

CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA
Scottsbluff City Hall Council Chambers
2525 Circle Drive, Scottsbluff, NE 69361
PARK, CEMETERY, AND TREE BOARD



Wednesday, August 13, 2025

6:00 PM

Welcome and Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Dan at 6:00 PM

Nebraska Open Meetings Act: For all interested parties, a copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act is posted on the bulletin board at the south wall of the Council Chambers.

Roll Call: Dan, Carolyn, Megan, Larry, Ashlee and Eugene Present. James Absent. City staff present Matt and Tevia.

Notice of changes in the agenda by the Park Board President: no changes

Citizens with business not scheduled on the agenda: none

Minutes: motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2025 meeting. Motion made by Carolyn, 2nd by Larry. Motion carried.

Financial Reports: Larry provided financial reports. Deposited \$20 into Park Foundation account for concession sales at last movie in the park.

- a. Park Foundation - \$5,919.68
- b. Cemetery Foundation - \$440.23

Motion made to accept the financial report by Megan, 2nd by Ashlee, motion carried.

Park and Cemetery Updates:

Matt

- Veterans Park – Bathroom renovation is completed; have one issue with a toilet so bathrooms haven't been opened yet. Concrete pad for the new mini-pitch system is complete; pitch build will start Thursday. Surfacing will be done the final week of August. Talked with the Winter Creek Irrigation District about the ditch on the north side of the park. It is not currently and most likely never going to be used, so they gave permission to fill in the ditch. This will be a winter project. Will start working on a opening/renovation event for the park once all the work is complete, may be in the spring.
- 18th Street Plaza – Market string lights have been installed and are working. Shade structures/options close to finalized, will go to council in September for approval. Will share the design and information with the board once finalized.
- School Admin Building – Closed on the building July 31, 2025. Won't move in until design and construction is completed.

- Movie Trailer – New Parks logo decals have been applied to the sides of the trailer. Great for branding and looks really good.
- Made changes to the memorial tree and benches process. It will be donation-based program and Parks Dept. will work with the individual on location for placement of memorial. Easier and less confusing for people to understand. It is \$300 for a memorial tree and \$1,800 for a bench.
- Field of Dreams Facility – Matt is working with their board on the replacement of the turf. They had trouble getting any quotes or vendors to look at it, so they asked if we could help them out. They have funding in place, so we are just overseeing the project.
- Cemetery – Sewer line is almost completed for the new office. Approved a bid to have the large pine tree removed where the new office will be located. Tree Monkeys will do the work for \$1,700. New office bid accepted and work will begin in November. Finalized paperwork on the Urban & Community Forestry Grant. Looks like project will get started in September once I get the go-ahead. The total grant is \$225,000 for a 3-year project.
- Movie Screen Rental – Approached at the movie in the park about renting out the movie screen and projector, I told the lady I would run it by the Board. The Board is not in favor of renting it out. Asked in the past and didn't do it then either. Matt will let the individual know.
- Tree Inventory – Megan asked about the tree inventor project. Matt reported that it is going very well and NRD/UNL has completed their portion and have moved in to start helping with the parks. Trevor has been able to complete many of the parks as well. NRD completed Centennial Park.
- Soccer game at Veterans – Carolyn asked about the soccer game at Veterans Park during the weekend. It is an adult league that is put on by a group that has grown a lot. The last weekend was the championship game, so there were a lot of people in the park. It's a great league and they do all the work themselves; we have nothing to do with the league.

Matt for Trevor

- Most of the seasonals are done, just have one left and his last day is Friday. Still have Wayne that stays on longer than the others, but everyone else finished up last week.
- Lacy Park – Well and pump issues caused a huge project. Pump went out and the well casing will need work. Removed the well house and work will begin Thursday on the well and replacement of the pump. Will then pour new concrete and build a new well house. Total is \$15,000-20,000 for the project.
- Westmoor Park – work on the east side of the pickleball courts has been done to eliminate the water issue. The trucks used for the pickleball court construction compacted the soil causing water issues. We put in drains and filled with dirt and sand to help with drainage.

- Board asked about Riverside Campground. Matt reported that the campground is doing well and up in revenue and down in expenses. The remodeled bathrooms have helped and drain seem to be better; much less jetting required this season. Night stays are down, but with the new rates the revenue is up. Had issues with the host and people complaining about her. Bathrooms not being cleaned properly and she is rude when guests check in. Matt will look into other sources for finding a host for next year or going host free to be able to be open year-round.
- Been keeping up with mowing and string trimming. Done a lot of string trimming at Riverside

Tevia

- Date night movie in the Plaza went well. Looking at different date options for next year. Popcorn went well as it was donated by the Midwest Theatre. Probably not do a food truck next time, but more of a snack type place.
- Mini-Pitch Facebook post got a bunch of traffic and attention.
- Pickleball Event – had a good turnout of both adults and kids. Had people ask about more kid’s clinics, so will look into that for next year.
- Kite Festival – planning has been going and will do more marketing and getting vendors and sponsors lined up. Amy Westphal is helping with the event. Event is October 11-12.
- Husker party in the Plaza will be October 17th. Scottsbluff & Gering both have away games that night and the Husker are away as well. Allo is partnering with us and will be bringing a couple of LED screens as well as our big screen for showing the game.
- Beef, Beans, Bluegrass Festival kickball tournament has 2 adult and 1 youth team signed up so far. Hoping for more and a lot of times people sign up last minute.
- Ashlee asked about doing pickleball leagues. We will look into leagues and do some tournaments next year. Have talked with Gering on doing things together and a possible SB vs. Gering tournament.
- Jingle Jog is looking like it will be December 6th. Working on a theme and will lower the price this year. Route was a little confusing last year, so looking at changing it up. Will partner with Riverstone Bank again, but not do a donation for a lower price. It will just be encouraged to bring a donation and we will keep registration prices low.
- Carolyn asked if we could look at doing Harvest Fest next fall. Huge event and most well attended event the city has done. We have some information on it and a few items that can be used, but Matt looked through all equipment and had to throw a bunch of it out as it got ruined from the years of sitting around.
- Megan would like to see us do Facebook posts on the staff for appreciation and showing all the work they do that people don’t get to see. Tevia will work on this for the winter and ways to introduce staff to the public.

Other Business:

Dan mentioned that people are still asking about receptacles on the pathway. Need to look at adding additional trash cans and dog waste stations. Will help keep the pathway clean. There is a master plan for the pathway that should indicate where items should be placed.

Ashlee notified the Board that she will be able to stay on as she has taken a different job that will allow her to be able to make it to meetings.

New Business:

Dan visited Westmoor Pool last week. Talked with Vanessa on items and paint is needed in the main area. It is looking bad and doesn't reflect well to the community on the quality of the pool. Matt let the board know the pool closed on Friday, all final work was done on Saturday and drained on Monday. Talked with Ryan on the maintenance and he said it was the best year yet, just keep getting better at all the different maintenance items.

Schedule Next Meeting: Meeting will be October 8, 2025

Adjournment: Carolyn made motion to adjourn at 6:58 PM, 2nd by Megan. Motion carried.