sonnichsen announced the availability of the open meetings law, followed by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Sonnichsen read the format for submitting requests for future agenda items.

Moved by Wassom, seconded by Smith to approve the consent agenda for April 9, 2024. Said motion includes approval of the Minutes of the March 26, 2024, Council Meeting, Bills to Date, and Approval of the Broken Bow Volunteer Fire Department Official Roster. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Aflac \$477.41, \$157.00, \$67.02, Bound Tree Medical \$2,099.35, Broken Bow Ambulance Service \$609.48, Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce \$2,755.00, Broken Bow Postmaster \$340.00, Broken Bow Rural Fire Board \$1,757.58, Card Services 0583 \$1,981.11, Card Services 0609 \$1,154.73, Century Link \$309.72, City Flex Benefit Plan \$225.00, City of Broken Bow - Health Insurance \$41,24.71, City of Broken Bow Pension Fund \$2,278.07, \$9,542.84, \$1,036.16, Colonial Insurance \$389.90, \$323.28, \$540.56, Consolidated Management Co. \$243.35, Custer County Chief \$159.51, \$593.82, Custer Public Power \$52.72, EFTPS Online Payment \$2,837.16, \$6,680.06, \$1,2130.78, EZ IT Solutions \$2,891.00, Eakes Office Products \$167.13, \$14.44, Evans Feed Co. \$53.80, Family Heritage \$25.50, Galloway Financial Advisors, Inc. \$5,500.00, Great Plains Communications \$19.09, Hometown Leasing \$596.79, JEO \$2,750.00, Jacob Holcomb \$233.47, Jennifer Waterhouse \$243.06, Kirkpatrick Cleaning Solutions \$83.18, \$185.00, La Quinta \$2,344.00, MacQueen Equipment \$228.95, Mid Plains Community College \$1,059.93, Nebraska Child Support Payment Center \$899.09, Quill Corporation \$199.56, RT Ace, LLC \$43.97, S&L Sanitary Service \$54.30, Sandhills Custom Creations \$175.00, Sara J. Hulinsky \$837.00, Schaper and White Law Firm \$3,000.00, State Income Tax WH NE Online Payment \$3,362.62, Statewide Collection LLC \$2.77, TX Child Support SDU \$161.54, Tracker Systems \$16.99, Universal Insurance \$7.00, V-Bar Sales & Service \$9.66, Verizon Wireless \$75.79, \$248.91, \$320.80, Bi-Weekly Payroll \$70,672.98, Total \$149,349.64

Moved by Smith, seconded by Holland, to excuse the absence of councilmember Myers. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Under new business, moved by Smith, seconded by Wassom to approve the re-appointment of Jeff Oeltjen to the Broken Bow Park Board for a term ending February 2027. Roll Call Vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Holland to approve the re-appointment of Betsy Smith to the Broken Bow Library Board for a term ending February 2028. Roll Call Vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Wassom to open a public hearing at 6:03 pm regarding Ordinance 1279, Handicap Parking stalls. Roll Call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried. Discussion was held. Dwain Bryner, Custer County Supervisor reported on the redesign of the courthouse west parking lot due to the addition of a voter drop box, and the start of the courthouse stair replacement project within the next couple of weeks. Mr. Bryner explained that having a handicap parking spot on each side of the west parking lot allows for flexibility for handicapped drivers with and without wheelchairs and addresses accessibility issues that have been

identified while the front stairs are being replaced. Moved by Holland, seconded by Wassom to close public hearing at 6:07 pm. Roll Call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

After discussing the matter, Councilmember Smith introduced Ordinance No. 1279 entitled “AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PLACING OF TWO DESIGNATED “HANDICAP PARKING” SPACES, IN THE CITY OF BROKEN BOW, CUSTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE.” and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Councilmember Wassom seconded the motion. The Mayor stated the motion and instructed the Clerk to call the roll. The Clerk called the roll, and the following was the vote: Ayes: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for the consideration of said Ordinance. Said Ordinance was then read by title and thereafter Councilmember Smith moved for final passage of the Ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Wassom. The Mayor asked the question, “Shall Ordinance No. 1279 be passed and adopted?” Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Ayes: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried. The passage and adoption of said Ordinance having been concurred by a majority of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the Ordinance adopted.

Discussion was held on potentially approving Resolution 2024-02, sale of Surplus Real Property valued at over \$5,000 located at LOTS FIVE (5) AND SIX (6), BLOCK TWELVE (12), J.P. GANDY’S ADDITION TO BROKEN BOW, CUSTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA. At the end of discussion, moved by Holland, seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2024-02 with a minimum bid of \$8,000. Sealed bids must be submitted to the City Clerk by 5:00 pm May 10, 2024. The bids will be opened at the City Council meeting that will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. Roll Call Vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.


Moved by Holland, seconded by Smith to open a public hearing at 6:11 pm regarding Ordinance 1280, Ambulance Service Fees. Roll Call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried. Discussion was held. Administrator Schmidt explained that as Broken Bow pursues ALS support services, with it comes significant costs and fees and they don’t want those costs to be a burden on the taxpayer. He explained that the fees have not been updated for several years and that the fees of comparable towns were researched when coming up with the new fee schedule. Overall, they feel that the new fees are either right in line with those of comparable cities or on the low end. He further stated that they are also in line with Medicare and insurance reimbursements. Moved by Holland, seconded by Wassom to close public hearing at 6:16 pm. Roll Call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried.

After discussing the matter, Councilmember Smith introduced Ordinance No. 1280 entitled “AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BROKEN BOW, NEBRASKA AMENDING THE AMBULANCE SERVICE FEES, REPEALING THE SECTIONS OF ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE, AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.” and moved that the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days be suspended. Councilmember Holland seconded the motion. The Mayor stated the motion and instructed the Clerk to call the roll. The Clerk called the roll, and the following was the vote: Ayes: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried. The motion to suspend the rules was adopted by three-fourths of the Council and the statutory rule was declared suspended for the consideration of said Ordinance. Said Ordinance was then read by title and thereafter Councilmember Smith moved for final passage of the Ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilmember Holland. The Mayor asked the question, “Shall Ordinance No. 1280 be passed and adopted?” Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Ayes: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion carried. The passage and adoption of said Ordinance having been concurred by a majority of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the Ordinance adopted.

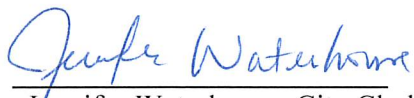


In the Mayor and Council Comments, Administrator Schmidt discussed the City Wide Clean Up that will be taking place on May 11<sup>th</sup>. He explained that the event went well last spring and that the City is planning the same event this year with free iron and trash roll offs at Tomahawk Park. He stated that no tires, paint, or motor oil will be accepted during the event but that the tree dump will be free on both May 11<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup>. Chief Scott explained there will be increased enforcement for nuisance and municipal code violations by the police department prior to the event and that officers will be handing out fliers and encouraging the public to take advantage of this free event. Mayor Sonnichsen also fielded questions about tires and chemicals and explained that they cannot be accepted at this clean up because of the high cost and that they are usually paid for through grant funding. He stated that this is something that we can look into over the next year. Councilmember Holland also thanked the Street and Parks departments for all the work they did updating the new picnic shelter.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Wassom, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 6:22 PM. Roll call vote: Voting aye: Smith, Wassom, and Holland. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

  
Rodney W. Sonnichsen, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Jennifer Waterhouse, City Clerk

