

Approved Minutes of the City of Dighton  
Regular Council Meeting held on May 12, 2025

Council President Craig Doris called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Those present included: Marlene Rupp, Janet Shapland, Eric Steffens and Austin Bretz. Also present were Attorney Dale Pike, Sheriff Ron Ridley, Steve Porter, Matt Hendricks, Casey Venters, Tyson McGreer, Mike Schmaderer and Paul Mahlberg with KMEA, Superintendent Craig Collins and City Clerk Nicole Strobel.

Councilman Austin Bretz made the motion to approve the agenda and licenses, Councilwoman Janet Shapland seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Casey Venters with the Lane County Community Foundation asked the council about placing port-a-potties on the west side of the Event Center during the All-School Reunion Pancake Breakfast, consensus was given by the council. Casey also went over the Foote Family Fund which is a donor advised fund. He wants to develop a coalition of leaders to research and develop plans.

Matt Hendricks USD #482 Superintendent met with the board to discuss the school's utilities and possibly offering a small discount on the electric and water.

Sheriff Ridley priced an 8 X 16 storage shed from Premier Builders for a dog kennel for \$4700 there would be additional costs to put in separate kennels. Hopefully, they will be hiring a new officer within the next 2 months.

Fire Chief Craig Collins reported they have asked for SCBA's to be purchased from fire department funds at the Lane County Community Foundation.

Superintendent Craig Collins reported they are working on the concrete around the pool and park. They are done running sewers, and they will be filling the swimming pool on May 19<sup>th</sup> to open on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

City Clerk Nicolet Strobel reminded council members whose terms are ending this year that the deadline to file is June 2, at 12:00 pm.

Auditors will be on site June 2-4. City Clerk Nicole Strobel reported that Pool Manager Susan Wilson asked about possibly having early purchase of season tickets at the city office. The consensus was to have early purchase of season tickets in the city office until May 23. Then they will have to be purchased at the pool.

Councilwoman Marlene Rupp reported that handicap accessible ramps have been put in around the park. Councilwoman Rupp committed that the tree at the corner of James and Wichita causes some visibility issues. City Superintendent Craig Collins said he would contact the owner of the property.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland reported that the benches are done at the park.

Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to amend the agenda to add Executive Session with KMEA after new business, Councilwoman Janet Shapland seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion for the city to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, Councilman Eric Steffens seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Law Enforcement Contract, Councilman Austin Bretz will meet with the County Commissioners. The matter will be tabled until the June meeting.

The K & J lien has been served to the county clerk.

Councilman Austin Bretz made the motion to make the following appointments: City Clerk – Nicole Strobel, Treasurer – Justice Rios; Fire Chief – Craig Collins; Municipal Judge – Jacob Gayer and City Attorney – Dale Pike, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to accept City Connecting Link agreement with KDOT, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Complaints were discussed and have been resolved.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to make no changes to Ordinance #705 Fireworks, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by: Councilwoman Janet Shapland, Councilman Craig Doris, Councilman Eric Steffens and Councilman Austin Bretz, Councilwoman Marlene Rupp nay, motion carried.

Discussion was held on ECA rate charge. The matter was tabled until there was an ordinance to see.

Mapping Software was discussed and tabled until the June meeting.

Councilman Craig Doris made the motion to recess into executive session to discuss data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of second parties, K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(4). The open meeting will resume in 20 minutes at 7:20 pm.

Councilwoman Janet Shapland made the motion to approve the bills as presented, Councilman Austin Bretz seconded, yeas by all, motion carried.

Councilman Austin Bretz made the motion to adjourn, Councilman Craig Doris seconded, yeas by all, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

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Annita Lorimor, Mayor  
Clerk

Nicole Strobel, City