

The Hartington City Council met for their regular meeting on March 24th, 2025 at City Hall beginning at 5:00 P.M. Notice of time and place of the meeting was given in advance notice by posting. Notice of time and place of the meeting was communicated in the advanced notice to the Mayor and Council.

Present were Mayor Becker; Councilman Christensen, Kathol, and Sudbeck; City Clerk-Treasurer Bencoter, Deputy Clerk Schulte, and Legal Counsel Nikki Brandt. Councilman Bartling was absent.

Mayor Becker called the meeting to order at 5:02 P.M., followed by all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 24th, 2025 meeting and the February 2025 Treasurer's report was made by Councilman Christensen and seconded by Councilman Kathol. A roll call vote was taken. Christensen – yes, Kathol – yes, Sudbeck - yes. Motion carried.

Brittney Koenig with NPPD met with Council for the NPPD annual Retail Update. She stated the current lease agreement with NPPD and the City is 12% and in 2024, NPPD collected and remitted \$269,003.74 in lease payments and \$24,591.63 in city sales tax in Hartington. NPPD is deploying and utilizing technology to create efficiency through LED lighting, advanced metering and data analytics. In 2024, \$9,589.80 in incentives were received by customers in Hartington. She stated NPPD follows the 3 R's of Rate Stability, Reliability, and Relationships; serves 93,000 customers in 84 counties in Nebraska. They have a mobile app to better serve their customer's needs. The average kilowatt cost per hour for homeowners in the State of Nebraska is \$0.1124 and NPPD is below that average at \$0.1098 per kilowatt hour. For 2014-2024, NPPD did not raise their rates, but due to increasing input costs they did increase rates by 2% for 2025 which would be an increase of \$3.25 per month for an average residential retail customer who uses 1,000 kWh of electricity a month.

Building Inspector, LeRoy Hansen, introduced the sign permit for The Residency. They have a new sign out front of the building located at 403 S Robinson Ave. A motion to approve the sign permit for The Residency was made by Councilman Christensen and seconded by Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Christensen – yes, Kathol – yes, Sudbeck - yes. Motion carried.

Building Inspector, LeRoy Hansen introduced the building permits for Matt and Kathie Dresden for new home construction and David Newsam for new shop. A motion to approve the building permits for Matt and Kathie Dresden and David Newsam was made by Councilman Christensen and seconded by Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Christensen – yes, Kathol – yes, Sudbeck - yes. Motion carried.

The February 2025 Cedar County Sheriff's Report was reviewed. There were 401 hours patrolled. School traffic was 2 ½ hours. Calls of service were 1 EMS Assist, 2 Welfare Checks, 1 Disturbance, 1 Recover Stolen Vehicle, 3 Traffic Controls, 1 Accident. Traffic stops were 0 Verbal Warning, 0 Written Warning, and 0 Citations. 3 Arrests was made.

Department Reports:

Park – Councilman Kathol: They are going to start taking bids for the siding of the Shelter House and he will get the information to Clerk Bencoter to post to the public. Councilman Sudbeck stated the water is being turned on in the parks this week.

Pool – Councilman Bartling: absent. Councilman Sudbeck stated the bathhouse will be stained and the doors painted before the pool opens.

Complex/Auditorium – Councilman Sudbeck: The outlets in the field have to be replaced each year due to damage from the weather and those have been replaced before track. The patching of the track is done. The Auditorium has been closed the last 3 weeks for the play and will reopen April 8th after the play.

Fire/Ambulance – Councilman Christensen: none.

General – Mayor Becker: none.

Legal Counsel Nikki Brandt: none.

Clerk Bencoter: none.

Deputy Clerk Schulte: none.

Public Comments: none.

The following bills were presented for payments:

General: CRA Community Redevelopment Authority 2,009.87, FP Finance Program 115.98, Hartelco 305.27, Hartington Chamber of Commerce 200.00, Hartington Shopper 178.20, Kennedy, Pier, Loftus, Reynolds & Brandt 567.50, Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District 45.00, Northeast Nebraska News Company 455.17, SHIFTR 15.30.

Streets: A & R Construction Co. 21,563.92, Black Hills Energy 1,779.61, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 1,774.68, Bank of Hartington 4,973.78, Bomgaars 221.30, Colonial Life 27.22, D & J Variety 89.98, Farmers Union Coop Gas & Oil 1,533.77, Folkers Brothers Garage 766.62, Franklin Templeton Investor Services, LLC 408.80, Grossenburg Implement 23,281.75, Hartington Auto & Truck Parts, Inc. 106.32, Leise Concrete 12,470.00, Mutual of Omaha 14.40, Nebraska Public Power District 3,720.14, Peitz Service 938.39, U. S. Cellular 172.63.

Water: Bomgaars 24.57, Cedar-Knox Public Power District 379.94, Hartington Shopper 88.70, Nebraska Public Power District 413.99, Nebraska Public Health Environment Laboratory 474.00, N. Kusel 100.00, One Call Concepts, Inc. 2.03, Peitz Service 47.42, USA Blue Book 98.67.

Sewer: Black Hills Energy 191.21, Bomgaars 78.51, Hartelco 66.60, Hartington Auto & Truck Parts, Inc. 15.58, Hartington Shopper 88.70, Menards, Inc. 335.25, Midwest Laboratories, Inc. 444.65, Nebraska Public Power District 3,417.92, One Call Concepts, Inc. 2.03.

Sanitation: Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 887.34, Bank of Hartington 83.33, Bomgaars 21.22, Colonial Life 129.66, Farmers Union Coop Gas & Oil 648.72, Franklin Templeton Investor Services, LLC 983.97, E. Hames 11.96, Hartington Shopper 88.70, M. Hansen 19.16, NP Mart 24 272.56, N. Kusel 70.00, L.P. Gill, Inc. 7,396.92, Mutual of Omaha 7.20, U.S. Cellular 83.61.

Fire: Black Hills Energy 332.52, D & J Variety 35.48, Dearborn National Life Insurance Co. 123.84, Danko Emergency Equipment Company 893.00, Dixie Fischer 75.00, Farmers Union Coop Gas & Oil 158.58, Hartelco 46.20, Hartington Shopper 295.00, Nebraska Public Power District 143.47, Peitz Service 14.75, Rural Fire Board 6,006.25, Wiechelman's Repair Shop 484.60, X-Pert Lawn and Landscaping 367.50, Yankton Janitorial Supply, Inc. 98.97.

Police: Cedar County Sheriff 13,941.22.

Ambulance: Avera Sacred Heart Hospital 118.00, Black Hills Energy 332.52, Bound Tree Medical, LLC 457.64, Burnell's Foodtown 52.04, D & J Variety 40.45, Dixie Fischer 75.00, Farmers Union Coop Gas & Oil 126.30, Hartelco 46.19, Hiway 84 Auto & RV Wash 29.75, Jerry's Service 113.68, K. Fischer 1,624.00, Matheson Tri-Gas Inc. 76.51, Nebraska Public Power District 110.84, Tri-State Communications, Inc. 50.00, U.S. Cellular 140.36, X-Pert Lawn and Landscaping 367.50, Yankton Janitorial Supply, Inc. 98.98.

Cemetery: Cedar Knox Rural Water 57.60.

Recreation: Nebraska Public Power District 65.26.

Pool: Black Hills Energy 45.43, Hartington Shopper 89.50, K. Rutar 275.00, Nebraska Public Power District 48.42, Northeast Nebraska News Company 73.04.

Parks: Bomgaars 31.68, Nebraska Public Power District 296.01, Yankton Janitorial Supply, Inc. 242.70.

Complex: Fischer Tracks 140.00, Menards, Inc. 69.70, Nebraska Public Power District 81.05, Yankton Janitorial Supply, Inc. 242.70.

Library: 605 Magic Art Bus 100.00, Access Elevator & Lifts, Inc. 500.00, Black Hills Energy 683.82, Blue Cross/Blue Shield 2,573.29, Bank of Hartington 333.34, Cedar County Historical Museum 2,000.00, D & J Variety 24.99, Franklin Templeton Services, LLC 446.76, Hartelco 161.78, Hometown Leasing 48.90, Ingram Library Services 486.26, K.

Emanuel 57.40, Mutual of Omaha 14.40, Nebraska Public Power District 152.85, Premier Lawn & Landscaping 185.00, Quill Corporation 78.53.

City Hall: Black Hills Energy 57.14, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Nebraska 3,638.10, Bank of Hartington 166.67, Colonial Life 140.18, D & J Variety 127.39, Dixie Fischer 100.00, Eakes Office Solutions 378.57, Floral Designs 58.85, Franklin Templeton Investor Services, LLC 521.64, Hartington Ace Hardware 30.09, Hometown Leasing 62.05, Mutual of Omaha 14.40, Nebraska Public Power District 565.08, Premier Lawn & Landscaping 470.00.

Auditorium: Appera 156.12, Art Kathol Appliance, Inc. 155.00, Black Hills Energy 1,212.87, Bomgaars 5.99, G. Dickes 91.29, Nebraska Public Power District 101.26, X-Pert Lawn and Landscaping 217.50.

Economic Development: Eakes Office Solutions 96.96, Franklin Templeton Investor Services, Inc. 264.60, Hartelco 50.17, Hometown Leasing 31.02, Mutual of Omaha 7.20.

Transfer Station: Bomgaars 51.80, Carhart Lumber Co. 187.94, Cedar-Knox Public Power District 1,292.19, Christensen Well & Irrigation Inc. 1,085.00, D & J Variety 5.49, Deere Credit, Inc. 730.02, Hartelco 47.43, Jerry's Service 419.15, Mayer Sign, Inc. 297.00, Menards 170.00, Overhead Door Company 61.00, Pomp's Tire Service Inc. 94.00.

Vets Memorial: Nebraska Public Power District 58.70, X-Pert Lawn and Landscaping 217.50.

City Shop: Carroll Construction Supply 358.18, League Association of Risk Management 399.07, Nebraska Public Power District 149.24, Webstaurant Store 3,917.32.

February 2025 Payroll: \$47,908.10

A motion to pay the bills except for check # 65263 to Christensen Well and Irrigation, Inc. was made by Councilman Christensen and seconded by Councilman Sudbeck. A roll call vote was taken. Christensen – yes, Kathol – yes, Sudbeck - yes. Motion carried.

A motion to pay check # 65263 to Christensen Well and Irrigation, Inc. was made by Councilman Sudbeck and seconded by Councilman Kathol. A roll call vote was taken. Christensen – abstained, Kathol – yes, Sudbeck – yes, Becker - yes. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Christensen and seconded by Councilman Kathol. A roll call vote was taken. Christensen – yes, Kathol – yes, Sudbeck - yes. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is April 14th, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittni Bencoter
City Clerk-Treasurer