# City of East Bernard

# **Board of Alderman**

Minutes of Regular Meeting 22 September 2025

#### Present:

Lance Rejsek, Mayor David Tomchesson, Alderman Pos 1 Richie Domel, Alderman Pos 2 Andrew Webster, Alderman Pos 3 Brad Crist, Alderman Pos 5 Renee Norton, City Secretary

#### Absent:

Ryan Woodward, Alderman Pos 4

# **CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum of the Board members present, Mayor Lance Rejsek called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. on Monday, September 22, 2025 in the Union Room of the Prosperity Bank Building.

#### INVOCATION

Mayor Rejsek gave the invocation.

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rejsek led the pledge of allegiance.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

The public hearing was opened at 6:03 p.m. There were no comments made during the public hearing and it was closed at 6:05 p.m.

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

# Mayor's Report - September 2025 Meeting

## **Police Vehicles**

The city has taken possession of two new police vehicles. Wrapping was completed on Saturday, September 20, and installation of necessary equipment is pending.

# **Beautification Committee**

The Beautification Committee met on Tuesday, September 16, and will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month. The committee is currently seeking a 12–15 foot tree to serve as the city's Christmas tree.

## **Donation Boxes**

Only one donation box remains within the city.

## **Financial Update**

Representatives from FNB met with city officials following the Federal Reserve's interest rate decrease to review updated rates. The investment fund currently totals \$2,148,000. The budget projected \$70,000 in annual interest; the past year yielded approximately \$91,200. Due to the rate cut, FNB's interest rate has fallen to 3.07%, resulting in an anticipated shortfall of about \$4,000, as monthly interest will decrease from \$7,600 to \$5,500.

TexPool is presently offering 4.23%. Transferring half of the funds from FNB (\$1,074,000) to TexPool would generate approximately \$45,521.49 in annual interest. Combined with the remaining FNB interest of approximately \$32,971.80, the total projected annual interest would be \$78,493.29—about \$8,000 above budget—providing a buffer against further rate reductions.

#### **Recreation Facilities**

Contact was made with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to discuss the proposed pickleball courts.

# **Code Enforcement**

Several letters were sent regarding properties with excessive grass growth throughout the city.

## Infrastructure and Drainage Project

The upcoming drainage project includes rebuilding the bridge on Leveridge Road leading out of town. During the bridge demolition, the county will repave Leveridge Road from the bridge to Highway 2919. The section of Leveridge Road from Red Bud Lane to Highway 2919 falls under city responsibility. The county has indicated it will complete this segment if the city agrees to fund the work.

#### Road Improvement Bids

Public notices were published, and requests for bids were sent for improvements to the following roads:

Clubside Drive

- Koym Street
- Hlavinka Street
- Cabinet Road

The following companies were contacted for bids:

- Waller Asphalt
- Sealy Asphalt
- HC Construction (Shiner)
- Brannan Paving (Victoria)

### **CITY SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The following is the Secretary's report for the month of September.

- \* We are registered to attend the TML Conference in October. I applied for a scholarship and am pleased to report that it was awarded for reimbursement of one registration.
- \* We received a 100% reimbursement for our FEMA request.
- \* We had our animal welfare meeting on the 9th. Christine from SPOT personally donated \$1,000 to help establish our fund.
- \* Lastly, we need to reschedule the October 20th meeting. Would October 6th be a suitable alternative for everyone?

#### **CONSTABLE'S REPORT**

The City currently has no police vehicles in operation. Officers are responding as best they can when a vehicle becomes available.

#### MAINTENCE REPORT

Mr. Moreno provided the maintenance update:

- Areas throughout the city have been sprayed.
- Parties at the park have picked back up. The restrooms were pressure washed.
- Tommy Mendez mowed the big ditches around the City.
- Flex signs were installed at Ray and Wallace and Wallace and 90.
- Joel went and picked up the new trash cans from Dallas.

#### ANIMAL REPORT

Mr. Torres was not present. The pit mix named Storm was adopted. We currently have two other dogs up for adoption.

# <u>DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18, 2025 REGULAR MEETING AND SEPTEMBER 8, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING.</u>

Mayor Rejsek asked if there were any corrections or concerns about the minutes as read. There was no discussion of the minutes. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Crist to approve the August 18, 2025 minutes and September 8, 2025 minutes. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

# DISCUSS AND/OR APPROVE ORDINANCE 2025-008- ORDINANCE ADOPTING 2025-2026 BUDGET.

Mayor Rejsek asked if there were any corrections or concerns about the ordinance as presented. Alderman Crist asked if we needed to adjust investment income since the interest rate at First National was decreasing. Mayor Rejsek said when we move half of the funds to Tex Pool, the interest should be about the same. Alderman Webster made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-008 as read, seconded by Alderman Crist. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL ORDINANCE 2025-009- ORDIANCE ADOPTING 2025-2025 TAX RATE.

Mayor Rejsek asked if there were any comments regarding the ordinance as presented. Alderman Tomchesson made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-009 as read, seconded by Alderman Webster. The motion passed unanimously 4 yeas, 0 nays.

# DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ROAD CLOSURES FOR APPROVAL ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 18, 2025.

Mayor Rejsek presented the roads requested to be closed for the East Bernard PTO fall Festival on October 18, 2025. Alderman Crist made a motion, seconded by Alderman Webster to approve road closures. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Tomchesson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Webster to adjourn the Regular session. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

These minutes are approved on the 14th day of October, A.D. 2025.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

LANGE REJSEK

MAYOR

RENEE NORTON CITY SECRETARY