



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS

6/23/2026 - MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of City Commissioners met on June 23, 2026, at 5:15 PM in the Tom Baker Meeting Room, City/County Office Building, 221 North Fifth Street, Bismarck, North Dakota. Commissioners Connelly, Cleary, Risch, and Zenker were present. Mayor Schmitz attended the meeting via Teams.

FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

July 14, 2026 & July 28, 2026
August 11, 2026 & August 25, 2026
September 8, 2026 & September 22, 2026

MISSION STATEMENT

Together, we deliver exceptional public service.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSION

1. HUMANITARIAN AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Katie Houle, Sargianna Wutzke, and Thea Jorgensen presented the 2025 Humanitarian Awards to Century High School Peer to Peer, Megan Frankl-Mann, and Levi Engelstad.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. [Public Comment Policy](#): Restricted to items on the Consent Agenda, Regular Agenda, or the Prior City Commission Agenda, excluding public hearing items.

1. Trevor Vannett thanked Commissioners Cleary and Zenker for their work and time on the City Commission. Mr. Vannett also thanked Kendra and the CHS Peer to Peer program.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Zenker moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Commissioner Risch seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

- A. Consider approval of minutes

B. Consider approval of personnel actions

C. Consider approval of expenditures

Vouchers: 1133001-1133276.

D. Consider the request for approval from the Administration Department for the following:

1. Introduction of and public hearing on an application for a Class F-1 alcohol license by The Landing, LLC (dba) The Landing at 1700 River Road.
2. Introduction of and call for a public hearing on a request for a new Class I-2: Complementary Alcohol license for North Nail and Lash, LLC (dba) North Nails at 4401 Coleman Street.
3. Extension for Black Diamond Acres Wedding and Events LLC to utilize their Class D Liquor License.
4. Gaming site authorization renewals.

E. Consider the request for approval from the Bismarck Airport for the following:

1. Purchase of tables, modular desk, and office chairs using North Dakota State Bid.

F. Consider the request for approval from the Engineering Department for the following:

1. Encroachment agreement with Bismarck Public School District No. 1 at 5210 Noble Drive for a digital monument sign.
2. Closure of Canary Avenue and Edwards Avenue on the west side of the MDU Resources Community Bowl on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 8:00 AM - 11:30 PM.

3. Resolutions creating the district, ordering the preparation of the engineer's report, approving the engineer's report, and directing the preparation of the plans and specifications for Sewer Improvement District No. SE 588.
 4. Revised Project Budget for Street Improvement District SI 589.
 5. Resolution approving plans and specifications for Street Improvement District SI 590 and for Water Improvement District WA 334.
 6. Resolution receiving bids, ordering preparation of the Engineer's Statement and awarding the contract for Street Improvement District No. SI 600.
 7. Resolution receiving bids, ordering preparation of the Engineer's Statement and awarding the contract for Street Improvement District No. SI 602.
 8. Resolution creating the district, ordering the preparation of the engineer's report, approving the engineer's report, and directing the preparation of the plans and specifications for Street Improvement District No. SI 603.
 9. Resolutions for declaring petitions have been received, creating the district, ordering the preparation of the engineer's report, approving the engineer's report, and directing the preparation of the plans and specifications for Street Improvement District No. SI 604.
- G. Consider the request for approval from the Human Resources Department for the following:
1. Updated City of Bismarck Title VI Plan.
- H. Consider the request for approval from the Legal Department for the following:
1. Introduction of and call for a public hearing on Ordinance 6672 to amend Chapter 7-02 Salary and Payroll and Chapter 7-03 of the City of Bismarck Code of Ordinances relating to Sales, Use, and Gross Receipts Tax.

I. Consider the request for approval from the Planning Department for the following:

1. Permission to accept an Historic Preservation Fund grant award of \$37,800.
2. Permission to apply for a FY2026 Section 5307 grant.

J. Consider the request for approval from the Public Works - Utility Operations Department for the following:

1. Permanent easement acceptance for the Hay Creek Interceptor Project.
2. Assumption agreement and water service contract amendment with the City of Lincoln.

4. **REGULAR AGENDA**

A. Public Hearing on the request for a release of an existing Temporary Turnaround Easement within Lots 4 & 5, Block 4, Paradise Valley Addition and Lot 26, Block 2, Paradise Valley Second Addition.

Gabe Schell, City Engineer, presented information regarding a temporary turnaround easement for Paradise Valley Addition and Paradise Valley Second Addition.

Commissioner Cleary opened the public hearing. No public comment was received.

Commissioner Risch moved to approve the item as presented and Commissioner Zenker seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

B. Public hearing on Ordinance 6670, a zoning map amendment from the A – Agricultural zoning district to the R10 – Residential and P – Public zoning district, and major subdivision final plat titled Boulder Ridge Eighth Addition.

Jenny Wollmuth, Senior Planner, presented information on Ordinance 6670, a zoning map amendment from the A – Agricultural zoning district to the R10 – Residential and P – Public zoning district, and major subdivision final plat titled Boulder Ridge Eighth Addition.

Commissioner Cleary opened the public hearing.

- Landon Niemiller, a representative of Swenson, Hagen & Company, presented further information on the project. Mr. Niemiller explained that the project aims to complete long-delayed infill work in Bismarck by adding a park, connecting a missing road segment, and creating a few sellable lots. Future development in the

nearby Boulder Ridge Ninth area is planned but delayed due to wetlands, drainage, and access challenges.

Commissioner Zenker moved to approve the item as presented and Commissioner Connelly seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

- C. Public hearing on a major subdivision final plat titled Clear Sky Second Addition and Ordinance 6671, a zoning map amendment from the R5 – Residential and A – Agricultural zoning districts to the R5 – Residential zoning district.

Jenny Wollmuth, Senior Planner, presented information on Ordinance 6671, a zoning map amendment from the R5 – Residential and A – Agricultural zoning districts to the R5 – Residential zoning district, and a major subdivision final plat titled Clear Sky Second Addition.

Commissioner Cleary opened the public hearing. No public comment was received.

Commissioner Risch moved to approve the item as presented and Commissioner Connelly seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

- D. Consider the request to receive an update on the Half-Cent Sales Tax for Roadways.

Gabe Schell, City Engineer, provided an update on the Revised Project List for the recently passed Half-Cent Sales Tax for City Roadways. Engineer Schell outlined initial guidance for prioritizing projects funded by Bismarck's newly approved half-cent sales tax. As the new project list includes a wider mix of roadway types, including extensions, reconstructions, arterials, collectors, he emphasized the need for a structured evaluation framework rather than relying on simple condition-based decisions used in past programs. Engineer Schell proposed using a scoring matrix with criteria such as connectivity, traffic operations, safety, pedestrian/bike/transit benefits, and existing infrastructure needs. The scoring is meant to group projects rather than make precise rankings, with flexibility to adjust as community needs change. Engineer Schell will return in July with scored projects to help select projects for early implementation, along with discussion on the potential use of special assessments for roadway, water, and sewer extensions.

- [Presentation](#)

The general consensus of the Commission is for Engineering to move forward with the scoring rubric as presented.

- E. Receive a presentation from Will Satler with the Funatix Events relating to the second annual Red, White, & Boom 4th of July celebration at the MDU Resources Community Bowl.

Will Satler with Funatix Events provided an update on the upcoming second annual Red, White, & Boom 4th of July celebration at the MDU Resources Community Bowl. The gates will open at 6:00 PM with festivities running until about 11:00 PM. Mr. Satler highlighted events including a drone light show, fireworks show, and a performance by the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra. Additional entertainment includes local artists, family activities, and over 14 food and drink vendors with complimentary water available. Mr. Satler noted that improvements to this year's event will include viewing screens and enhanced traffic control coordinated with City partners. Mr. Satler emphasized that the

event is free to the public and is a community collaboration supported by multiple local organizations, with attendance expected to exceed last year's 8,000 participants.

The Commission received the update.

5. COMMISSIONER SEND-OFF

Jason Tomanek, City Administrator, thanked Commissioners Cleary and Zenker for their years of service and highlighted major accomplishments from 2018 through 2026, including infrastructure projects, strategic planning efforts, public facility expansions, riverfront development, the land development code rewrite, and other key community initiatives. Administrator Tomanek presented plaques to the Commissioners to thank them for their time and work on the Commission.

- [Zenker and Cleary Send-Off](#)

6. OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM.