

Yutan City Council
Tuesday, May 19th, 2026
7:00 p.m. Yutan City Hall

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUTAN, IN THE COUNTY OF SAUNDERS, STATE OF NEBRASKA HELD AT THE CITY OFFICE IN SAID CITY ON THE 19th DAY OF MAY 2026, AT 7:00 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting notice, a designated method for giving notice, as shown by the Affidavit of Publication and Certificate of Posting Notice attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to Mayor Thompson and all members of the Yutan City Council, and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of the notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Thompson. Councilmembers Lawton, Schimenti, Mach, and Smith were present. Mayor Thompson informed all the individuals present of the location of the Open Meetings Act and Code of Conduct. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1) Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Minutes of April 21st, 2026, Regular Council Meeting
- b. Approve Minutes of the April 30th, 2026, Special Council Meeting
- c. Treasurer's Report
- d. Claims: **All Sweep \$3,650.00, ARCS-LLC \$452.00, Benefit Plans Inc. \$178.91, Big Red Locksmiths \$201.00, BlueCross BlueShield \$2,585.05, Bromm, Lindahl, Freeman-Caddy & Lausterer \$721.50, Capital Business Systems, Inc. \$192.02, Cardmember Services \$1,882.61, Column Software PBC \$100.98, Cubby's \$496.49, Culligan \$105.25, DataShield \$61.67, DropIns Portables \$781.10, Eakes \$1,533.30, EFTPS-Federal Payroll Taxes \$9,321.79, Frontier Cooperative \$277.50, Guardian \$42.50, Hometown Leasing \$69.74, JEO Consulting Group \$525.00, Konecky Auto & Tire \$25.90, Kriha Fluid Power \$15.97, Lowes \$254.31, Menards \$63.48, Metropolitan Utilities District \$135.74, Nebraska Department of Revenue \$1,077.64, Nebraska Municipal Clerks Association \$100.00, Nebraska Public Health and Environmental Lab \$335.00, Nebraska Wildlife Rehab \$75.00, NMC Cat \$325.30, One Call Concepts, Inc. \$15.93, OPPD \$5,813.00, Ortmeier CPA, PC \$19,000.00, Pitney Bowes \$242.40, Purchase Power \$862.13, RoadRunner Transportation LLC \$415.00, The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company \$342.16, Two Rivers Sand & Gravel \$50.00, U.S. Cellular \$106.83, Verizon Business \$40.01, Wilke Plumbing \$345.00, Zone Coverage \$2,000.00, Total w/o Payroll \$51,169.21, Payroll \$26,692.44, Total w/Payroll \$77,861.65.**
- e. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Schimenti and seconded by Mach. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEAH: Lawton, Schimenti, Mach, Smith. NO: None,

Motion Carried.

2) Open Discussion from the Public

- a. Resident Justin Barney addressed the Council regarding his ongoing research into E-bikes and E-scooters. He openly disputed the administration's claims regarding "pushback" on the issue. Mr. Barney also expressed broader frustration with the Council, stating his dissatisfaction with their recent voting decisions and overall performance of their duties. Following his comments, Council member Schimenti requested clarification regarding the administration's mention of "pushback," noting a contradiction from the previous meeting where Mr. Barney had characterized the E-bike discussion as a "waste of time."

3) Resolutions

- a. 2026-11 New Budget Line Item within the Police Department for Lease Obligations.
 - i. Mayor Thompson turned the floor over to Council President Schimenti. President Schimenti addressed Resolution 2026-11 to the council and the reasoning behind why we need an individual line item for the leasing of the new police station.
 - ii. A motion to approve Resolution 2026-11 New Budget Line Item within the Police Department for Lease Obligations was made by Smith and seconded by Lawton. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEAH: Schimenti, Mach, Smith, Lawton. NO: None, Motion Carried.

4) Action Items

- a. Appointment of a Library Board Member
 - i. A motion to appoint Maleah Johnson to the Library Board was made by Schimenti and seconded by Smith. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEAH: Mach, Smith, Lawton, Schimenti. NO: None, Motion Carried.
- b. Appointment of a Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA) Board Member
 - i. A motion to table the appointment of a new Community Redevelopment Authority board member was made by Mach and seconded by Lawton. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEAH: Smith, Lawton, Schimenti, Mach. NO: None, Motion Carried.
- c. Approval of Bids for the Office Furniture for the Police Department
 - i. Chief Luthy II went over the few bids that he had put together from ULine and National Business Furniture for the council's review, but stated that he is still waiting for a bid from Eakes. Chief Luthy II is asking for a total amount in which he could spend.
 - ii. A motion to approve the ULine bid amount of \$10,500.00 for Office Furniture for the Police Department was made by Schimenti and seconded by Lawton. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEAH: Smith, Lawton, Schimenti, Mach. NO: None, Motion Carried.

5) Discussion Items

- a. Comprehensive Plan Review/Update
 - i. Community Planner Costa introduced a self-initiated project to update and streamline the city's Comprehensive Plan. He explained that the current document, drafted by an outside consulting firm, lacks local context and is overly

dense with legal jargon. His goal is to make the document legible and accessible to the public while aligning it with current city goals, objectives, and the upcoming state highway realignment initiative. Costa noted he has held several public meetings with the Planning Commission and suggested presenting a revised draft to the Council in September and October, acknowledging that final clarity on the highway project may not be available until spring of next year. Planning Commission Chair Vandenack expressed support for simplifying the plan, emphasizing the need to align the future land use map with the state highway timeline, local infrastructure needs, and the overall growth of Yutan. Council member Smith advocated for moving forward with the project immediately, noting that any necessary adjustments resulting from the highway realignment could be made quickly once finalized. Council member Schimenti commended the Planning Commission and Costa for proactively engaging local landowners first, noting their significant stake in the project and the value of understanding their future intentions. The Council reached a consensus directing Planner Costa to proceed with the Comprehensive Plan updates as discussed.

b. Ordinance for E-Bikes and E-Scooters

- i. Mayor Thompson opened the discussion by noting that neighboring communities, such as Valley and Bennington, have recently passed restrictive E-bike and E-scooter ordinances. Citing rising injury statistics from regional hospitals, including Children's Mercy, the Mayor indicated broad citizen support for local regulations and recommended moving forward with drafting an ordinance. Council member Schimenti emphasized the need to clearly define terms and restrictions, while also stressing that if the city expects children to follow traffic rules, the police department must simultaneously increase patrols for speeding vehicles. Chief Luthy II outlined his approach, which prioritizes safety and education—such as hosting a "bike rodeo"—over punitive measures. He expressed reluctance to issue traffic tickets that could result in points against a minor's future driver's license, suggesting alternatives like community service or impounding the device. Chief Luthy noted that because e-bikes and e-scooters currently lack specific legal definitions, enforcement falls to a judge's discretion. He suggested potential regulations could be tied to age or the possession of a Provisional Operator's Permit (POP). During public comment, resident Justin Barney expressed opposition to strict limitations, specifically advising against a 25-mph speed limit band and banning travel on Highway 92. Council member Smith suggested establishing designated safe routes, inquiring specifically about a potential path from SouthRidge to Cubby's, and requested further clarity on speed requirements. Oliva suggested having the City Attorney draft a comprehensive, restrictive ordinance as a starting point, which the Council could then scale back to fit the community's needs.
- ii. **Action:** Mayor Thompson, City Staff, and Chief Luthy II will collaborate with the City Attorney to draft an initial ordinance for the Council's review.

6) Supervisor Reports

- a. Library Minutes
- b. Utility Superintendent
- c. Police Chief
- d. Community Planner
- e. City Clerk
- f. City Administrator

7) Items for Next Meeting Agenda

Meeting Adjourned-A motion to adjourn at 8:07 pm was made by Smith and seconded by Mach. Upon roll call vote was as follows: YEAH: Schimenti, Mach, Smith, Lawton. NO: None, Motion Carried.

NEXT MEETING DATE –
Library Board June 1st, 2026 6:30 P.M.
Planning Commission June 9, 2026, 7:00 P.M.
City Council Meeting June 16, 2026, 7:00 P.M.

Anyone desiring to speak before the mayor and city council should contact the city clerk by the Monday preceding the city council meeting by 4:00 p.m. Anyone desiring to speak on any item on the agenda is invited to do so but should limit himself/herself to 3 minutes. After being recognized by the mayor, give your name and address for the record. Anyone desiring to speak for a longer period of time should make arrangements with the city clerk prior to the meeting. All speakers shall address the mayor and city council only. Anyone attending the meeting that may require auxiliary aid or service should contact the city clerk in advance.

Matt Thompson, Mayor

Brandy Bolter, City Clerk/Treasurer
