

Aurora, Nebraska
March 10, 2026

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Aurora, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 7:30 p.m. on March 10, 2026 at the City Hall. Present were Councilors: Paul Lackore, Daniel Bartling, Mark Dunn, Dick Phillips and Esther Bergen. Mayor Marlin Seeman conducted the meeting. City Officials present were City Administrator Adam Darbro, City Attorney Ross Luzum, Chief of Police Paul Graham, Public Works Director Jeremy Cattau and Clerk/Treasurer Barbra Mikkelsen.

Notice of said meeting was given by publication in the Aurora News Register on March 4, 2026. Notice of meeting was simultaneously given to the Mayor and all members of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda of this meeting was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Seeman stated "AS PERSCRIBED BY LAW A COPY OF THE NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT IS POSTED BY THE DOUBLE DOORS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS."

MINUTES:

Councilor Dunn moved to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2026 meeting. Councilor Lackore seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Bartling, Dunn, Phillips, Bergen and Lackore. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee. The motion carried.

**PETITIONS, COMPLAINTS, COMMUNICATIONS:
REPORTS BY OFFICERS, BOARD, COMMITTEES:**

Clerk/Treasurer Mikkelsen presented the Expenditures and Clerk/Treasurer reports for the month ending February 28, 2026. Councilor Phillips moved to approve said reports. Councilor Bergen seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Bartling, Dunn, Phillips, Bergen and Lackore. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee. The motion carried.

Councilor Dunn reported the claims presented by the Clerk were in order and moved that said claims be allowed and checks drawn on the various funds for payment of same be approved. Councilor Bergen seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Dunn, Phillips, Bergen, Lackore and Bartling. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee. The motion carried. A listing of said claims is attached to these minutes.

Lori Ferguson, Community Consultant for SCEDD, stated the Aurora DTR Committee for the City's 2022 Downtown Revitalization project/Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project (22-DTR-002) was recommending requesting an extension for the grant. The extension would be until December 31, 2026. She stated a second extension for the DTR grant would allow time for (yet to be reviewed/awarded applications) to complete projects and utilize the remaining grant funds. She told the council there were three applicants that would use up the remaining grant funds if the extension was to be approved.

Councilor Phillips moved to authorize the Mayor to request an extension until December 31, 2026 for the contract for the 2022 Downtown Revitalization project/Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project (22-DTR-002). Councilor Lackore seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Phillips, Bergen Lackore, Bartling and Dunn. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee. The motion carried.

A public input session was held regarding the possible adoption of regulations allowing chickens within city limits. The following people spoke in favor of allowing chickens: Lee Benson, Zack Tesar, Nicole Broman, Kylee Ochsner, Hayle Bockelman, Indy Bockelman, Kian Bockelman, Brandon McKay, Jannelle Seim and Joseph Ochsner.

City Attorney Luzum read Ordinance No. 1227: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AURORA, NEBRASKA AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION VARIOUS PURPOSE BONDS, SERIES 2026, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED FIVE MILLION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,250,000) TO PROVIDE FINANCING AND REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE COSTS OF VARIOUS STREET, WATER SYSTEM AND STORM SEWER SYSTEM AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE CITY; PRESCRIBING CERTAIN TERMS AND FORM OF SUCH BONDS AND PROVIDING FOR THE SETTING OF CERTAIN TERMS AND FORM OF SUCH BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE LEVY OF TAXES TO PAY THE INTEREST ON AND PRINCIPAL OF SUCH BONDS; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM; AND RELATED MATTERS.

Councilor Phillips moved to bring Ordinance No. 1227 before the council for the second reading and to suspend the statutory three reading rule for consideration of this Ordinance. Councilor Bergen seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Bergen, Lackore, Bartling, Dunn and Phillips. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee. The motion carried.

Councilor Lackore moved for final adoption of Ordinance No. 1227. Councilor Dunn seconded the motion. Mayor Seeman then stated the question, "Shall Ordinance No. 1227 be passed and adopted?" Upon roll call vote, the following Councilors voted Aye: Lackore, Bartling, Dunn, Phillips and Bergen. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee.

The passage and adoption of said Ordinance having been concurred in by a majority of all members elected to the Council was by the Mayor declared passed and adopted and the Mayor signed and approved said Ordinance and the Clerk attested the passage and approval of same and affixed her signature thereto. Said Ordinance shall be preserved and kept in a separate and distinct volume known as the Ordinance Record of the City of Aurora, Nebraska and same be incorporated herein by reference.

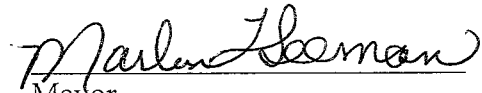
Councilor Lackore moved to approve the Manager Application for a Class A Liquor License for David Staab for Pizza Hut of Aurora, Beer on sale only. Councilor Phillips seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Bartling, Dunn, Phillips, Bergen and Lackore. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee. The motion carried.

Councilor Dunn moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Nancy Larson and the re-appointments of Dr. Roger Holling, Ron Haden, Bonnie Kruse and Jan Whitney to the Alice M. Farr Library Board. Councilor Lackore seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Bartling, Dunn, Phillips, Bergen and Lackore. Nay: None. Absent and not voting: Roblee. The motion carried.


Councilor Lackore moved to approve the Noise Control Special Variance Application from Aurora High School Prom Committee, for Prom at The Leadership Center, March 28, 2026, 8:00pm -11:00pm. Councilor Phillips seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Dunn, Phillips, Bergen, Lackore and Bartling. Nay: None. Absent and not voting Roblee. The motion carried.

**MISCELLANEOUS:
ADJOURNMENT:**

Having completed all items on the agenda, and there being no further business to conduct, Mayor Seeman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:09p.m.


Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk

