



# CITY OF FREMONT NEBRASKA

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Public Comment – 6:30 PM

City Council Chambers 400 East Military, Fremont NE

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### BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MINUTES

7:00 PM

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Sookram called the Board of Equalization Meeting to order and stated that a copy of the open meeting law is posted continually for public inspection located near the entrance door by the agendas.

**ROLL CALL** Roll call showed Councilmembers Ganem, Lathrop, Vaughan, Marsh, Jensen, Horner, Von Behren present. Peterson Absent. 7 Members present. 1 Member absent.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

- 1. Resolution 2026-039 levying a special tax and assessment on Business Improvement District #1 Properties in the amount of \$69,487.84** Mayor Sookram opened the public hearing, after receiving no public comments, Mayor Sookram closed the public hearing. Motion made by Horner, seconded by Ganem levying a special tax and assessment on Business Improvement District #1 Properties in the amount of \$69,487.84. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT** Motion made by Jensen, seconded by Vaughan to adjourn; time: 7:04 PM. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

### CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

7:00 PM – Following the preceding Meeting

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** Mayor Sookram called the Regular City Council Meeting to order

**ROLL CALL** Roll call showed Councilmembers Ganem, Lathrop, Vaughan, Marsh, Jensen, Horner, Von Behren present. Peterson Absent. 7 Members present. 1 Member absent.

#### **MAYOR COMMENTS**

*(There will be no discussion from the Council or the public regarding comments made by the*

Mayor. Should anyone have questions regarding the comments, please contact the Mayor after the meeting)

1. **Motion to adopt current agenda for the February 24, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting** Motion made by Lathrop, seconded by Vaughan to move item 19 for consideration to after item 6. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0. Motion to adopt the February 24, 2026 agenda as amended made by Lathrop, seconded by Jensen. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **APPOINTMENTS:**

2. **Resolution 2026-040 appointing Anna Allen as City Engineer effective March 16, 2026** Motion made by Vaughan, seconded by Jensen to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Anna Allen as City Engineer. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
3. **Resolution 2026-041 appointing Anna Allen as Street Superintendent effective March 16, 2026** Motion made by Jensen, seconded by Von Behren to amend the Resolution to substitute "Troy Schaben" with "Anna Allen". Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0. Motion made by Vaughan, seconded by Marsh to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Anna Allen as Street Superintendent. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
4. **Motion to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Seth Howard to Police Sergeant** Motion made by Vaughan, seconded by Marsh to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Seth Howard to Police Sergeant. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
5. **Motion to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Daniel Rucker and Darrel Russell as Police Officers.** Motion made by Jensen, seconded by Horner to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Daniel Rucker and Darrel Russell as Police Officers. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
6. **Motion to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Monica Eby to the Creative Council for a term ending August 13, 2026.** Motion made by Horner, seconded by Ganem to consent to the Mayor's appointment of Monica Eby to the Creative Council for a term ending August 13, 2026. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

7. **Public hearing concerning the activities of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and to give citizens the opportunity to be heard regarding the Downtown Revitalization (DTR) grant 23-DTR-007** Mayor Sookram opened the public hearing concerning the activities of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) regarding the Downtown Revitalization (DTR) grant 23-DTR-007, after

receiving no public comments, Mayor Sookram closed the public hearing. No motion necessary on this item.

8. **Resolution 2026-049 authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a a 50' x 60' accessory building on property generally located near the southeast corner of County Road 26 and County Road W, Dodge County, Nebraska in the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction** Mayor Sookram opened the public hearing, after receiving no public comments, Mayor Sookram closed the public hearing. Motion made by Horner, seconded by Jensen authorizing a Conditional Use Permit for a a 50' x 60' accessory building on property generally located near the southeast corner of County Road 26 and County Road W, Dodge County, Nebraska in the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
9. **Resolution 2026-050 authorizing Pearson's Subdivision Replat 1, Final Plat, Dodge County, Nebraska** Mayor Sookram opened the public hearing, after receiving no public comments, Mayor Sookram closed the public hearing. Motion made by Marsh, seconded by Jensen authorizing Pearson's Subdivision Replat 1, Final Plat, Dodge County, Nebraska. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
10. **Ordinance 5734 for a zoning text change within the Unified Development Code allowing for Primary and Secondary Education use with the approval of a Conditional Use Permit in General Commercial (GC) Zoning District (First Reading – Request to suspend rules and move to Final Reading)** Mayor Sookram opened the public hearing, after receiving no public comments, Mayor Sookram closed the public hearing. Motion made by Horner, seconded by Marsh to hold First Reading of Ordinance 5734 for a zoning text change within the Unified Development Code allowing for Primary and Secondary Education use with the approval of a Conditional Use Permit in General Commercial (GC) Zoning District. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0. City Clerk provided first reading. Motion made by Horner, seconded by Vaughan to suspend rules and move to Final Reading of Ordinance 5734. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** *All items in the consent agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member or a citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately. Motion made by Horner, seconded by Vaughan to approve consent agenda items 11, 12, 14-18. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.*

11. **Dispense with and approve February 10, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**
12. **Motion to approve February 11, 2026, through February 24, 2026, claims and authorize checks to be drawn on the proper accounts**
13. **Motion to Receive Animal Control Reports from FurEver Home, Inc** Motion made by Vaughan, seconded by Jensen to Receive Animal Control Reports from FurEver Home, Inc. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

14. **Motion to approve the Cement/Asphalt/Excavate workers license applications as presented subject to fulfillment of all licensing requirements**
15. **Resolution 2026-045 authorizing the Mayor to sign the quote from Motorola Solutions to purchase four encrypted Motorola portable Police radios in the amount of \$34,460.72**
16. **Resolution 2026-044 approving all Non-Class C Retail Liquor Licenses for a period from May 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027**
17. **Resolution 2026-047 authorizing Kiel's Barber Shop to use the parking lot on the northwest corner of 6th and Park Street (aka Schweser's Lot) for Kiel's Barber Shops Race Car Family Day and authorize the Mayor to sign the Parking Space Lease Agreement on March 15, 2026**
18. **Resolution 2026-048 authorizing the Mayor to sign a loan agreement with the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) for the ship's bell from the USS Fremont**
19. **Motion to Receive the Fremont Municipal Inland Port Authority Update** This item was moved per motion by Council. Motion made by Horner, seconded by Jensen to receive the report of the Fremont Municipal Inland Port Authority update. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

**NEW BUSINESS:** *Requires individual associated action*

20. **Resolution 2026-042 authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Mauer Fence Company, LLC to provide and install Christensen Field Ballfield Fencing, Backstops, and Dugouts in a not to exceed amount of \$324,000** Motion made by Vaughan, seconded by Jensen authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract with Mauer Fence Company, LLC to provide and install Christensen Field Ballfield Fencing, Backstops, and Dugouts in a not to exceed amount of \$324,000. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
21. **Resolution 2026-046 authorizing Utility Staff to sign the quote to purchase additional electric meters for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System in the amount of \$782,351.90 and issue a purchase order** Motion made by Horner, seconded by Ganem authorizing Utility Staff to sign the quote to purchase additional electric meters for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) System in the amount of \$782,351.90 and issue a purchase order. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.
22. **Resolution 2026-043 authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract for the 2026 Pavement Rehab Project with C-R Menn Concrete, LLC. In the amount of \$300,777.10** Motion made by Jensen, seconded by Ganem authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract for the 2026 Pavement Rehab Project with C-R Menn Concrete, LLC. In the amount of \$300,777.10. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

**ADJOURNMENT** Motion made by Horner, seconded by Vaughan to adjourn; time: 8:26 PM. Voting Yea: Jensen, Ganem, Vaughan, Lathrop, Marsh, Horner, Von Behren. Absent: Peterson. Motion carried 7-0.

Agenda posted at the Municipal Building on February 18, 2026 and online at [www.fremontne.gov](http://www.fremontne.gov). Agenda distributed to the Mayor and City Council on February 18, 2026. This meeting is preceded by publicized notice in the Fremont Tribune on the last Thursday of the preceding month and the agenda, including any notice of study session or public hearing, is displayed in the Municipal Building and is open to the public. The official current copy is available at City Hall, 400 East Military, City Clerk's Office. The City Council reserves the right to go into Executive Session at any time. A copy of the Open Meeting Law is posted in the City Council Chambers for review by the public. The City of Fremont reserves the right to adjust the order of items on the agenda.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED AS THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE FREMONT, NEBRASKA Board of Equalization and Regular City Council Meeting Minutes for February 24, 2026.

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Michael Chatterson, City Clerk

Dev Sookram, Mayor

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