

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL, MARCH 9, 2026

A regular meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held in open session on March 9, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Gering City Hall, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Ewing and Councilmembers Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. Also present were City Administrator Pat Heath, City Clerk Kathy Welfl, and City Attorney Jim Ellison. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public except as otherwise indicated.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ewing called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and stated that a quorum of the Council was present and City business could be conducted.

1. Recital of the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
2. Roll Call
3. Excuse Council Member absence

Motion by Councilmember O'Neal to approve the absence of Councilmembers Shields and Wiedeman from the February 23, 2026 regular City Council meeting. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT - NEB.REV.STAT. CHAPTER 84, ARTICLE 14

Mayor Ewing stated: As required by State Law, public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room. Agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Mayor. As required by State Law, additions may not be made to this agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under this section of the agenda and the Council determines that the matter requires emergency action.

CONSENT AGENDA:

(Items under the Consent Agenda are proposed for adoption by one action for all items unless any member of Council requests that an item be considered separately.)

1. Approve minutes of the February 23, 2026 regular City Council Meeting
2. Approve Claims
3. Approve January, 2026 Financial Report
4. File for record letters of support for Scotts Bluff County Tri-City Roadrunner Transit Service

Claims 2/24/26 – 3/9/26

21ST CENTURY EQUIPMENT \$14.51, 308 PLUMBING SOLUTIONS \$955.00, ACE HARDWARE \$222.53, ACUSHNET COMPANY \$5,422.41, ADVANCED SERVICES, INC. \$783.76, ALARM SECURITY TECHNICIANS \$6,755.47, ALLO COMMUNICATIONS \$7,321.80, ALTEC INDUSTRIES, INC. \$6,948.19, AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES \$3,306.21, AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP. \$622.84, AT&T MOBILITY \$384.27, AULICK INDUSTRIES \$50.00, B & C STEEL \$1,597.77, BENZEL PEST CONTROL \$216.50, BIBLIONIX LLC \$2,480.00, BLICK ART MATERIALS \$261.72, BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS \$737.91, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC \$626.94, CALLAWAY GOLF COMPANY \$3,776.09, CATTLE BANK & TRUST \$11,080.03, CENGAGE LEARNING/GAGE \$31.99, CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, INC \$159.91, CITY OF GERING \$15,665.40, CIVICPLUS, LLC \$15,772.42, CLUB CADDIE \$750.00, COLUMN SOFTWARE, PBC \$810.43, CONTRACTORS MATERIALS, INC. \$1,046.20, CROELL, INC \$980.00, CROSSCOUNTRY COURIER INC \$421.83, CROSSROADS COOPERATIVE \$7,003.46, CS PRECISION MANUFACTURING \$5,123.17, DANKO EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT CO \$137.00, DEANNA GARCIA \$5.37, DEAN'S ACCELERATED SERVICE \$432.73, DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE COMPAN \$113.52, DEINES IRRIGATION \$67.00, DOOLEY OIL \$887.74, DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY \$4,731.81, EAGLE ENGRAVING, INC. \$(1,050.95), EAGLE ENGRAVING, INC. \$230.00, EAKES INC \$68.16, ECOLAB \$263.60, EDM INTERNATIONAL INC \$7,220.00, ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS SOUTH, INC. \$630.50, FASTENAL COMPANY \$698.43, FAT BOYS TIRE & AUTO \$1,014.20, FEDEX \$500.83, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA \$16,626.12, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA - POLICE \$584.00, FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC. \$109.66, FOREUP \$7,206.96, FRANCISCOS BUMPER TO BUMPER IN \$130.00, FRANK PARTS COMPANY \$1,204.87, FRASER STRYKER PC LLO \$588.00, FYR-TEK, INC. \$7,663.50, GALLS, AN ARAMARK COMPANY \$920.40, GARRETT TIRES & TREADS \$1,367.74, GERING VALLEY PLUMBING & HTG., INC. \$1,201.00, GROUND UP CONSTRUCTION & CLEAN \$804.00, GT DISTRIBUTORS, INC. \$7,638.75, HAWKINS & COMPANY \$(8,351.50), HENNING BROTHERS \$83.00, HULLINGER GLASS & LOCKS, INC. \$561.50, IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, INC. \$658.10, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE \$60,446.54, INTRALINKS, INC. \$10,718.07, IRBY TOOL & SAFETY \$12,050.44, J & A TRAFFIC PRODUCTS \$271.50, J RODZ \$250.00, JAMES & REBECCA MCALLISTER \$5,836.03, JOHN HANCOCK USA \$18,971.84, JOHN HANCOCK USA FIRE \$1,075.74, JOHN HANCOCK USA POLICE \$12,595.63, L.L. JOHNSON DISTRIBUTING \$1,916.01, LEGACY COOPERATIVE \$3,224.40, LOGOZ LLC \$254.00, MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT, LLC \$6,118.16, MANUEL BARRAZA \$2,100.00, MARIA NAYE

\$50.00, MATHESON TRI-GAS INC \$113.00, MB KEM OVERHEAD DOORS \$248.50, MENARDS \$587.05, MIRACLE PLAYSYSTEMS III, LLC \$3,005.23, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. OF NE. \$1,185.96, MUTUAL OF OMAHA \$5,928.34, NATIONAL AIR & SPACE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION \$35.00, NC CHILD SUPPORT CENTRALIZED COLLECTIONS \$53.19, NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER \$714.93, NEBRASKA PGA \$100.00, NEBRASKA SAFETY AND FIRE EQUIPMENT, INC \$380.00, NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS, INC \$2,132.10, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC \$48.69, O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORE \$22.98, PANHANDLE CONCRETE PROD. INC. \$480.00, PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE, INC. \$2,581.00, PAUL REED \$16,153.95, PETE'S QUICK LUBE \$128.67, PIPE WORKS PLUMBING LLC \$2,800.00, PLATTE VALLEY BANK \$3,458.54, PRAISE WINDOWS \$600.00, PROTEX CENTRAL, INC. \$1,872.00, PT HOSE AND BEARING \$94.61, QUADIENT POSTAGE FUNDING \$834.11, R & R PRODUCTS, INC. \$587.80, RAPID FIRE PROTECTION \$4,695.00, RED BARN SHOP, LLC \$498.38, REGION 22 EMERGENCY MANAG \$6,243.59, REGIONAL CARE INC. \$1,189.42, RILEY SMITH \$44.00, RIVERSTONE BANK \$641.57, ROBERT GLEIM \$91.00, RVW INC \$772.00, RYAN'S WELDING LLC \$250.00, SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC. \$3,341.03, SAPP BROS \$3,246.73, SCB COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS \$30.00, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY COURT \$331.06, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY TREASURER \$209.64, SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING UNITED WAY \$226.34, SE MUNICIPAL SOLAR (NE), LLC \$(14,956.91), SE MUNICIPAL SOLAR (NE), LLC \$3,841.33, SIMON CONTRACTORS \$2,304.37, TEAM CHEVROLET \$600.00, TERESA TOSH \$21,488.72, THE TORO COMPANY \$315.00, TICO CUSTOMS, LLC \$525.00, TRANSWEST \$26.33, TROY & LISA WEBORG \$19,509.35, UNITED HEALTH CARE \$141,189.32, UTILITY BILL REFUNDS \$1,277.01, VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC \$330.62, WESCO RECEIVABLES CORP. \$2,276.94, WESTERN COOPERATIVE COMPANY \$3,051.59, WESTERN UNITED ELECTRIC \$231.35, TOTAL CLAIMS \$540,118.59

Motion by Councilmember Gillen to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

BIDS/PROPOSALS:

1. Consider Baling Facility Building Addition/Waste Transfer Loading Area Bid – Environmental Services Department

City Engineer, Annie Folck, reported that the City will be closing the landfill, probably within the next year as it gets to capacity. As part of that, the City is going to have to start transferring waste to another site. In order to do that, the City will be adding on to the existing baling facility to allow trucks to back into a transfer pit. This is being done for efficiency as well as for safety. This project was budgeted in the current fiscal year budget. One bid was received; it was below the engineer's estimate and it's with a contractor that staff has worked with in the past and are very comfortable working with in the future. Councilmember Morrison asked if the City has to get more than one bid if it's over a certain amount. Engineer Folck replied that as long as it's publicly advertised, and everyone has had a chance to bid, one bid is sufficient.

Motion by Councilmember Kinsey to award the Baling Facility Building Addition and Waste Transfer Loading Area Bid for the Environmental Services Department to Anderson and Shaw Construction in the amount of \$820,663.44. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES:

1. Consider moving the third reading and passage of Ordinance No. 2175 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND CHAPTER 72, SECTION 72.09 OF THE CITY OF GERING CODE OF ORDINANCES; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN PAMPLHET FORM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF

Mayor Ewing entertained a motion to move the third reading and passage of Ordinance No. 2175 that deals with living in or staying in RVs in residential areas.

Councilmember Wiedeman made a motion to move the third reading and passage of Ordinance No. 2175 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND CHAPTER 72, SECTION 72.09 OF THE CITY OF GERING CODE OF ORDINANCES; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN PAMPLHET FORM; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF. Seconded by Councilmember O'Neal. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison. "NAYS": Shields, Gillen, Jackson. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Mayor Ewing voted "AYE" which created a majority. Motion carried.

2. Consider moving the second reading of ordinance 2180 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA; AMENDING THE ZONING DISTRICT OF CERTAIN LAND WITHIN THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA; AND AMENDING THE ZONING DISTRICT MAP OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA; PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM

Mayor Ewing entertained a motion to move the second reading of Ordinance No. 2180 regarding the rezone at the corner of Five Rocks Road and Country Club Road from Rural Residential to Neighborhood Commercial.

Councilmember Jackson made a motion to move the second reading of Ordinance No. 2180 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA; AMENDING THE ZONING DISTRICT OF CERTAIN LAND WITHIN THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA; AND AMENDING THE ZONING DISTRICT MAP OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA; PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT; AND PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM. Seconded by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. “AYES”: Gillen, Kinsey, Morrison, Jackson. “NAYS”: Shields, Wiedeman, O’Neal. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Mayor Ewing voted “AYE” which created a majority. Motion carried.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

1. Consider approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign a Professional Services Agreement with JEO Consulting Group for the Safe Streets for All Demonstration

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Professional Services Agreement with JEO Consulting Group for the Safe Streets for All Demonstration. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. “AYES”: Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Jackson. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

2. Consider approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign an Agreement with RVW Inc. for design of Blind Alley Underground Project

Motion by Councilmember Jackson to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an Agreement with RVW Inc. for the design of the Blind Alley Underground Project. Second by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. “AYES”: Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Jackson. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

3. Consider approving the appointment of Kelsey Brady to the City of Gering Employee Safety Committee

Motion by Councilmember O’Neal to approve the appointment of Kelsey Brady to the City of Gering Employee Safety Committee. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. “AYES”: Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O’Neal, Morrison, Jackson. “NAYS”: None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

4. Receive the 2025 Annual Clerk’s Report

City Clerk, Kathy Welfl, presented information from the 2025 Annual Clerk’s Report noting that one of the highlights was working with City staff and Scott Sleeman, FEMA Program Delivery Manager/Recovery Division, to complete the Request for Public Assistance process for the April 7, 2024 ice storm that caused extensive power outages in the region. The City received roughly \$60,000 in FEMA funds in 2025 to help recover some of the costs related to staff, equipment, and poles. Previous efforts to receive FEMA assistance were unsuccessful. She briefly reviewed statistics related to City Council and Planning Commission, permits that were issued, and various other activities of the Clerk’s Office. She noted that Administrative Secretary, Carol Martin, and Administrative Support Specialist, Karen Heins, are integral assets to the City Clerk and City Engineer. The full 2025 Annual Clerk’s Report is on file at the City Clerk’s Office.

Motion by Councilmember Morrison to enter the 2025 Annual Clerk's Report into the public record. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Consider approving Resolution 3-26-1 to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Public/Government Purchasing with ESUCC

RESOLUTION 3-26-1

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2026, at a duly convened, scheduled, and advertised meeting of the Gering City Council for the City of Gering, Nebraska ("Agency"), it was recommended and deemed advisable that the Agency enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council to jointly bid and contract for supplies, materials, equipment, and services through the ESUCC's Cooperative Purchasing Program;

AND WHEREAS, consideration of the matter was placed as an agenda item for said meeting of the Agency;

AND WHEREAS, an opportunity was afforded any interested party to comment on the matter, and the Agency being apprised of the various aspects of the issue;

AND WHEREAS, the governing body has determined that entering into the Interlocal Agreement is in the best interests of the Agency and its members and is appropriate to provide for the efficient and effective operation of the Agency;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Mayor of the City of Gering be authorized on behalf of the Agency, pursuant to this Resolution, to affix his or her signature to the aforementioned Interlocal Agreement and to do all things necessary to comply with said Agreement.

Passed and approved this 9th day of March, 2026.

Kent Ewing, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathleen J. Welfl, City Clerk

Motion by Councilmember O'Neal to approve Resolution 3-26-1 to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement for Cooperative Public/Government Purchasing with ESUCC. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: (Council reserves the right to enter into closed session if deemed necessary.) None.

REPORTS:

1. Liaison Report – Oregon Trail Days, Councilmember Shields

Councilmember Shields reported:

- It was another successful year last year; she thanked City staff and the Keno Fund Committee for their assistance.
- The Gering High School did a Monument Mile Run last year instead of the Don Childs Memorial Run. It was done the same night as the BBQ event downtown. It went over really well.
- The art show was a success with many talented artists.
- The parade went well but there were so many entrants that they're running out of room at the high school.
- The craft show was well attended with a lot of vendors.
- The concert last year was put on by the Oregon Trail Days Association. They did a cost-share with the band which was why they were able to afford to have them at the amphitheater.
- There was a great showing at the food fair.
- They had 65 teams for the mud volleyball tournament; they always have to turn teams away. They started at 8 a.m. and ended around 9 p.m. using headlights for lighting. They are looking at possibly adding more pits.
- The horseshoe contest, quilt show and kiddie parade all went well.
- This coming year is their 105th year; they are bringing in something special from Ohama that they haven't announced yet.
- They added a volunteer page to their website to try to attract more volunteers to assist with events.

OPEN COMMENT: Discussion or action by Council regarding unscheduled business will not take place. This section is for citizen comment only. None.

ADJOURN:

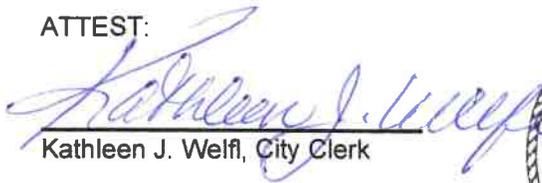
Motion by Councilmember Gillen to adjourn. Second by Councilmember Kinsey. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.



Kent E. Ewing, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathleen J. Welf, City Clerk

