THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GERING CITY COUNCIL, OCTOBER 12, 2026

A regular meeting of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska was held in open session on October 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Gering City Hall, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Mayor Ewing and Councilmembers Shields, Gillen, Cecil, 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. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Star-Herald, the designated method of giving notice, on October 1, 2026. Notice was also posted on the City's website on October 1, 2026. 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 Morrison to approve the absence of Councilmembers Shields and Jackson from the September 28, 2026 special City Council meeting, and the September 28, 2026 regular City Council meeting. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Cecil, 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 copies of the current Open Meetings Act in the meeting room. Printed versions of the Open Meetings Act are available on the counter by the press corps. 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 September 28, 2026 special City Council meeting
2. Approve minutes of the September 28, 2026 regular City Council meeting
3. Approve Claims

Claims 9-30-26 to 10-13-26

308 PLUMBING SOLUTIONS $564.00, 911 CUSTOM $858.96, A & A PORTA POTTIES $450.00, ABC BROKERAGE, LLC $37,570.45, ACE HARDWARE $144.86, ACUSHNET COMPANY $614.33, AIR MED CARE NETWORK $9,225.00, ALLO COMMUNICATIONS $3,663.98, AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES $3,169.74, AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP. $596.46, ANDERSON & SHAW CONSTRUCTION $72,864.97, ANIMAL HEALTH CARE $408.72, ANTONIO CABERA $103.50, AT&T MOBILITY $393.69, ATLAS CONSULTING GROUP, LLC $159.00, BAR 4 BAR ENTERPRISES, LLC $5,400.00, BLACK HILLS ENERGY $215.77, BLUFFS FACILITY SOLUTIONS $1,712.11, BORDER STATES INDUSTRIES, INC $8,419.39, BRANDED BILLS $1,401.64 , BROWN'S SHOE FIT COMPANY $403.49, CAMPSPOT $606.90, CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, INC $165.21, CHRISTIE CLARKE $160.00, CITY OF GERING $27,427.25, COLUMN SOFTWARE, PBC $847.63, CONNECTING POINT $12.81, CONTRACTORS MATERIALS, INC. $776.50, CONTRYMAN ASSOCIATES, P.C. $1,215.00, CORE & MAIN LP $12,037.98, CROELL, INC $755.00, DEARBORN LIFE INSURANCE COMPAN $110.08, DEMCO, INC $228.35, DOOLEY OIL $1,307.08, DUTTON-LAINSON COMPANY $245.10, EAKES INC $1,657.38, EPC SERVICES COMPANY $9,264.00, FASTENAL COMPANY $316.81, FAT BOYS TIRE & AUTO $269.84, FEDEX $173.86, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA $57.60, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA $8,570.00, FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA - POLICE $550.00, FLOYD'S TRUCK CENTER, INC. $130,349.25, FORT COLLINS WHOLESALE NURSERY $3,055.85, FRANCISCOS BUMPER TO BUMPER IN $250.00, FRANK PARTS COMPANY $563.29, FRASER STRYKER PC LLO $7,595.00, GARRETT TIRES & TREADS $9,685.32, GERING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. $1,501.00, GORSUCH & SONS $239.60, GROUND UP CONSTRUCTION & CLEAN $5,882.50, HAWKINS, INC. $1,555.00, HAYLEY GRAMS $160.00, HDR ENGINEERING, INC.$3,042.59, HEIMAN FIRE EQUIPMENT $2,169.14, HERSTEAD MONUMENT CO. $1,500.00, HIGH PLAINS SCUBA CENTER $535.85, HULLINGER GLASS & LOCKS, INC. $126.75, IDEAL LAUNDRY AND CLEANERS, INC. $830.29, INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES $862.02, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE $57,243.95, INTRALINKS, INC. $2,376.79, IRBY TOOL & SAFETY $18,386.80, J & A TRAFFIC PRODUCTS $6,872.70, J RODZ $400.00, JC GOLF ACCESSORIES $339.10, JEFFREY A FIET $160.00, JEO CONSULTING GROUP $1,003.00 , JIRDON AGRI CHEMICALS, INC $4,805.42, JOHN HANCOCK USA $20,720.22, JOHN HANCOCK USA FIRE $1,206.39, JOHN HANCOCK USA POLICE $11,015.95, KOIS BROTHERS EQUIPMENT CO. $2,160.54, L.L. JOHNSON DISTRIBUTING $7,020.22, LEGACY COOPERATIVE $9,395.01, LOGOZ LLC $539.00, LOST RIVER SAND & GRAVEL, INC $9,521.66, MENARDS $1,799.56, MIDWEST CONNECT $3,142.12, MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY $30.00, MORTGAGE CONTRACTING SERVICES $150.00, MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY OF NE $494,449.52, MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. OF NE. $51,236.89, MUTUAL OF OMAHA $5,812.04, NEBRASKA CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT

CENTE $714.93, NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT $134,597.50, NEBRASKA DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT AND EN $22,711.79, NEBRASKA TOURISM COMMISSION $1,000.00, NKC TIRE $363.40, NMC INCORPORATED $750.16, NORTHWEST PIPE FITTINGS, INC $63.39, ONE CALL CONCEPTS, INC $73.05, OREGON TRAIL DAYS ASSOC. $4,100.00, O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE STORE $323.85, PANHANDLE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE, INC. $799.00, PANHANDLE POWER SYSTEMS LLC $1,350.00, PEACEFUL PRAIRIE NURSERY, INC. $4,600.08, PETE'S QUICK LUBE $245.72, PING INC $194.04, PLANT NEBRASKA $200.00, POWERPLAN OIB $2,606.13, PROTEX CENTRAL, INC. $122.00, PT HOSE AND BEARING $223.22, RANDIE KIESEL $810.00, REGIONAL WEST HEALTH SERVICES $75.00, RICH'S WRECKING & USED CARS, I $350.00, RIVERSTONE BANK $629.74, RVW INC $21,830.00, RYAN BLAKE $29.00, SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC. $5,695.79, SAPP BROS $3,581.63, SCB COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS $50.00, SCB. COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE $283.80, SCB. COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE $31.56, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY TREASURER $3,743.09, SCOTTSBLUFF-GERING UNITED WAY $216.34, SE MUNICIPAL SOLAR (NE), LLC $32,032.62, SHERRY PRESTON $160.00, SIMON CONTRACTORS $2,429.62, SOUTHWESTERN EQUIPMENT COMPANY $8,609.03, STEVE MOUNT $95.00 , TEAM CHEVROLET $600.00, TERESA TOSH $18,757.48, THE TORO COMPANY $315.00, TINA CAMPOS $890.00, TINA WORTHMAN $640.76, TITAN MACHINERY INC. $158.65, TOUR EDGE MFG INC $171.00, TRANSWEST $549.95, TRUSTED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INC. $12,500.00, VALLEY AUTO LOCATORS LLC $376.41, VALSTONE CORPORATION, INC. $5,735.00, VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES, LLC $563.86, W J R INC. $1,270.43, WESTERN COOPERATIVE COMPANY $18,197.10, WESTERN PATHOLOGY CONSULTANTS $182.00, WESTERN UNITED ELECTRIC $451.60, WHITMORE $12,074.71, WILKENS INDUSTRIES INC$120,764.00, WNCC FOUNDATION- $6,200.00, ZIMCO SUPPLY CO $5,900.00, TOTAL CLAIMS $1,556,733.20

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

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. Consider approving and authorizing the Mayor to sign a General Agreement between the United States Department of the Interior National Parks Service and Gering Police Department to coordinate emergency law enforcement assistance between the two agencies

Motion by Councilmember O'Neal to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a General Agreement between the United States Department of the Interior National Parks Service and Gering Police Department to coordinate emergency law enforcement assistance between the two agencies. Second by Councilmember Jackson.

Discussion: Councilmember Morrison asked Chief Holthus if park rangers go through Police Academy Training the same as Gering Police Officers do. Chief Holthus replied yes, they do.

Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Cecil, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

2. Consider a request for a Public Safety Committee meeting – Agenda items: 1.) Review and consider an ordinance pertaining to electric bicycles, scooters, and other electric equipment; 2.) Review and consider amendments to penalty ordinances related to speeding

Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve a request for a Public Safety Committee meeting with agenda items: 1.) Review and consider an ordinance pertaining to electric bicycles, scooters, and other electric equipment; 2.) Review and consider amendments to penalty ordinances related to speeding. Second by Councilmember Cecil. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Cecil, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

3. Consider a request for a Public Works Committee meeting – Agenda item: 1.) Review and consider an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for Landfill Operations and Solid Waste Disposal by and between the City of Gering and the City of Kimball

Motion by Councilmember Gillen to approve a request for a Public Works Committee meeting with agenda item: 1.) Review and consider an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for Landfill Operations and Solid Waste Disposal by and between the City of Gering and the City of Kimball. Second by Councilmember Morrison. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Cecil, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

4. Consider a request for an Administrative Committee meeting – Agenda item: 1.) Review and consider fees at the Gering Civic Center

Motion by Councilmember O'Neal to approve a request for an Administrative Committee meeting with agenda item: 1.) Review and consider fees at the Gering Civic Center. Second by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Cecil, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

5. Consider a request for a Recreation Committee meeting – Agenda items: 1.) Discussion and recommendation regarding the Multi-Purpose Room at the Robidoux RV Park/Campground; 2.) Consider setting a policy and hours for the Gering Civic Plaza

Motion by Councilmember Wiedeman to approve a request for a Recreation Committee meeting with agenda items: 1.) Discussion and recommendation regarding the Multi-Purpose Room at the Robidoux RV Park/Campground; 2.) Consider setting a policy and hours for the Gering Civic Plaza. Second by Councilmember Gillen. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Cecil, Kinsey, Wiedeman, O'Neal, Morrison, Jackson. "NAYS": None. Abstaining: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Consider approving Resolution 10-26-1 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GERING, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING A HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM FOR FULL-TIME CITY OF GERING EMPLOYEES, AND PROVIDING A FAIR AND EQUITABLE INCENTIVE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

HR Director, Shannon Goss, explained that the purpose of this resolution is to formally document the City's Wellness Program and clarify the program requirements and available incentives. The changes simplify the benefit structure, provide employees with more flexibility in how they use their wellness incentive, and establish consistent eligibility requirements. These updates are intended to create a more sustainable and equitable program while continuing to encourage employee health and wellness.

RESOLUTION 10-26-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF GERING, NEBRASKA, AUTHORIZING A HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM FOR FULL-TIME CITY OF GERING EMPLOYEES, AND TO PROVIDE A FAIR AND EQUITABLE INCENTIVE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES THAT PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The City of Gering recognizes the importance of providing a health and wellness program in the workplace to improve employee health, enhance morale, and foster a better employer/employee relationship; and
WHEREAS, Healthy, energized employees focus better and accomplish more during the workday. Additionally, proactive health tools lead to fewer sick days and lower medical-related costs; and
WHEREAS, Preventive screenings and early interventions help manage chronic conditions; and
WHEREAS, Activities like fitness challenges, stress relief techniques, and nutrition education encourage healthy habits; and
WHEREAS, Offering a comprehensive wellness program and incentive shows employees they are valued, increases loyalty, and helps the City recruit and retain qualified staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GERING, NEBRASKA:

Section 1. Requirements of the City of Gering Wellness Program
Employees who wish to earn an incentive shall participate in the City's Wellness Program and fulfill the following requirements:

- Be a full-time employee
- Participate in the wellness program for a minimum of six months and remain employed by the City through the conclusion of the applicable program year
- Complete a biometric screening
- Complete the Health Assessment on the wellness program app
- Earn 2000 or more points on the wellness program app by September 30 of each year

The City's Wellness Program will run with the fiscal year, October 1 through September 30, unless otherwise modified pursuant to Section 3.

Section 2. Incentive
All full-time employees are eligible to participate in the City of Gering Wellness Program. Employees who successfully complete all requirements of the wellness program set forth in Section 1 will receive a $700 incentive.

Employees may choose to apply their incentive to any one or a combination of the following:

- Monument Shadows Golf Course Membership
- Gering Municipal Swimming Pool Membership
- Fitness Center Membership
- City of Gering Health Insurance Premiums
- Gift Card

Section 3. Council authorizes the City Administrator and the City's Human Resources Director to:

- Modify the wellness program as necessary including:
  - Choosing a wellness program provider that serves the best interests of City of Gering employees and the City of Gering.
  - Adjust the requirements for completion of the wellness program as necessary, including but not limited to: increasing or decreasing the required number of points to be earned annually, the biometric screening provider, and the wellness program app.
  - Modify the beginning and end dates of the wellness program, if necessary.

Section 4. Effective Date
This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED this ____ day of October, 2026.

_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk

Motion by Councilmember O'Neal to approve Resolution 10-26-1 - a resolution of the City Council of Gering, Nebraska, authorizing a health and wellness program for full-time city of Gering employees, and providing a fair and equitable incentive for all employees that participate in the health and wellness program. Second by Councilmember Wiedeman. There was no discussion. Mayor Ewing called for the vote. "AYES": Shields, Gillen, Cecil, 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.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Kent E. Ewing, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathleen J. Welfl, City Clerk

CITY OF GERING
INCORPORATED
MAR. 14. 1918
NEBRASKA