

MINUTE RECORD

FRIEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING January 6, 2026

Council President Kristen Milton called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall. Advanced notice of the meeting was given by publication in The Sentinel, the appointed method for giving advanced notice. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Council President Kristen Milton presided, and Deputy City Clerk Heather L. Varney recorded the proceedings. The following Councilmembers were present: Kristen Milton, David Sladek, and Phyllis Schwab. Mayor Judith Knoke and Councilmember Jeremy Collier absent. A quorum being present, the meeting was duly convened. The following proceedings were had and done.

Council President Milton led the meeting in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

As required by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Council President Milton announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act has been posted on the south door of the City Hall meeting room for all in attendance to review.

Motion by Sladek, seconded by Schwab to approve the minutes from December 2, 2025, Regular Council meeting. On roll call voting aye Milton, Sladek, and Schwab. Collier absent. Nays none.

Motion by Sladek, seconded by Schwab to approve the December Treasurer report. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Milton, and Schwab. Collier absent. Nays none.

Motion by Sladek, seconded by Milton to approve December claims and payroll. On roll call voting aye Schwab, Milton, and Sladek. Collier absent. Nays none.

No Hospital Financial Report for December.

Council President Milton commented that the Community Club would be meeting next on February 12th at 7pm.

The claims approved were as follows: December Payroll, 28176.18; Ameritas, 3187.29; EFTPS, 6742.13; NE Dept of Rev SWH, 1209.41; AMGL, fe 8660.00; Architectural Design Assoc., fe 3965.50; Allen Bruntz, se 1618.38; Arbor Barber LLC, se 9200.00; BOK Financial, fe 21983.75; Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska, fe 4608.24; Bruning Law Group, fe 1252.00; Cengage Group, su 98.96; Center Point Large Print, su 98.28; Claire Brejcha, se 100.00; Jacob & Johnathan Clouse, fe 850.00; Community Redevelopment Authority, re 21732.06; Culligan Water Service, se 152.00.00; Depository Trust Corp. fe 5715.00; Drake Refrigeration Heating/Cooling, se 40.30; EMS Connect, fe 55.00; Eakes Office Solutions, su 431.84; Farmer's Union Cooperative Co., su 175.73; Hampton Commercial Construction, fe 194242.98; Hometown Leasing, fe 98.60; Lee Enterprises, fe 710.00; MMC Consulting, se 7996.75; MacQueen Equipment, su 11536.00; Rosemarie Markus, se 50.00; Mastiff Systems, se 210.00; Chris Michl, se 436.80; Midwest Laboratories Inc, se 334.40; NE Dept. of Revenue ST, fe 1268.35; NE Public Health Environmental Lab, se 146.00; NE Rural Water Association, fe

MINUTE RECORD

300.00; Nick's Farm Store CO., su 6346.00; Norris Public Power District, fe 7255.00; Diane Odoski, re 49.02; One Billing Solutions, LLC, se 109.54; One Call Concepts, Inc., se 22.88; Postmaster, se/su 1000.00; Precision Signs & Graphics, LLC, su 8132.00; Pribyl Plumbing & Heating, Inc., se 975.00; Principal Mutual Life Ins. Co., se 178.36; Qwik 6, su 492.11; Saline County Clerk, fe 159.00; Seward County Independent, se 3474.32; Kyle Sharkey, se 680.00; Sparq Data Solutions, se 4250.00; US Cellular, se 264.40; Waste Connections, se 14400.86; Windstream, se 2807.86; Young's Welding, se 2025.00. Total Claims Approved: 390003.28

Discussion to cash in Certificates of Deposit and General ICS Account, and moving other funds from checking account to Certificates of Deposit. Motion by Schwab, seconded by Milton to approve redistributing city funds. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Schwab, and Milton. Collier absent. Nays none.

Discussion to set date and location for city employee appreciation dinner. No action taken.

Discussion about Sargent Drilling recommendation to drill a new water well and to hire an engineer to design and prepare bid documents, etc. No action taken.

Motion by Sladek, seconded by Schwab to postpone annual appointments of staff, boards, and committees until February meeting. On roll call voting aye Schwab, Sladek, and Milton. Collier absent. Nays none.

Motion by Schwab, seconded by Sladek to approve hiring of Trent Roesler for Public Works Supervisor at discussed wage. On roll call voting aye Milton, Schwab, and Sladek. Collier absent. Nays none.

Motion by Schwab, seconded by Sladek to approve hiring of Travis Peterkin for Police Chief at discussed wage. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Milton, and Schwab. Collier absent. Nays none.

No Hospital report.

No Building Inspector report.

Brent Milton, Fire Chief, gave Fire report. No action taken.

Ray Rohrig gave Rescue Squad Report. No action taken.

Kristen Milton gave Police report. No action taken.

Kristen Milton gave Pool Report. Motion by Sladek, seconded by Schwab to hire Splashtacular to inspect the play structure at the pool for no more than \$4000.00. On roll call voting aye Sladek, Milton, and Schwab. Collier absent. Nays none.

Public Works reported by Kristen Milton. No action taken.

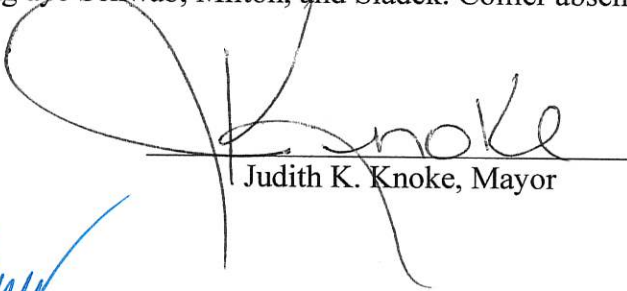
Heather L. Varney, Deputy Clerk, gave Clerk's report. No action taken.

MINUTE RECORD

Deputy from Saline County Sheriff Department came in at this time to add to police report. No action taken.

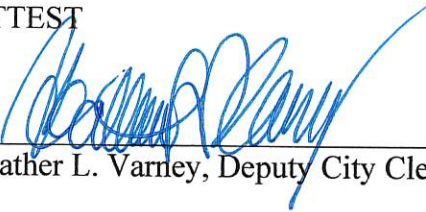
Diane Odoski, Head Librarian, gave Library report.. No action taken.

No further business to come before the City Council, motion by Milton, seconded by Schwab to adjourn. On roll call voting aye Schwab, Milton, and Sladek. Collier absent. Nays none. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



Judith K. Knoke, Mayor

ATTEST



Heather L. Varney, Deputy City Clerk

MINUTE RECORD

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Friend, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Council on January 6, 2026; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted and were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days; that all news media requesting notification concerning meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.


Deputy City Clerk

NOTICE OF MEETING CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Friend, Nebraska will meet at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, February 3, 2026**, at the City Hall, which meeting will be open to the public. Agenda for said meeting is kept current and is available in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours. Request to be on the agenda must be in the City Clerk's office 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Heather L. Varney, Deputy City Clerk