

Regular Meeting  
February 9, 2026  
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pat Showalter called the Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council members present, Scott Corsair, Jeff Werth, Mike Tyrell, Cindy Fuentes-Ummel and Bev Hall. Others present were City Superintendent Richard Hall, City Clerk Debbie Steckline, JR Steckline and Stan Erb.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: 1. Stan Erb presented a check from the Ness County Rec Commission that was for candy at Christmas time meant for Bazine American Legion Post 392 but made payable to the City of Bazine. The City will deposit the check and issue a check made out to Post 392 for \$100. Stan left the meeting at 7:05 PM.

COMMUNICATIONS: Communications were presented and acknowledged.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Jeff Werth moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Cindy Fuentes-Ummel. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: 1. Code violations were discussed. No action is needed at this time.

2. The Punch List for Morgan Brothers concerning the street improvements was discussed. Morgan Brothers is currently working on the items on the list. A 130 foot area on Foes Ave north of Park street was discussed. The discussion was whether to have Morgan Brothers tear the section up and redo it or leave as is and receive a reimbursement from Morgan Brothers of \$18,000 since there is a minimal amount of heavy truck/equipment traffic on that section. It was noted if there are issues in the future, if the City takes the reimbursement, the cost will be on the City. Jeff Werth moved to request a refund from Morgan Brothers, seconded by Scott Corsair. The motion carried with a vote of three (3) for and two (2) against. Scott Corsair moved and Mike Tyrell seconded to reissue \$50,000.00 of final payment to Morgan Brothers which was being held until job completion. Remainder will be paid upon completion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: 1. A date for Spring Clean-up was discussed. A date in late April or early May is preferred so that it can be done before Mother's Day on May 10.

Debbie will check with all the entities that participate and coordinate a date.

2. Yearly salary review – After discussion, Scott Corsair moved to adopt Ordinance #332, approving a salary increase of 2.8% to match COLA for 2026 per year for City Clerk Debbie Steckline bringing her salary to \$12336.00 per year. Seconded by Bev Hall. Motion carried unanimously. Scott Corsair also moved to increase City Superintendent Richard Hall's salary by 2.8%, bringing his salary to \$56,540.00. Bev Hall seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion was held regarding the 2026 audit that is in progress. Some transfers that have been discussed with the CPA conducting the audit were discussed. After discussion Scott Corsair moved and Jeff Werth seconded to transfer all but \$500.00 out of each of the Special Highway accounts to the Sewer account. Motion carried unanimously.

4. The CPA also urged the City to put a vacation policy in writing to the City Superintendent position. Jeff Werth moved and Cindy Fuentes-Ummel seconded that the policy would state the City Superintendent would receive one (1) week

vacation the first year of employment, two (2) weeks from year 2 – 10 and three weeks annually after 10 years. Vacation time will accrue each January 1 and if not used by December 31 of the year or at end of employment it will be paid out. It will not be lost. The Superintendent will need to notify the Mayor of plans to take vacation time and be responsible for finding someone to cover necessary duties. City Clerk will also need to be notified so she will be able to keep track of used time.

VOUCHERS: Jeff Werth made a motion and Bev Hall seconded to approve vouchers as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: At 8:10 p.m., Jeff Werth moved to adjourn the meeting. Cindy Fuentes-Ummel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.