

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fort Calhoun, Nebraska, was held in open and public session at 6:35, on Monday, September 15, 2025, at the Fort Calhoun Council Chamber, 110 S 14th St, in Fort Calhoun, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication, said form of notice being a designated method for giving notice, an affidavit of publication being attached to these minutes.

Advance notice of this meeting was also given to the Mayor and all Council Members. The availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council Members.

In accordance with Section 84-1412 sub section eight (8) of the Reissue Revised State Statutes of the State of Nebraska 1943, as amended, one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed is available to the public at this meeting for examination and copying.

Mayor Robinson stated persons wishing to address the Governing Body on an agenda item shall wait to be identified by the Presiding Officer; then, after stating their name and address for the record, may proceed to speak. No person, other than the Council and the person having the floor will be permitted to enter any discussion without the permission of the Presiding Officer. Remarks shall be limited to five minutes unless extended or limited and repetitive or cumulative remarks may be limited or excluded by the Presiding Officer.

Please note that the meeting minutes are not approved until the next regular City Council meeting.

On roll call, the following Council Members answered present: Kris Richardson, Bob Prieksat, and Nick Schuler. Member John Kelly was absent.

Mayor Robinson publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held.

Mayor Robinson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

With a quorum present, Mayor Robinson presided, and the clerk recorded the proceedings.

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Richardson to approve the following consent agenda: August 18, 2025 *City Council minutes*; *Treasures Report for August*; August 25, 2025 *Special City Council minutes*; August 25, 2025 *Enhancement Committee minutes*; August 20, 2025 *Christmas in Calhoun minutes*; August 2025 *Washington County Sheriff's Statistics*. With members Prieksat, Richardson, and Schuler voting "Aye", motion carried.

The September 4, 2025 Park Committee minutes and Maintenance Report were separated from the consent agenda and discussed. Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Richardson to accept the Park Committee minutes and Maintenance Report. With members Sculer, Prieksat, and Richardson voting "Aye", motion carried.

Mayor Robinson presented the September bills. Motion by Prieksat second by Schuler to approve the following bills: ABE'S TRASH SERVICE, INC. - 375.75 - SER, ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING - 392.18 - SER, BOMGAARS - 517.02 - SUP, BRIAN'S TREE SERVICE - 19000.00 - EXP, BUDDIES RENTALS - 1500.00 - EXP, 150.00 - EXP, CENTRAL TAX & BOOKKEEPING SERVICES - 120.00 - SER, CITY OF BLAIR - 3836.96 - UTL, CNA SURETY - 40.00 - EXP, CONOCO FLEET - 834.39 - FUEL, COX BUSINESS - 1052.30 - UTL, CUMMINS SALES AND SERVICE - 779.87 - SER, DAVE WESTERHOLT - 500.00 - EXP, EMBRIS GROUP, LLC - 4532.50 - PROF, 1210.00 - PROF, ENTERPRISE MEDIA GROUP - 8.63 - SER, 54.99 - SER, 266.97 - SER, 57.26 - SER, IDEAL PURE WATER - 19.00 - SER, JDW MIDWEST, LLC - 275.00 - SER, JEO CONSULTING GROUP, INC. - 681.25 - PROF, 3406.25 - PROF, KAMB & C ENTERPRISES - 150.00 - SER, 500.00 - SER, KATE GEIGER - 125.00 - EXP, M.U.D. - 50.00 - UTL, MATT PARROT / STOREY KENWORTHY - 969.79 - SUP, NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENV LAB - 380.00 - TEST, NEBRASKA DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION - 128205.22 - CAPIMP, NEBRASKA SALES TAX - 2967.67 - TAX, O.P.P.D. - 3994.11 - UTL, ODEY'S INC. - 4400.00 - EXP, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC - 58.92 - SER, PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER N. R. D. - 13373.74 - UTL, 1507.48 - UTL, POSTMASTER - 223.87 - EXP, ROCK HARD CONCRETE, INC - 1400.00 - EXP, ROCKMOUNT RESEARCH & ALLOYS INC - 110.96 - EXP, RVR BANK - 12908.38 - PYMT, TALBOT LAW OFFICE - 297.50 - PROF, TEXT MY GOV - 1500.00 - DUES, THIELE GEOTECH, INC. - 1174.00 - SER, THREE RIVERS CLERKS ASSOC. - 10.00 - DUES, VERIZON WIRELESS - 119.73 - EXP, VISA - 3478.29 - EXP, WASHINGTON CO. REG. OF DEEDS - 86.00 - SER, WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF - 7350.04 - SER, WASHINGTON COUNTY TREASURER - 1252.44 - TAX, 682.35 - TAX, YOUNG & WHITE LAW OFFICES - 2974.15 - PROF, Total

- 229859.96; with members Richarson, Schuler, and Prieksat voting “Aye”, motion carried.

At 6:49 p.m., Mayor Robinson stated in compliance with the provisions in State Statute Section 77-1601.02, it was now time to conduct the public hearing relating relative to hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request at a different amount than the prior year tax request (levy):

Property Tax Request	\$ 670,039.50	2024-2025
Tax Rate	0.539000	2024
Property Tax Rate (2024-2025 Requested/2024 Valuation)	0.492807	
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2025-2026 Proposed Property Tax Request	\$ 694,093.09	
Proposed 2025 Tax Rate	.510498	

With there being no public comments, questions or discussion, Mayor Robinson declared the public hearing closed at 6:49 p.m.

The public hearing relating to THE ONE & SIX YEAR STREET PLAN FOR THE CITY OF FORT CALHOUN opened at 6:50 p.m. There were no written or public comments. The public hearing closed at 6:52 p.m.

City Engineer, Lucas Billesbach, gave an update on the 2023 Monroe Street Extension project. The contractors are making progress on the road and continue to communicate and send updates regarding the project.

Member Prieksat made a motion seconded by Schuler to approve Pay Application No. 2 for the 2023 Monroe Street Extension from ME Collins Contracting Co. in the amount of \$81,874.44. With members Prieksat, Richardson, and Schuler voting “Aye”, motion carried.

Lucas, Mayor Robinson and council discussed possible alternatives and next actions for the odor control treatment system at the force-main outfall in Blair. The odor control system in is not working how it should and is releasing H2S into air. Lucas suggested looking into a chemical feed system at wastewater plant in Fort Calhoun.

Member Prieksat made a motion seconded by member Schuler to approve Resolution 2025-4 Setting the Property Tax Request. With all members voting “Aye”, motion carried.

Member Prieksat introduced Resolution 2025-4 Approving the 2025-2026 Budget and moved for its passage and adoption. Member Schuler seconded the motion. On roll call the following voted “Aye”: Richardson, Prieksat, and Schuler. The passage and adoption of said Resolution having been concurred by most of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the Resolution adopted and, in the presence of the Council, signed and approved the Resolution and the Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto.

Resolution 2025-4

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of the City of Fort Calhoun passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the City of Fort Calhoun resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at:
General Fund: \$ 479,093.09
Bond Fund: \$ 215,000.00
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year’s total assessed value by 9.37 percent.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.492807 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. The City of Fort Calhoun proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.510498 per \$100 of assessed value.

5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of the City of Fort Calhoun will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by -20.53 percent.

6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2025.

ADOPTED THIS 15th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

Member Schuler introduced **Resolution 2025-5 Adoption of the 1 & 6 Year Plan** and moved for its passage and adoption. Member Richardson seconded the motion. On roll call the following voted "Aye": Prieksat, Schuler, and Richardson. The passage and adoption of said Resolution having been concurred by most of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the Resolution adopted and, in the presence of the Council, signed and approved the Resolution and the Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto.

Resolution 2025-5

"WHEREAS, the City Street Superintendent has prepared a One Year and Six Year Plan for Street Improvement Program for the City of Fort Calhoun, and

WHEREAS, a public meeting was held on the 15th day of September 2025, to present this plan and there were no objections to said plan;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Mayor and City Council of Fort Calhoun, Nebraska, that the plans and data as furnished are hereby in all things accepted and adopted."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A CERTIFIED COPY OF SAID PLAN BE FILED WITH THE BOARD OF PUBLIC ROADS CLASSIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS, STATE OF NEBRASKA.

ADOPTED THIS 15th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

Member Schuler introduced Resolution 2025-6 Signing of the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance and moved for its passage and adoption. Member Richardson seconded the motion. On roll call the following voted "Aye": Prieksat, Schuler, and Richardson. The passage and adoption of said Resolution having been concurred by most of all members of the Council, the Mayor declared the Resolution adopted and, in the presence of the Council, signed and approved the Resolution and the Clerk attested the passage and approval of the same and affixed her signature thereto.

Resolution 2025-6

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2520(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards; and

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each municipality shall be signed by the Mayor or Village Board Chairperson and shall include a copy of a resolution of the governing body of the municipality authorizing the signing of the certification.

Be it resolved that the Mayor of the City of Fort Calhoun is hereby authorized to sign the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance form.

Adopted this 15th day of September, 2025 at Fort Calhoun, Nebraska.

Member Schuler made a motion seconded by member Richardson to approve the 1% increase to restricted funds authority. Member Prieksat asked a question regarding the total percentage allowed. Treasurer said she would get back to them with the answer. With members Prieksat, Richardson, and Schuler voting "Aye", motion carried.

Member Bowser made a motion seconded by member Prieksat to approve the 2025-2026 Law Enforcement Contract between Washington County and the City of Fort Calhoun. The FOP negotiated large wage increase but WCSO didn't raise contract costs last year so there is an 11% increase this year. With members Sculer, Prieksat, and Richardson voting "Aye", motion carried.

Following a motion and vote, Mayor Robinson declared the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Mitch Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST: Alicia Koziol, City Clerk