

UNAPPROVED MINUTES
BALTIC CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 17, 2025, 7:00 PM BALTIC CITY HALL
130 ST. OLAF AVENUE BALTIC, SOUTH DAKOTA

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at 7:01 p.m. on November 17, 2025. Council members answered roll call with Eric Comes, Edward Clark-Jessen, Brian McGreevy, Attorney Mae Pochop, Nikki Oien, & Steve Boeve. The meeting was called to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Approval / Amendment of Agenda

A motion was made by Edward Clark-Jessen to amend the agenda by moving Executive Session to follow Finance, seconded by Eric Comes, motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes

Nikki Oien made a motion by council to approve the October 20, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, Steve Boeve seconded, motion carried.

3. Claims Payable

Council reviewed claims payable. Boeve made a motion by council to approve the Claims Payable, Comes seconded, motion carried.

4. Public Comment

No one came forward for public time.

5. Public Works Update

Public Works Director gave a comprehensive monthly update:

Snow & Winter Preparedness

- First snow of the season allowed a test run of winter equipment.
- Sander installation revealed the need to pick up road salt; restocked.
- Cutting edges ordered in advance to prevent downtime.
- Working on better centralized equipment staging to avoid storing plows and blades across multiple buildings.
- Test run on November 8—equipment functioned properly.

Equipment & Operations

- City is planning to use the dump truck with the 27-ft blade set to clear wider roadway sections more efficiently.
- New commercial mowers delivered and tested; staff pleased with performance.
- Research continues new vs. used ballfield lighting.
 - Used halogen lights available at a fraction of the price, but bulb availability is a concern.
 - New light poles estimated at \$6,500 per pole (pole only).
 - Exploring 65–85 ft poles for proper coverage; used wooden poles less preferred.
 - Dusty contacting multiple suppliers (SE Electric, Outdale, Xcel) for pricing.

Park & Campground Improvements

- City evaluating expansion of river park amenities to attract more campers and events.
- Investigating state regulations regarding current septic capacity and feasibility of adding individual water/sewer/power hookups.
- Considering re-opening or enhancing restrooms with showers if utilities are expanded.
- Discussing potential for campground host program to improve service and reduce staff workload.

Water Department

- Residual chlorine steady at 2.2.
- Lead & copper inventory: State required additional certified letters to 160 locations due to previously uncertified entries; letters sent.
- 100 ultrasonic meters purchased for upcoming meter replacement project.
 - Cold weather may delay replacement where curb stops are questionable or buried.
- Working with ISG on options for lagoon capacity and compliance:
 - Current lagoons are at or near capacity.

- Options include:
 1. Adding a new cell (possibly at the current hay ground),
 2. Utilizing existing cells differently,
 3. Evaluating constructed wetland or SAGR system if required.
- Engineering review and cost comparison forthcoming.

Lift Station Issues

- Current lift station electronics extremely outdated; electrical panel deemed unsafe by contractors.
- Three-phase power not available on site; pumps require three-phase.
- Includes SCADA compatibility for remote monitoring.
- New pumps recommended: “chopper” design that can pass/ shred debris (demonstrated performance including rags/towels).
- Estimated cost: \$69,000 installed.
- Sewer FIT fund balance: \$80,025 available to cover cost.

Generators

- Two generators serviced and ready.
- Planning to hard-wire one to the main lift station and create plug-in compatibility for the trailer park lift station.
- Second generator planned for City Hall as an emergency operations center.

City Properties & Shop Organization

- House behind city buildings demolished; site cleaned, gravel added, drainage tile installed.
- Snowblower, broom, and attachments placed on pallet racking to free shop space and reduce trip hazards.
- Battery/locating equipment for utilities received.

6. Finance Update

Finance Officer Harrington gave an update on Sales Tax for 2025 so far.

7. Legal/Council/Mayor Update

None

8. Executive Session

Oien made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:36 pm, Boeve seconded, all ayes, motion carried.

McGreevy took the Council out of Executive Session at 8:25 pm.

9. Old Business

Veteran’s Memorial Dedication – Mayor McGreevy gave a review and summary of the dedication for the new Veteran’s Memorial that was held.

10. New Business

a. **Resolution 2025-06 Water Rates** - Oien made a motion by council to approve the water rate increase from \$9.55 per 1,000 gallons to \$10.98 per 1,000 gallons or \$0.01098 per gallon, with a monthly minimum of 3,000 gallons at \$32.94 per month beginning 01/01/2026, Boeve seconded, motion carried.

b. **Resolution 2025-07 Sewer Rates** - Clark-Jessen made a motion by council to approve the sewer rate increase from \$10.28 per 1,000 gallons to \$11.82 per 1,000 gallons or \$0.01182 per gallon, with a monthly minimum of 3,000 gallons at \$35.46 per month beginning 01/01/2026, Boeve seconded, motion carried.

c. **Resolution 2025-08 Lift Station** – Clark-Jessen made a motion by council to approve the purchase and installation of a lift station from Electric Pump Inc in the amount of \$67,935.00, Oien seconded, motion carried.

d. **BADF** – Discussed having the BADF be put back under the City of Baltic.

e. **Veteran’s Memorial Park Power** – Discussed the City of Baltic paying for the power at the Veteran’s Memorial Park since it would be considered a park in Baltic. Boeve made a motion by council to take responsibility of the lights/power at the Veteran’s Memorial, Comes seconded, motion carried.

f. **AED Grant** – Public Works Director Dusty Lau discussed looking into options for an AED. He will do some checking and will revisit this topic.

g. **Surplus – Bizhub 223 Printer** – Clark-Jessen made a motion by council to approve the surplus of Bizhub 223 Printer, Oien seconded, motion carried.

h. **Credit Card Machine** – Comes made a motion by council to approve the purchase and installation of credit card machine to have in the office so they can take payments in person, Oien seconded, motion carried.

11. ISG – Engineering Report

ISG gave an update on the following:

Oak & Ash

Main Lift Station

TAP Grant

5th St. Improvements

Adjournment

Nikki Oien made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 pm, Steve Boeve seconded, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.