FALLS CITY CITY COUNCIL	MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2026
Mayor Bailey called the Falls City City Council into regular session on Monday, October 5, 2026 at 6:01 p.m. in the Community Center located at 320 N. Main Street.	
Council Members Present: Council President Amy Houghtaling, Councilor Nick Backus, Councilor Tony Meier, Councilor Tia Scruton, Councilor Dennis Sickles and Councilor Lori Jean Sickles.	
Staff Present: City Manager AJ Foscoli and City Recorder Jeremy Teal	
AGENDA	**ACTION**
Announcements, Appointments, Appreciations & Proclamations **LDS Project Recognition**	Mr. Foscoli presented the LDS Church with a plaque of appreciation for their service day in Falls City. Jessica Steed stated the group was grateful to come to Falls City and help wherever they could. Mayor Bailey noted that 155 people helped all over the town. Mayor Bailey thanked Dawn and Chris Martin for the Breast Cancer awareness flags.
Public Comment	Mayor Bailey opened the public comments at 6:05 p.m. Mayor Bailey gave a brief overview of decorum in the council meeting to the community. Jim Miner noted the volunteers were fantastic but neglected the corner at Woods and Fairoaks and the brush and trees that need to be cut back. Tracy Young stated the 20-mph speed sign on Prospect across from sign they fixed is leaning and needs fixed and lowered. She asked about the $1 storm drain fee. Mr. Foscoli stated that DEQ and the TMDL compliance required the stormwater fee to help the city complete drainage cleanouts. She noted that all the water drains down Prospect, Fairoaks, and Sample to Palmer. Mr. Foscoli stated DEQ cared about the content of water more than where the water

	drains. Ms. Young asked if the stormwater fee would pay for the street sweeper. Mr. Foscoli stated it could. Tina Thompson stated the front loader was flying down Fairaoks as a main route to the mill lot. Mr. Foscoli stated he would reach out to TLX. Mayor Bailey closed the public comments at 6:14 p.m.
Consent Agenda a) September 8, 2026 Minutes	It was moved by Councilor Meier to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Council President Houghtaling and CARRIED with a vote of 6-0 with Councilors Backus, Meier, Scruton, D Sickles, LJ Sickles, and Council Prewsident Houghtaling voting YES.
Reports or Comments from Mayor and Council Members a) Mayor's Report	Mayor Bailey stated this was the 3rd year for the Veterans BBQ and was dedicated to all active members and their families, and all veterans and their families. He noted the meeting would be October 11 veterans meeting at 9 am. He mentioned that Thrives would hold a candidate forum on Monday, October 12 at 6 pm at the community center.
b) Councilor Comments	There were none.
c) Public Works Committee Report	Councilor Meier stated in favor of rate increase for water and sewer installation. He asked that a more detailed description of the difference between standard and difficult meter installation. Mr. Foscoli stated there would be a good description of the difference between the two installs for water meters. Mayor Bailey noted citizens could contact City Hall for more information.
Reports from City Manager & Staff a) City Manager's Report	Mr. Foscoli reported on the wastewater treatment plant, grazing proposal, water and wastewater connection fee increases, code enforcement, town hall meeting, 8th street vacation, LDS project, and parking penalty

	updates, and the water mainline replacement project. Mr. Foscoli stated the wastewater plant could be discharged on November 1. He noted the ponds were lower than expected, roughly 55-60% capacity which allows growth of the community and the ability to add more people to system. Councilor D Sickles asked if there was a fee structure setup for people that wanted to join the sewer system. Mr. Foscoli noted there was. Mr. Foscoli stated he had received proposal to allow cattle grazing on the bare land next to sewer ponds. He noted there were 8 acres of grassland that needed to be cut and maintained on the property and both Polk County and DEQ didn't see any issues with allowing that. Mr. Foscoli stated the fees for water and sewer hadn't been increased in over 10 years and with inflation increasing annually it was time to increase them. He noted the Council would review and decide on what the rates should be. He noted the town hall on Monday the 19th to talk to the community and the candidate forum on Monday the 12th hosted by Thrives. Mr. Foscoli stated the 8th street vacation was moving forward. He noted the owners agreed on the land and Public Works committee had no issue other than asking that Infrastructure upgrade rights be obtained. Mr. Foscoli stated there were holes found in the city code regarding parking penalty fees and those would be presented next month. Tina Thompson stated she liked the idea of cattle, but suggested allowing 5-acre parcels to keep from becoming a desert and restore the ecosystem.
Good of the Order	Mayor Bailey stated there would be a Veterans BBQ meeting Sunday, November 8th in the fire bay.

	Councilor D sickles asked when the Thrives candidate forum was. Mayor Bailley stated Monday, October 12 in the community center at 6 pm and Greg Oldham would moderate. Tina Thomspon asked about the ballot. Mayor Bailey stated it was a total write-in ballot. Councilor D Sickles stated the name needed to be spelled exactly as the legal name. He noted the candidates needed to be legal Falls City residents, and registered voters to be eligible for a write in candidate. Mr. Foscoli stated the candidates that win the election need to visit the Secretary of State website to verify as a candidate. Dawn Martin asked if someone wins and doesn't want the position. Councilor D Sickles stated they could decline.
Regular Session Adjourn	There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39p.m.

Read and approved this 2 day of November 2026.

Mayor:_____

ATTEST:

City Recorder:_____