

Roll Call: Aye: Andersen, Graves, Klein, Oleksy, Shepherd
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Renaë Noble and Dallas Hutchings represented Chadron's Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). Noble read the proclamation for FBLA Week while Mayor George Klein proclaimed February 8-14, 2026 as FBLA Week.

A public hearing to consider an application submitted by the Chadron Community Foundation, Inc. for LB840 economic development funds was opened at 6:09 PM. Chadron Community Foundation Inc. is applying for a grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 to join other Nebraska Panhandle communities in the 6 Regions One Nebraska initiative to hire champions (coaches) to help interested parties in starting up a new in-home child care business. Deb Cottier was not present but sent an email supporting the application. She stated the funds will be used to help the creation of a program to assist local child care businesses in the area, creating jobs and additional capacity for child care slots in our community. Councilmembers Oleksy and Shepherd agreed that there is a need for more child care in our community. The hearing closed at 6:15 PM.

Councilmember Shepherd introduced Resolution 2026-12, To Approve the Application Submitted by the Chadron Community Foundation, Inc. for LB840 Economic Development Funds. Seconded by Councilmember Oleksy.

The resolution states WHEREAS, the City Council approved the Chadron Economic Development Plan on June 3, 2013, effective October 1, 2014; and WHEREAS, the Chadron Economic Development Plan's general intent and proposed goals are to provide primary jobs to the citizens of Chadron by encouraging and assisting local endeavors to expand new employment opportunities, increase capital investment levels and retain established businesses and investments; and WHEREAS, Section 12 "Amendment" allows for the amending of the plan after notice and public hearing; and WHEREAS, a grant application in the amount of \$10,000.00 has been reviewed and approved by the Citizen Advisory Review Committee which application was submitted by the Chadron Community Foundation, Inc. for LB840 Economic Development Funds to join other Nebraska Panhandle communities in the 6 Regions One Nebraska initiative to hire champions (coaches) to help interested parties in starting up a new in-home child care business; and WHEREAS, a public hearing before the City Council was set for February 2, 2026, at 6:00 o'clock P.M. or as soon thereafter as could be heard, and notice of said hearing was given by publication in the Chadron Record. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHADRON, NEBRASKA: 1. The City Council finds and determines that a public hearing has been held on the application by the Chadron Community Foundation, Inc. for LB840 Economic Development Funds to join other Nebraska Panhandle communities in the 6 Regions One Nebraska initiative to hire champions (coaches) to help interested parties in starting up a new in-home child care business; that all parties in interest and citizens which have appeared have had an opportunity to be heard, and written protests have been received and filed against such change pursuant to Section 19-905 R. R. S. 1943. 2. That the grant application of Citizen Advisory Review Committee which application was submitted by the Chadron Community Foundation, Inc. for LB840 Economic Development Funds to join other Nebraska Panhandle communities in the 6 Regions One Nebraska initiative to hire champions (coaches) to help interested parties in starting up a new in-home child care business is hereby approved in an amount of \$10,000.00.

Roll Call: Aye: Andersen, Graves, Klein, Oleksy, Shepherd
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Councilmember Graves introduced Resolution 2026-13, To Approve the Amended Federal Transit Administration Title VI Program for the City of Chadron Public Transit Program. Seconded by Councilmember Shepherd.

Autumn Calkins, Human Resource Officer, stated that the Department of Transportation distributed a survey and, based on the responses received, developed information to amend the Federal Transit Administration Title VI Program for the City of Chadron Public Transit Program.

The resolution states BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHADRON, NEBRASKA: WHEREAS, Certain transportation programs in the City of Chadron have been designated as being eligible for federal funds by the Federal Highway Administration in compliance with federal laws pertaining thereto; and WHEREAS, The City of Chadron desires to continue to participate in Federal Aid transportation programs; and WHEREAS, The City of Chadron as a sub-recipient of said Federal-Aid funding is charged with the responsibility of expending said funds in accordance with Federal and State law, the rules and regulations of the Federal Highway Administration, the requirements of the Local Public Agency (LPA) Guidelines Manual of the Nebraska Department of Roads and the Title VI – Civil Rights Policy of the City of Chadron; and WHEREAS, the City of Chadron understands that the failure to meet all requirements for federal funding could lead to a project(s) being declared ineligible for federal funds, which could result in the City of Chadron being required to repay some or all of the federal funds expended for a project(s); and WHEREAS, the City Council adopted the amended Title VI Non-Discrimination Plan for the Public Transit Program by Resolution No. 2023-26 on March 6, 2023; and WHEREAS, the document title has been changed to Federal Transit Administration Title VI Program; and WHEREAS, the City Council has been informed that the Federal Transit Administration Title VI Program has been revised, updated, and is ready for the Council’s consideration. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHADRON, NEBRASKA: The City Council of the City of Chadron having been fully advised does hereby accept and approve the amended Federal Transit Administration Title VI Program for the City of Chadron Public Transit Program.

Roll Call: Aye: Andersen, Graves, Klein, Oleksy, Shepherd
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Councilmember Shepherd Resolution 2026-14, To Approve an Application of Fur Trade Days, Inc. for ACE/KENO Community Betterment Grant Funds. Seconded by Councilmember Andersen.

This year, \$18,500.00 was budgeted for ACE/KENO grant applications. Councilmember Oleksy noted that this year marks Fur Trade Days, Inc.’s 50th anniversary. The funds being requested will be used to help cover expenses associated with hosting Fur Trade Days that are not covered by supporting businesses or donations.

The resolution states BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHADRON, NEBRASKA: WHEREAS: On February 19, 2019, the City Council approved Grant Administration Procedures for City of Chadron Community Betterment Grants and approved revenues generated from the KENO Lottery and the Public Alliance for Community Energy (ACE) to be used as the funding sources for eligible projects that are approved for funding; and WHEREAS: The Council authorized Notice of Funding in the total amount of \$18,500.00 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year; and WHEREAS: The Community Development Citizen Advisory Review Committee has reviewed the applications that were received for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and have made their recommendation for award of funding to the City Council; and WHEREAS: The application of Fur Trade Days, Inc. has been received for assistance pursuant to the City of Chadron Community Betterment Grants Program, and the Community Development Citizen Advisory Review Committee has reviewed the application and recommended its approval of \$5,000.00, which funds will be used to help cover the expenses associated with hosting the Fur Trade Days community event, held annually on the second weekend of July. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHADRON, NEBRASKA: That the application of Fur Trade Days, Inc. for assistance from the City of Chadron Community Betterment Grants Program is hereby approved in an amount of \$5,000.00, which funds will be used to help cover the expenses associated with hosting the Fur Trade Days community event, held annually on the second weekend of July.

Roll Call: Aye: Andersen, Graves, Klein, Oleksy, Shepherd
 Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Councilmember Andersen introduced Resolution 2026-15, To Approve an Application of Chadron Community Hospital dba Western Community Health Resources for ACE/KENO Community Betterment Grant Funds. Seconded by Councilmember Oleksy.

Mayor Klein stated Western Community Health Resources (WCHR) is applying for a grant of \$8,907.96 to be used for purchasing supplies for the Community Essentials Pantry in Chadron, which provides hygiene and cleaning products for families who are struggling to make ends meet.

The resolution states BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHADRON, NEBRASKA: WHEREAS: On February 19, 2019, the City Council approved Grant Administration Procedures for City of Chadron Community Betterment Grants and approved revenues generated from the KENO Lottery and the Public Alliance for Community Energy (ACE) to be used as the funding sources for eligible projects that are approved for funding; and WHEREAS: The Council authorized Notice of Funding in the total amount of \$18,500.00 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year; and WHEREAS: The Community Development Citizen Advisory Review Committee has reviewed the applications that were received for the 2025-2026 fiscal year and have made their recommendation for award of funding to the City Council; and WHEREAS: The application of Chadron Community Hospital dba Western Community Health Resources has been received for assistance in the amount of \$8,907.96 pursuant to the City of Chadron Community Betterment Grants Program, and the Community Development Citizen Advisory Review Committee has reviewed the application and recommended its approval of \$8,907.96, which funds will be used to purchase pantry supplies for the Community Essentials Pantry in Chadron. The pantry provides hygiene and cleaning products for families who are struggling to make ends meet. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY

Roll Call: Aye: Andersen, Graves, Klein, Oleksy, Shepherd
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

The Council discussed continuing the sidewalk improvement grant program. Several inquiries have been received regarding whether the City will continue offering the program. The consensus of the Council was that the grant program is beneficial in promoting sidewalk repairs and the installation of new sidewalks. It was also suggested that the program be expanded to include rental properties, which may be considered next year.

Councilmember Shepherd made a motion to continue the sidewalk improvement grant program with the same criteria and funding amount of \$30,000.00 for 2026. Seconded by Councilmember Andersen.

Roll Call: Aye: Andersen, Graves, Klein, Oleksy, Shepherd
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

The Council considered Ordinance No. 1444 on its first reading:

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 16: "Traffic Regulations", Article 1. "Enforcement" of the Municipal Code of the City of Chadron, Nebraska, to repeal Section 16-106 "Garage Owner; Report Damaged Vehicles", to renumber Section 16-107 to 16-106 "Truck Routes", to renumber and amend Section 16-108 to 16-107 "Official Emergency Vehicles; Exempt", to renumber and amend Section 16-109 to 16-108 "Emergency Vehicle; Right-of-Way For", to renumber and amend Section 16-110 to 16-109 "Emergency Vehicle; Government Vehicles", to renumber Section 16-111 to 16-110 "Emergency Regulations"; Article 2. "Operation" of the Municipal Code of the City of Chadron, Nebraska, to amend Section 16-204 "Operator's Duty; Accident", to amend Section 16-207 "Muffler", to amend Section 16-209 "Operation; Required Equipment"; Article 3. "Parking" of the Municipal Code of the City of Chadron, Nebraska, to enact Section 16-334 "Handicapped or Disabled Parking", to renumber Section 16-336 to 16-335 "Violation; Penalty"; Article 4. "Rules of the Road" of the Municipal Code of the City of Chadron, Nebraska to amend Section 16-408 "Slow Moving Vehicles; Operation, Passing, and Meeting", to amend Section 16-419 "All-Terrain and Utility Type Vehicles", to enact Section 16-420 "Golf Cars and Low-Speed Vehicles"; Article 7. "Bicycles" of the Municipal Code of the City of Chadron, Nebraska to repeal Section 16-701 "License Required", to renumber Section 16-702 to 16-701 "License Issued; Inspection, Fee", to renumber Section 16-703 to 16-702 "Traffic Regulations Apply", to renumber Section 16-704 to 16-703 "Parental Duties; Child Less Than 16"; to renumber Section 16-705 to 16-704 "Riding Regulations" and to repeal Subsection 12 and 13 of "Riding Regulations", to renumber Section 16-706 to 16-705 "Violation; Penalty; Article 8. "Skateboards, Roller Skates, and Scooters" to repeal Section 16-802 "Prohibition of Use on Sidewalks Within Certain Areas", to renumber Section 16-803 to 16-802 "Violation; Penalty"; to repeal all Ordinances and parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith; to provide for publication in pamphlet form; and prescribing the time when this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect.

Information was provided to the City Council regarding a proposed ordinance addressing several key topics, including the addition of golf carts and slow-moving vehicles; prohibiting the use of ATVs, UTVs, golf carts, and slow-moving vehicles on Highways 385 and 20, except for snow

removal purposes; repealing code sections that prohibit bicycle riding on downtown sidewalks; and updating language to align with current state statutes.

The second reading of Ordinance No. 1444 will be held at the February 16, 2026 City Council Meeting.

Councilmember Klein made a motion to approve the following list of claims as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Oleksy.

NOTE

**Denotes Check Issued

ACH- Converted To ACH

A/P - A/P Automation

Funds: 01 - General (Includes Admin, Airport, City Council, Zoning, PD & Comm., Parks, Library, FD)

28 - Ambulance

36 - Transit

61 - Streets

81 - Water

83 - Waste Water

13, 15, 29, 45, 54, 71 - Capital Projects or Bond/Debt Services

50, 51, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58 - Economic Dev., Community Dev., Keno Funds, PACE Funds, Infrastructure Improvement, Comm Dev Agency (TIF), Business Improvement Dist. (BID)

A.S.A.P Express, 81, Water - Shipping water tests, \$40.00; AT&T (First Net), 01, 36, 61, 81, 83, All Depts - Cell phone usage, \$1,413.40; Auto Value Chadron, 61, Streets - Parts for repairs, \$249.95; Ayres Associates Inc., 13, Brownfield assessment work, \$1,692.90; Bauerkemper's Inc., 81, Water - Generator repair, \$86.33; Black Hills Energy, 01, 61, 81, All Depts - Heating, \$11,215.96 ACH; Blue Ridge Solutions, 61, Streets - Rock salt, \$4,076.36; Bound Tree, 28, Amb - Medical supplies, \$575.68; Buettner Construction, 81, 83, Water, WW - Drainage cleanouts, \$10,800.00; Chadron Ace Hardware, 01, 61, 81, Parks, Streets, Water - Supplies for maintenance, \$169.04; Chadron Arbor Barber Tree Service, 01, Parks - Tree removal, \$400.00; Chadron Glass, 13, Windows at City Hall, \$12,625.00; Chadron Motor Co - Off Road, 61, Streets - Air Filter, \$89.50; Chadron Motor Co., 01, 81, PD, Water - Oil Change, Windshield, \$154.04; City of Chadron, Petty Cash, 01, Aqu Ctr - Start up money for concessions, \$100.00; Climate Control Systems, 01, Aqu Ctr - Repair on damper actuators, \$5,733.60; Column Software PBC, 01, Admin - Newspaper notices, \$351.05; Cooper Cogdill, 61, Streets - Payout #3 New shop building, \$55,000.00; Culligan, 01, 81, Aqu Ctr, Lib, Water - Salt delivery, Water bottles, \$62.30; DAS State Acctg - Central Finance, 01, Comm - Teletype rental, \$1,151.99; Fur Trade Days, Inc., 01, Creative District contribution to Fur Trade Days, \$87,500.00; Galls, 01, PD - Plate carriers, Uniform shirts, \$1,088.98; Hawkins, 01, 81, Aqu Ctr, Water - Chemicals for water treatment, \$3,835.17; Hi-Tech Car Wash, 01, 36, PD, Transit - Car washes, \$271.69; HTM Sales Inc., 83, WW - Timer & relay switch, \$1,911.00; Ideal, 01, Admin, PD, FD - Janitorial supplies, \$255.67; Ingram, 01, Library - Books, \$152.71; Intralinks, 01, Admin, PD - Monthly Maintenance, Trouble tickets, \$2,956.20; John Deere Financial, 01, 61, 81, 83, Parks, Streets, Water, WW - Shop tools & supplies, \$1,780.21 ACH; KCL Insurance, 01, 36, 61, 81, 83, All Depts - Life & Disability insurance, \$1,008.72; LA Signs, LLC, 01, Airport, Parks - Magnetic signs, \$130.00;

Micromarketing, 01, Library – DVDs, \$30.00; Mobius Communications, 01, Admin - Upgrade to camera system, \$270.00; Municipal Supply, Inc. of Nebraska, 81, Water - Batteries for meter guns, \$175.27; Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development, 71, Return of CDBG funds, \$60,384.37; Nebraska Public Health Environmental Lab, 81, Water - Water tests, \$1,095.00; Outlaw Printers, 28, Amb - Embroidery on jackets, \$105.00; Parrett, Luc, 01, Admin - Education reimbursement, \$273.00; PEAC Solutions, 01, 81, Water, Admin - Copier leases, \$759.61; ProCopy, 01, 81, Admin, Water - Copier charges, \$418.96; Quadiant Finance, 01, 81, 83, Various Depts – Postage, \$496.75; Quality Tire, 01, 81, Water, PD - New tires, Flat tire repair, \$1,764.00; Skeeters NAPA Auto Parts, 01, 61, 81, 83, Parks, Streets, Water, WW - Parts for vehicle upkeep, \$948.19; Star-Herald, 01, Library - Yearly subscription, \$207.59; State Fire Marshall Training Division, 01, FD - Fire fighter certifications, \$250.00; Stryker, 28, Amb - Service for Lifeloc system (\$1608 credit), \$118.00; Taste of Home, 01, Library – Books, \$42.98; US Bank, 01, Admin - Lease payment for Laserfiche services, \$449.00 ACH; US Postmaster, 81, 83, Water, WW - Utility bill postage, \$594.36 **; Viaero Wireless, 01, Airport – Telephone, \$140.58 ACH; Wahlstrom Ford, 01, PD - Brake replacement, \$1,290.62; WestCo, 01, Parks - Refill cemetery propane tank, \$573.76; WEX Bank, 01, 36, 61, 81, 83, All Depts - Fuel purchases, \$4,424.59 ACH; WINZER, 61, Streets - Parts for repairs, \$189.14; Xerox Corporation, 01, PD - Copier usage and metered charges, \$89.33; Chang, Steve, Utility Refund, \$90.68; Fritzler, Brooklynn, Utility Refund, \$32.69; First National Bank of Omaha, HSA Thru 1/16/26, \$1,119.90; Chadron, City of, Payroll Thru 1/16/26 – NET, \$88,057.09; Chadron, City of, FICA Thru 1/16/26, \$9,414.83; Vantage Point, Police Pension Thru 1/16/26, \$2,253.41; Vantage Point, Employee Pension Thru 1/16/26, \$3,335.43

Roll Call: Aye: Andersen, Graves, Klein, Oleksy, Shepherd
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Tom Menke, City Manager, reminded citizens that the City plows the snow when accumulation reaches between 2-4 inches on the streets or when additional snowfall is anticipated. Sand trucks will be sent out at the discretion of the Street and Police Departments.

Mike Trueblood, the City’s Community Service Office, is compiling a list of individuals who are willing to assist residents with snow removal, tree trimming, and similar needs. Anyone interested in being included on this list is encouraged to submit their information to City Hall. Trueblood is also periodically reviewing areas around town to ensure nothing has been missed. If residents have concerns regarding a letter they receive, they should contact him directly to discuss the matter and clarify any questions.

Councilmember Andersen congratulated all of the swimmers who participated in the swim meet and noted it was great to see the kids have the opportunity to improve their swimming skills.

Mayor Klein shared that there has been sad news in the community with the closing of Pizza Hut and the hospital discontinuing dialysis services. He expressed hope that those affected will be able to make arrangements to continue receiving treatment. Klein noted there is still plenty of work to be done within the City, including planning for the summer season and efforts to keep the community looking its best. He thanked all City employees for their hard work and wished everyone a Happy Valentine’s Day.

in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body.

City Clerk

(S E A L)