

# NEBRASKA MUNICIPAL REVIEW

■ Seward first responders commended  
for life-saving actions

■ More miles completed on Panhandle's  
Heartland Expressway

■ City of West Point plans  
to build new pool

Official Publication of the League of Nebraska Municipalities

**OCTOBER 2022**



***“Shaping the Future  
of our Cities  
and Villages  
with Leadership  
and Vision.”***

*– League President,  
Gibbon Mayor  
Deb VanMatre*

**League of Nebraska Municipalities  
2022 Annual Conference**

# Contents

OCTOBER 2022

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*About the Cover: League President, Gibbon Mayor Deb VanMatre – “Shaping the Future of our Cities and Villages with Leadership and Vision.”*

4	<b>Meet Your President – League President Deb VanMatre, Gibbon Mayor, ‘Shaping the Future of our Cities and Villages with Leadership and Vision’</b>
6	<b>The Director’s Message by L. Lynn Rex, LNM Executive Director –</b> Communities in Nebraska and other states facing serious opioid-related challenges
9	NLC’s 2022 City Fiscal Conditions report examines cities’ financial health and post-COVID recovery
10	<b>The Legal Corner by Tara A. Stingley –</b> EEOC releases updates ‘Know Your Rights’ Poster
11	U.S. Sen. Fischer announces \$35 million broadband grant for Winnebago Tribe
12	<b>LARM –</b> As temperatures fall, watch for black ice
13	Mayor Hanson, longtime League Legislative Committee Chair, retires
14	City of West Point plans to build new pool
15	More miles completed on Panhandle’s Heartland Expressway
16	Nebraska Department of Economic Development awards Community Development Block Grant funds
17	Aerial photos added to City of Kearney’s GIS homebase website
18	Norfolk adding to skate park with donation
19	Work begins on Veterans Memorial Pavilion in Lexington
20	Seward first responders commended for life-saving actions
22	Patrick O’Donnell, nation’s longest-serving Clerk of the Legislature, plans to retire
24	National Civic League now accepting applications for 2023 All-America City Award
25	Classifieds
26	Professional Directory

## Larger Cities Legislative Committee

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<b>James Kelley</b>	Loss Control Specialist

## CALENDAR

Utilities/Public Works Section Annual Conference .....	Jan. 11-13, 2023, Embassy Suites, Lincoln
Midwinter Conference.....	Feb. 27-28, 2023, Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln
NLC Congressional City Conference.....	March 12-15, 2023, Washington, D.C.

## Municipal Legal Calendar

(All statute citations to Revised Statutes of Nebraska)

### DECEMBER 2022

#### CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS

Each month .....	Clerk publishes ordinances passed within 15 days after passage. (16-405)
Within 10 days from meeting or before next meeting (whichever is sooner) .....	Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
Within 30 days from Council meeting.....	Clerk publishes official proceedings of meetings. (19-1102)
Within 20 days after the end of the month.....	Treasurer files monthly financial report. (16-318)
* * .....	Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Council meeting. (84-1411)
By December 31.....	Clerk files year-end certification of street superintendent with the Nebraska Department of Transportation
Reminder .....	Notice of automatic renewal of liquor and beer other than Class C licenses must be published between January 10 and January 30 of each year. (53-135.01)
Reminder .....	On or before January 31 provide county assessor each new lease or changed preexisting lease which went into effect during the previous year and a listing of previously reported leases that are still in effect. (77-202.11)
Reminder .....	On or before January 31, each municipality with a clean energy assessment district (PACE) submits report to Urban Affairs Committee. (13-3211)

#### CITIES OF THE SECOND CLASS AND VILLAGES

Each month .....	Clerk publishes ordinances passed within 15 days after passage (17-613)
Within 10 days from meeting or, before next meeting (whichever is sooner) .....	Clerk to have minutes available for public inspection. (84-1413)
Within 30 days from Governing Board meeting.....	Clerk publishes official proceedings of meeting. (19-1102)
Within 20 days after the end of the month.....	Treasurer files monthly financial report. (17-606)
* * .....	Clerk must prepare agenda prior to next Council or Board meeting. (84-1411)
By December 31.....	Clerk files year-end certification of street superintendent with the Nebraska Department of Transportation
Reminder .....	Notice of automatic renewal of liquor and beer other than Class C licenses must be published between January 10 and January 30 of each year. (53-135.01)
Reminder .....	On or before January 31 provide county assessor each new lease or changed preexisting lease which went into effect during the previous year and a listing of previously reported leases that are still in effect. (77-202.11)
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Deb VanMatre, Mayor of Gibbon  
League President

## **‘Shaping the Future of our Cities and Villages with Leadership and Vision’ – Mayor Deb VanMatre**

BY LYNN MARIENAU, COMMUNICATIONS  
DIRECTOR, LNM

When she was in the fifth grade, Gibbon Mayor Deb VanMatre’s parents bought a grocery store where she worked alongside them doing everything from stocking shelves, bagging groceries, preparing the payroll and working as the butcher during her high school years.

“Maybe, I’ve always been on a non-traditional track,” she said, adding that her early experiences taught her “work and responsibility.”

### **Active in community**

She also learned from them to be active in the community. Besides running the store, her mom and dad participated in the Jaycees and Mrs. Jaycees organizations and her father served on the Gibbon City Council. They told her that if she joined an organization, she should participate fully in it, by attending conferences and activities beyond the local level.

She took their advice to heart. A partial list of her community service besides serving as Mayor since 2012, includes the Gibbon School Board, Chamber of Commerce, Natural Resources District, Faith United Methodist Church, Gibbon Tractor Pull Association and numerous foundations and boards.

Despite a lifetime devoted to public service, Mayor VanMatre does not seem altogether comfortable in the spotlight, choosing to concentrate on projects completed and those underway in the community where she has lived her entire life.

Former Gibbon City Administrator Chris Rector, who currently is the Holdrege City Administrator, said Mayor VanMatre focuses on getting things done.

“She runs a very efficient meeting,” he said.

With her direct, business-like manner, she has accomplished much.

“Public service and community service have been my life,” she said. “That is me.”

### **Elected President**

Mayor VanMatre was elected President of the League of Nebraska Municipalities September 16 during the League’s Annual Business Meeting in conjunction with the 2022 Annual Conference in Lincoln. She has served on the League Executive Board since 2017. Mayor VanMatre’s theme for her tenure is *Shaping the Future of our Cities and Villages with Leadership and Vision*.

On a warm and sunny day in late

September, Mayor VanMatre visited about public service and the nontraditional path she has followed. After graduating high school, she married Nick, her high school sweetheart to whom she has been married for 47 years and attended what was then Kearney State College as a music major. Music has been a constant presence in her life from the time she was in first grade and began taking piano lessons. She has been the organist and pianist at Faith United Church for 43 years. She directs the choir and bell choir and she accompanies the praise team. For four years, she offered private piano lessons, and she has been the accompanist for the vocal department at Gibbon Public School for 20 years, playing for concerts and district music contests.

### **Accepted bank job**

She decided, however, that pursuing a music degree was not what she wanted to do and she accepted a job at the Exchange Bank as a teller and assistant cashier.

While working at the bank, the general manager at Nebraska Turkey Growers Cooperative, a large turkey processing plant in Gibbon, asked her

*Continued on page 5*



*Continued from page 4*

to consider applying for a shipping clerk position at the plant where she would then train to take over as the office manager after the current manager retired. (The current manager at the time was Mayor VanMatre's grandmother.) Mayor VanMatre was hired as the shipping clerk, promoted to office manager, business manager, co-general manager and ultimately became general manager and CEO of the cooperative. She was even named the Poultry Person of the Year at the Nebraska Poultry Industries convention in 2002. The award was in recognition of her work as general manager in assembling an exceptional management team, improving plant efficiencies and for completing the addition of a smoked turkey operation.

"It worked out well," she said in her typically understated way.

### **Traveled to Cuba**

During her time at Nebraska Turkey Growers, she traveled to Cuba in 2006 on a trade mission and said that she was the only person who returned with a signed sales contract for the plant. She noted that she heard extensive propaganda while she was in Cuba criticizing then-President Bush and the United States. The Cubans with whom they conducted business were friendly, she said, but others were not as welcoming, which contrasted with her experience traveling as part of the Nebraska LEAD program to Russia, Ukraine and Poland. The people they visited in those countries were hoping for business investment from the United States and were far friendlier. Mayor VanMatre said the mission of the Nebraska LEAD program is to prepare and motivate people in agriculture for more effective leadership.

"Participation in this program helped

to broaden my perspective, both nationally and internationally, beyond my career with the poultry industry," she said.

### **Women of Today President**

Another civic organization that expanded her horizons was the Jaycees. She started a new Jaycee Women chapter, which eventually became the Women of Today, serving first as the local charter president for Jaycee Women and then served as the state and national president for the Women of Today. The focus of the organizations was community service, personal development and leadership training, which sparked her interest in running for the local school board, where she served for 12 years, including 10 years as president. During her tenure, the school board supported - and residents passed - a bond for construction of a new K-12 school, which she said was "much needed."

She also was appointed in 2015 to



*Gibbon Water Tower. Photo provided courtesy of Mayor Deb VanMatre.*

fill an open position on the Central Platte Natural Resources District, on which she still serves, representing Sub-District 5. In addition, she has remained active with the local Chamber of Commerce, P.E.O. and her church.

In 2008, after 25 years, she left the turkey processing plant and worked for U.S. Representative Adrian Smith at his Grand Island District Office where she served as his Constituent

*Continued on page 8*



*VanMatre family photo from left: Son, Craig; Mayor Deb VanMatre; Husband, Nick; Daughter, Alissa. Photo provided courtesy of Mayor Deb VanMatre.*



## Communities in Nebraska and other states face serious opioid-related challenges

BY L. LYNN REX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LNM

The Omaha Division of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and other law enforcement agencies in Nebraska and across our nation have reported a significant increase in fake pills laced with fentanyl. Justin King, DEA Omaha Division Special Agent in Charge, stated to Nebraska school administrators at a conference in July: ***"We're seeing fentanyl in pill form and we're seeing it laced with other drugs like heroin, methamphetamine and cocaine; 67 percent of the more than 108,000 overdose deaths last year were attributed to synthetic opioids such as fentanyl. This is why it's so important that we share this message and provide educational resources that inform the public on the threat facing our communities."***

King emphasized fentanyl is a synthetic substance 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine; two milligrams of fentanyl (which is an amount that would fit on the tip of a pencil) is a potentially lethal dose. King reported DEA lab testing indicates four out of every 10 pills with fentanyl have a lethal dose. He noted Mexican drug cartels provide the majority of illicit fentanyl trafficked in the United States with criminal drug networks in Mexico mass producing fake prescription pills laced with fentanyl using chemicals coming from China.

The Legislature enacted the **Opioid Prevention and Treatment Act (OPTA)** with passage of LB 1124 in 2020. The OPTA authorizes the use of millions of dollars dedicated for the treatment and prevention of opioid-related disorders. These funds will be available due to several nationwide settlements entered into by **Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson** with defendant corporations involved in the opioid epidemic. There are various timelines (from five to 18 years) for the State of Nebraska and eligible cities and counties to receive these payments. Funds received by the state will be deposited into the **Nebraska Opioid Re-**

**covery Fund** administered by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services – Division of Behavioral Health (DHHS-DBH) pursuant to the settlement terms negotiated by the Nebraska Attorney General.

Thanks to **AG Peterson and his Chief of Staff, Josh Shasserre**, for their leadership and collaborative efforts in working closely with the League and Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO). Based on the dedicated efforts of AG Peterson and Shasserre, the League and NACO informed municipal and county officials it was not necessary (or recommended) to hire law firms to represent them in these various lawsuits since AG Peterson would negotiate settlements on their behalf. **Consequently, cities and counties in Nebraska saved significant dollars in legal fees by not retaining separate legal counsel in the various opioid-related lawsuits.** Nebraska has the lowest percentage of cities and counties litigating separately in these lawsuits; AG Peterson did not hire any outside legal counsel to represent the state, cities and counties on these opioid-related lawsuits. The Nebraska Attorney General's website has a detailed explanation of the settlements, including the amounts and timelines, with the following corporations: **McKinsey; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson); and the distributors – AmerisourceBergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson.**

The **Nebraska Opioid Remediation Advisory Committee** was structured to provide recommendations for the use of funds in the **Opioid Recovery Fund**; the committee is required to have equal representation of "state" and "local" members. The League and NACO were asked to appoint officials from each of the six behavioral health regions to serve on the committee. In addition to the 12 "local" voting committee members, there are "state" voting

*Continued on page 7*



## Thanks to the municipal officials serving on the Nebraska Opioid Remediation Advisory Committee



*North Platte Mayor Brandon Kelliher  
Committee Vice Chair*



*Plattsmouth Mayor Paul Lambert*



*Grand Island Fire Chief Cory Schmidt*



*Lincoln City Attorney Yohance Christie*



*Scottsbluff Police Chief Kevin Spencer*



*Valentine Police Chief Dana Miller*

*Continued from page 6*

committee members. The Nebraska Attorney General or his designee and the Director of the DHHS-DBH or her designee serve as non-voting ex-officio committee members. The committee already has had several meetings and will make recommendations on the use of these funds in compliance with the various settlement agreements and the OPTA. The committee has no authority over direct payments to eligible cities and counties from the national administrator; the committee will establish criteria for identifying needs and prioritizing effective use of funds relating to the prevention and treatment of opioid-related disorders. **For a complete listing of committee members,**

**please visit the [Nebraska Attorney General's website.](#)**

DHHS-DBH is the state's appointed contact with the National Opioid Settlement Administrator and has responsibility for the accounting, administration and distributions from the Opioid Recovery Fund. DHHS-DBH has the expertise and existing structures to administer these federal funds. The six existing behavioral health regions will be utilized to determine regional allocations from the Opioid Recovery Fund pursuant to the settlement agreements. There will be opportunities for public comment; as previously noted, these funds can **ONLY** be used for the treatment and prevention of opioid-related disorders.

## 'Shaping the Future of our Cities and Villages with Leadership and Vision' – Mayor Deb VanMatre

*Continued from page 5*

Services Liaison - Agriculture for two-and-a-half years. She said she helped constituents with problems or questions they had with federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Postal Service. She also represented Congressman Smith at industry events and conferences in the areas of agriculture and natural resources.

"It was interesting and satisfying work, but it was a lot of time on the road," she said, adding that the job required more hours and travel than she wanted at that point in her life, which included grandchildren with whom she wanted to spend more time.

### Family

Mayor VanMatre and her husband, Nick, have a son, Craig, and a daughter, Alissa. Craig and his wife, Heidi, live in Norwalk, Iowa, with their daughter, Lleyton Jo. Alissa lives in Kearney with her three daughters, Baylee, Kinley and Kory and her son, Blayke.

When she was elected Mayor in 2012, the completion of a new swimming pool and the city's opportunity to assume control of the local golf course were among projects that added to the quality of life in Gibbon. While rarely appreciated by the public, Mayor VanMatre also was pleased about the tremendous improvements made to the wastewater treatment plant and other infrastructure. In addition, the city is adding a new fire hall and bays on to the current facility along with a new community center and city hall, the result of a successful bond election.

Another satisfying highlight, Mayor



*Presentation of Certificate recognizing the City of Gibbon as a Leadership Certified Community. From left: Gibbon City Council Members in back row: Jeff Burmood, Derrick Clevenger, Leon Stall, Bob Krier. In front row: Kelsey Knehans, Economic Development Council of Buffalo County; Mayor Deb VanMatre; Former City Administrator Chris Rector. Photo provided courtesy of Mayor Deb VanMatre.*

VanMatre said, was the Nebraska Department of Economic Development recognizing Gibbon as a Leadership Certified Community in 2020 because of its successful recruitment of new business investment and a commitment to countywide housing partnerships and development.

As Mayor, the greatest challenge she faced was the catastrophic flooding that swept across the state and struck Gibbon twice in 2019, in March and again in July.

"It happened so fast and we felt so helpless," she said, adding that it was gratifying to see first responders and the community pull together and recover from the destruction.

Fortunately, she said, there was not much damage to city infrastructure because of the flooding.

Larger issues confronting municipalities involve maintaining local control

in the face of increased federal and state mandates and oversight, which she said, underscores the importance of the League of Nebraska Municipalities to cities and villages. Managing municipal resources - financial, infrastructure and personnel - remain critical to municipal officials. She highlighted an underlying problem of filling municipal positions, particularly as longtime employees with years of experience reach retirement age.

What does Mayor VanMatre do for fun? She enjoys spending time with her family, reading - mostly fiction - and attending music events.

For Mayor VanMatre, following a nontraditional path and the road less traveled has made all the difference. ■



# NLC's 2022 City Fiscal Conditions report examines cities' financial health and post-COVID recovery

*Crucial federal support helps communities avoid what could have been years of financial struggle*

In the last two years, America's cities, towns and villages have experienced some of the most dramatic fiscal downturns in their histories. Now in its 37th year, NLC's City Fiscal Conditions report presents a snapshot of where cities are financially as they turn the page on the COVID-19 fiscal downturn and get back on their feet.

For some, the sudden drop in revenues stemming from the pandemic overshadowed even the most negative fiscal impacts of the Great Recession of 2008. However, thanks to crucial federal support in the form of ARPA funds and the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, local governments across the nation have been able to address their most critical community needs, avoiding what could have been years of financial struggle to balance their budgets.

"This report underscores how crucial federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) have been to local governments across the nation, ensuring that critical services continued and preventing what would have been years of fiscal struggle," said NLC CEO and Executive Director Clarence E. Anthony.

## Among report's key findings

Multiple factors, many tied to COVID-19 recovery efforts, have put municipal governments on the right track for recovery in fiscal year 2022: a strong rebound of city revenue sources such as income and sales taxes, two years after the start of the COVID-19

outbreak in 2020, coupled with a once-in-a-generation and timely injection of federal monies in the form of ARPA.

Additionally, strong housing market activities over the past two years promised yet another positive trend in city revenues for the fiscal year 2022.

The looming fear of another recession led many municipal governments to implement conservative approaches to their 2022 budgets, adjusting their revenue and expenditure estimates based on the current micro as well as macro-economic factors.

## Hope remains

Looking beyond 2022, although cities continue to face fiscal and economic uncertainties and challenges, there remains hope as the federal government continues to play its crucial role in helping municipalities meet their communities' needs. The State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) remain a crucial part of cities' plans to regain pre-Covid fiscal health.

The Federal Reserve's active monetary policymaking in the form of increasing interest rates already has borne fruit as inflation rates (at the time of this writing) are slowly but surely falling back to normal levels.

Considering these favorable indicators, it is no surprise that nearly nine out of 10 finance officers surveyed by NLC expressed optimism in their ability to meet fiscal needs in their current fiscal year 2022. However, despite relatively positive trends observed in fiscal year 2021, cities, towns and villages still face an uphill battle as abnormally high inflation rates have nearly cancelled out the tax revenues these governments gained in 2021.

To read the full report, visit [https://](https://www.nlc.org/resource/city-fiscal-conditions-2022/)

[www.nlc.org/resource/city-fiscal-conditions-2022/](https://www.nlc.org/resource/city-fiscal-conditions-2022/). ■

Source – NLC

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Tara A. Stingley

## EEOC releases updated 'Know Your Rights' poster

BY TARA A. STINGLEY, CLINE WILLIAMS WRIGHT JOHNSON & OLDFATHER, L.L.P.

On Oct. 19, 2022, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which enforces federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination, released an updated "Know Your Rights" poster that replaces the previous "EEO is the Law" poster. Federal law requires covered employers to prominently display the poster at their work sites and authorizes fines for noncompliance.

A number of the laws that the EEOC enforces require covered employers to post a notice describing the federal laws prohibiting job discrimination. The EEOC's poster summarizes these laws and explains that employees or applicants can file a charge if they believe they have experienced discrimination, including discrimination based on:

- Race, color, national origin, religion and sex (including pregnancy and related conditions, sexual orientation or gender identity)
- Disability
- Age (40 and older)
- Equal pay
- Genetic information (including family medical history or testing)
- Retaliation for filing a charge, reasonably opposing discrimi-

nation, or participating in a discrimination lawsuit, investigation or proceeding

The new poster adds a QR code for digital access to instructions on filing a charge and it clarifies that harassment is a prohibited form of discrimination.

The EEOC's updated poster should be placed in a conspicuous location in the workplace where notices to applicants and employees are customarily posted. In addition to a physical posting, covered employers are encouraged to post a notice digitally on their websites. In most cases, electronic posting supplements the physical posting requirement. However, in some situations (for example, for employers without a physical location or for employees who work remotely and do not visit the employer's workplace on a regular basis), electronic posting may be the only posting. Employers also should post notices in a location accessible to applicants and employees with disabilities that limit mobility.

The poster is available in English and Spanish and will be available in additional languages at a later date.

For more information, visit [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov). ■

*Editor's Note: This article is not intended to provide legal advice to its readers. Rather, this article is intended to alert readers to new and developing issues. Readers are urged to consult their own legal counsel or the author of this article if they wish to obtain a specific legal opinion regarding their particular circumstances. The author of this article, Tara A. Stingley, can be contacted at Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather, L.L.P., 12910 Pierce Street, Suite 200, Omaha, NE 68144, (402) 397-1700, [tstingley@clinewilliams.com](mailto:tstingley@clinewilliams.com) or [www.clinewilliams.com](http://www.clinewilliams.com).*

## U.S. Sen. Fischer announces \$35 million broadband grant for Winnebago Tribe

U.S. Senator Deb Fischer, a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, in October announced a broadband grant for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. The Winnebago Tribe will receive \$35,252,376 to install fiber directly connecting 602 unserved Tribal households, 40 unserved Tribal businesses and 16 unserved Tribal community anchor institutions.

This grant is from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. The funding for the grant was made possible by the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law, which Sen. Fischer supported.

"Broadband is absolutely essential to modern life. It can help to grow our local economies, ensure people have access to critical services like telehealth, and incentivize young people to remain active in rural communities. This broadband funding will finally bring reliable, high-speed internet to unserved areas in the Winnebago Tribal community. I am pleased to see the many important investments the

infrastructure law continues to bring to our great state," Sen. Fischer said.

"The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, through our Winnebago Tribe Broadband Connectivity Project-Infrastructure Deployment Project, looks forward to the realization of all that high-speed internet can bring to our reservation residents and businesses. We see this as a huge advancement that will open the door for new opportunities for education, commerce and communication on the Winnebago Reservation. Until now, we were never able to make access to viable speeds to support video conferencing, teleworking, telehealth, etc. The lack of adequate bandwidth was particularly emphasized during the pandemic," said Tribal Chairwoman Victoria Kitcheyan.

"Reuben A. Snake, Jr. once said: 'Ho-Chunks (Winnebago) working together – nothing can prevent us from achieving our dreams and visions to once again be self-sufficient and economically self-reliant.' I have read that statement to myself quite a few different times and thought about what it means and how it relates in the IT World. The NTIA funds provides the Winnebago Tribe the ability to do just what Mr. Snake stated," said Winnebago Tribe IT Director Brandon Stout.

Sen. Fischer has been a steadfast advocate of increasing broadband access. Thanks to the 2021 infrastructure law, the Nebraska is expected to receive more than \$200 million to expand broadband networks and access. ■

*Source – U.S. Sen. Deb Fischer's office*

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# LARM – As temperatures fall, watch for black ice

■ **BY DIANE BECKER**  
COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING  
DIRECTOR, LARM ■

As the temperatures lower and fall precipitation increases, there is an increased chance of vehicles sliding on road surfaces. A common phenomenon known as black ice can wreak havoc for drivers from the first cold weather in October to the last freeze in May. According to the Nebraska Department of Transportation, black ice is a thin glaze of ice on the road that may not be visible. When unaware drivers traveling at a high rate of speed hit a portion of the roadway that has black ice, it may cause them to lose control of their vehicle completely. Even if you're a careful driver, black ice can cause you to slide unexpectedly. Some things can be done to make this less likely to happen.

## Check tires

First, check the condition of your tires. According to a study done by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly 10 percent of all vehicle accidents are due to tires that are in poor condition. To check for the proper tread on a tire, place a quarter upright into one of the big grooves in the tire tread. If the top



*Source – iStock Photo.*

of George Washington's head is flush with the tread, there is about one-eighth inch of tread left which is just adequate for winter driving. Any less than one-eighth inch tread requires replacement.

When the temperature is approaching freezing and there has been any slight precipitation, it may be a good idea not to use cruise control in your vehicle as you are naturally not as attuned to road conditions when you engage that feature.

## Lower speed, be alert

Lower your speed and be alert to the road conditions and traffic if any precipitation or even a recent heavy fog might have left a roadway slick. When you reduce your speed, you can react to any changes in the road surface. If your vehicle does hit a patch of black ice and starts to slip or skid, it's much easier to keep it under control. Be aware of your vehicle's performance, as you may feel your car slightly slip or skid as you travel.

If you begin to slide or skid, stay calm and resist the temptation to slam on the brakes or turn your steer-

ing wheel sharply. To correct a slide, your vehicle tires need to be moving freely. You need to turn into the slide, which means you steer the vehicle in the direction of the slide. When the vehicle's rear drifts to the right and the front points to the left, you would turn right to straighten the vehicle and then straighten the wheel as the vehicle begins to straighten.

## Be aware

Be aware of other travelers who may not be adjusting to the road conditions. Alertness and good defensive driving can prevent many collisions. Follow other vehicles at a safe distance, so you can react quickly if they start to slide and/or if you hit an icy patch.

Although black ice can be found on any road surface, it is more likely to occur in underpasses, shady areas, bridges and overpasses.

People usually are more likely to use safe driving measures when it is snowing or sleeting, but it's a good idea also to be on the lookout for the less obvious dangers of black ice on the roadway. ■





## Mayor Hanson, longtime League legislative committee chair, retires

Hickman Mayor Doug Hanson, longtime chair of the League of Nebraska Municipalities Smaller Cities Legislative Committee and Past League President, chaired his final meeting Oct. 13. The committees consider numerous legislative requests with recommendations to the League Executive Board for development of the League's legislative package. Mayor Hanson, after serving for decades in state and local government, has chosen not to seek reelection.

Mayor Hanson also serves as chair of the League Association of Risk Management (LARM) and served as President of the League of Nebraska Municipalities from 2009-2010.

He worked for 43 years in state government in various positions, including the Administrator of the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services (DAS) 309 Task Force for Building Renewal and the Administrator of the State Building Division within DAS. ■



*From left: Hickman Mayor Doug Hanson and Gibbon Mayor Deb VanMatre, League President, after the League's Smaller Cities Legislative Committee meeting adjourned.*



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### **League magazine available on website**

The League of Nebraska Municipalities places the *Nebraska Municipal Review* on the League's website at <http://www.lonm.org/> under the "News" and then the "Publications" tabs.

As always, we encourage you to share news from your city or village with fellow municipal officials by sending information for the *Nebraska Municipal Review* to the League of Nebraska Municipalities, Attn: Lynn Marienau at 1335 L Street, Lincoln, NE 68508, 402-476-2829 by phone or [lynnm@lonm.org](mailto:lynnm@lonm.org) by e-mail. ■



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## City of West Point plans to build new pool

The West Point City Council in September voted to accept a bid for slightly more than \$7 million to build a new swimming pool, which would be completed by October 2023. The current pool was built in 1985 and is at the end of its useful life, according to Tom Goulette, West Point City Administrator/Utility Superintendent.

Surveys were taken asking what features residents might want to have in a pool. As a result of those surveys, West Point voters last May approved a half-cent increase in the city's local option sales tax to raise money for the cost of the pool, which was estimated

to be \$6.4 million at the time. The additional half-cent tax went into effect Oct. 1, but inflation and supply chain problems have increased costs to \$7 million. Goulette said the Nielsen Foundation donated \$1.5 million and the Dinklage Foundation donated \$300,000 for the pool's construction that will be provided over a three-year period.

The new pool will be a little more than 11,000 square feet or twice the size of the current pool. It will offer zero depth entry, a toddler slide and toddler area, a play unit, diving boards, volleyball, a family water slide, a dual slide and a basketball goal. The

existing bathhouse will be renovated and the old filter room on the northwest end of the bathhouse is being converted into year-round restrooms to accommodate people using the park, the inclusive playground and the additional trails in the area.

Since the pool is being built on the existing site of the current pool, the community will go next year without a pool, Goulette said, adding that he is working with surrounding communities to accommodate swimming lessons and the local swim team.

"We are still working through the details, but we will have something by the time spring comes," he said. ■





# More miles completed on Panhandle's Heartland Expressway

■ BY PAUL HAMMEL  
NEBRASKA EXAMINER ■

<https://nebraskaexaminer.com/>

*Reprinted with permission.*

Dignitaries gathered in October to celebrate completion of an additional 14 miles of four-lane, divided freeway on the Heartland Expressway in Nebraska's Panhandle.

The new four-lane portion extends from Nebraska Highway Link 62A, east of Minatare, to Alliance.

Increased revenue from the Build Nebraska Act and the Transportation Innovation Act enabled the Nebraska Department of Transportation to extend the expressway.

## Federal grant helped

The NDOT also received an \$18.3 million grant through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program.

The Heartland Expressway, a federally designated, high-priority corridor, will eventually provide multilane, divided highway access from Rapid City, S.D., to Denver, via Alliance, Scottsbluff, Kimball and Brush, Colo.

## \$32 million project

Gov. Pete Ricketts, who attended the event, said the expressway will significantly increase the flow of freight from America's border with Canada all the way to ports along the Gulf of Mexico.

IHC-Scott Inc. of Centennial, Colo., was awarded the \$32 million contract to complete the 14-mile segment of the Heartland Expressway.

Alliance Mayor Mike Dafney said the expressway has been long awaited by Panhandle residents.

"Our communities and our organizations are committed to this project and its ability to meet transportation needs



*From left, Alliance Mayor Mike Dafney, Gov. Pete Ricketts and Nebraska Department of Transportation Director John Selmer celebrate completion of a new segment of the Heartland Expressway. (Photo courtesy of the Governor's Office.)*

for Nebraskans in the region for years to come," he said.

## Ricketts opposed gas tax hike

The Build Nebraska Act of 2011 earmarked 1/4th of 1 percent of the state's income taxes to highway construction, while the Transportation Innovation Act of 2015 eventually increased the state's gas tax by 6 cents

a gallon.

Ricketts opposed the gas tax hike, saying Nebraskans want tax relief, and he has targeted some state Senators for election defeat because they supported it. The gas tax increase was expected to generate an additional \$76 million a year to accelerate highway improvements. ■

## York Community Solar Project goes live

In October, the York Community Solar Project went live.

The City of York worked with the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and GRNE Solar to install solar panels on landfill property. The York Community Solar Project creates enough energy to power all city and York Public School operations as well as county buildings in the

city and the Houlthus Field House. This translates into an immediate energy savings for everyone. The school calculates that their savings equal one month of energy costs. The savings continue to grow as the solar electricity price remains fixed for 30 years regardless of other energy price increases. ■

*Source — City of York*

# Nebraska Department of Economic Development awards Community Development Block Grant funds

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development in October awarded \$2,034,079 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to five communities under the 2022 Public Works Opportunity to the local governments listed below. Projects include a hike/bike trail, a senior center and street improvements.

A federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) program, administered by DED on behalf of Nebraska's non-entitlement communities, CDBG dollars exist to help communities tackle projects that enhance public health and safety, economic well-being, local vitality and quality of life.

All of the funded communities demonstrated a solid approach to community development within their project designs and showed that through collaboration, much needed facility and infrastructure improvements are

attainable. A brief project description of each is below.

- **Ainsworth** – The City of Ainsworth, Brown County, was awarded \$433,000 for street improvements. The city is preparing to improve Main Street beginning at the intersection of 4th Street/Nebraska Highway 20 and Main Street/Nebraska Highway 7, following Main Street to the north, and ending at the entrance to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- **Bartlett** – The Village of Bartlett, Wheeler County, was awarded \$420,279 for street improvements starting at the intersection of Randolph and 4th Street and will end one block west of the intersection of 5th and Randolph Street.
- **Filley** – The Village of Filley, Gage County, conducted a community needs assessment in 2022 which demonstrated that street improve-

ments were a high priority in this community of 124 persons. The village subsequently applied for and was awarded funding in the amount of \$315,000 for improving Livingston Street, Gage Street, Lancaster Street and Johnson Street.

- **Wayne** – The City of Wayne, Wayne County, currently has an extensive trail system and CDBG funding in the amount of \$433,000 will assist to expand that system from residential areas to a major retail corridor that provides goods and services within the municipal limits of the city. The project will create approximately 0.7 additional miles in length of a six-foot-wide concrete trail that will run parallel to Highway 35/7th Street on the west end of town between 575th Avenue and the Greenwood Cemetery Entrance. The new trail will be in compliance with the ADA and accessible for mobility constrained users.
- **Wood River** – The City of Wood River, Hall County, is taking advantage of existing usable space in the community to develop a new Senior Center. The current senior center has no parking of its own and also was sharing space with the local food pantry. The center was flooded in 2019 and a Needs Assessment in 2022 showed a desire to use the vacant portion of the old Good Samaritan Center building as a Senior Center. The new Senior Center was funded for \$433,000 and allows the City of Wood River to host the Stick

*Continued from page 17*

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## Aerial photos added to City of Kearney's GIS homebase website

The City of Kearney's Homebase GIS website enables the public to search and view GIS information related to the city through a mapping interface that contains various layers, links, scans and other data sources. Among these valuable data sources is aerial imagery. City officials were pleased to announce the recent addition of 2022 aerial photos to the Homebase GIS website.

Visitors to the site can expect to search for and find information related to the following:

- Subdivisions, easements and addresses
- City utilities like water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer
- Zoning
- School district boundaries
- Trash, recycling and yard waste pick-up days
- Voting precinct information
- Links to Buffalo County Assessor data (through Selection panel on left hand side)

The above detailed information can be toggled on and off through the "Layers" tab in the top right-hand corner. In addition, now site users will

be able to view more recent aerial images since the city's aerial vendor flew over the community in spring 2022 capturing new photos. The City of Kearney and Buffalo County partner to have updated aerial imagery provided every three years. These aerial images appear in the map as ortho images that underlay other GIS layers but users also have the option to access the im-

ages in 3D by using the "Pictometry" tab in the map. The city encourages citizens to use the GIS database on the city website to access information about property or other areas of the community.

To access the Homebase map directly, visit <http://kearneyne.map.beehere.net>. ■

Source – City of Kearney

## CDBG funds awarded

*Continued from page 16*

Creek Kids Center (also funded by CDBG Public Works), a future food bank, library and Senior Center all under the same roof.

For more information, contact Community Development Specialist Aaron Boucher, [Aaron.Boucher@nebraska.gov](mailto:Aaron.Boucher@nebraska.gov). ■

Source – Nebraska Department of Economic Development



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# Norfolk adding to skate park with donation

*Pump track expected to be ready in spring 2023*

The City of Norfolk will be adding to its skate park thanks to a donation from the late Lee W. DeKarske.

At the request of DeKarske, the \$114,201.82 donation will be used for the construction of a pump track at the skate park.

“On behalf of the City of Norfolk and the Norfolk Parks and Recreation department, I would like to thank Lee DeKarske for his generous donation towards a pump track at our skate park,” said Nathan Powell, Parks and Recreation Director.

“A pump track is a circular loop with hills and berms. There is no need to pedal or push in a pump track if ridden correctly. They’re great for bicycles, skateboards, inline skates, wheelchairs and scooters. This gift is very much appreciated and will help provide new opportunities for all,” Powell added.

“We are very grateful to Mr. DeKarske for his generous gift. As our parks and recreation facilities grow and improve, it’s exciting and gratifying to see community members want to contribute to that growth by dedicating their own resources to it. These are legacy gifts that will benefit generations of Norfolkans to come,” said Mayor Josh Moenning.

The anticipated timeline for construction of the new pump track is spring 2023.

Lee DeKarske owned and operated Lee’s Jewelry in Norfolk for over 40 years. He was active in many social activities and was a member of the Shriners. ■

*Source – City of Norfolk*



*From left: Norfolk Mayor Josh Moenning; Norfolk Parks and Recreation Director Nathan Powell and Norfolk Assistant Director of Recreation PJ Evans. Photo courtesy of the City of Norfolk.*



*Concept rendering of the pump track. Photo courtesy of the City of Norfolk.*



# Work begins on Veterans Memorial Pavilion in Lexington

Construction recently has begun on a Veterans Memorial Pavilion in Lexington at the south end of Kirkpatrick Memorial Park. When finished, the project will include an amphitheater and five stations honoring five branches of the military.

The project has been made possible by generous donations and fund-raising work by the Veterans Memorial Steering Committee and the Lexington Community Foundation. The goal is to have the project completed for a grand opening on Memorial Day weekend 2023. ■



Construction has begun on the Lexington Veterans Memorial Pavilion. Photo and story courtesy of Lexington City Happenings.

## Lincoln City Finance Department receives national award

Lyn Heaton, Chief Financial Officer, announced that Lincoln’s City Finance Department has received the 2020 Triple Crown Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). GFOA’s Triple Crown recognizes governments who have received GFOA’s Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

“The Triple Crown Award exemplifies the professionalism and dedication of

our Finance Department team. It is an honor to be one of only 203 municipalities out of more than 19,400 in the United States to be awarded the Triple Crown for fiscal year 2020,” Heaton said.

The finance department is responsible for creating the City’s Budget, the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), which is audited by an independent outside agency every year, and most recently, the Popular Annual Financial Report, which is designed to be a readily accessible and

easily understandable version of the ACFR for individuals without a background in public finance. The GFOA has awarded the City of Lincoln’s ACFR its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 35 years.

The GFOA is a professional association serving the needs of more than 19,000 appointed and elected local, state and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners. ■

Source – City of Lincoln

## Directory of Municipal Officials

### Position/Information Changes

Municipality	Title	Delete	Add
Alma	Clerk/Treasurer	Jessica Nash	Dawn McNulty
Loomis	Board Member	Courtney Reynolds	Melanie Freeman
	Board Member	Nancy Cruise	Maxine Berry
	Board Member	Kalen Arehart	Ben Collin

# Seward first responders commended for life-saving actions

BY EMILY HEMPHILL  
SEWARD COUNTY  
INDEPENDENT

*Reprinted with permission*

Three local heroes were recognized Sept. 20 for saving a man's life by pulling him from the window of a burning building.

Seward Police Chief Brian Peters, Seward Volunteer Fire Department Assistant Chief Dan Brumm and Seward County Sheriff's Deputy Johnny May were commended by Seward Mayor Josh Eickmeier and Sheriff Mike Vance for their efforts on the scene of an apartment complex fire July 29.

"The brave efforts of these first responders ultimately saved (the man) from certain death," Mayor Eickmeier said.

He recounted the events that transpired the afternoon of the fire, when the three agencies responded to the scene at 428 N. Third Street.

"The house had five different apartments inside of it, so the difficult task of determining if anyone was inside was the number one priority," Eickmeier said.

## Initial reports

Initial reports and contact with other residents of the building made it seem as though everyone was out.

"It was then discovered that a male subject was trapped by the fire hanging from a rear window on the north side of the house," Eickmeier said. "The window had been broken out, but the male subject was unable to exit by himself due to already suffering burns from inside."

Peters, Brumm and May lifted the man from the window six feet to the ground.

*Continued on page 21*



*Seward Mayor Josh Eickmeier, left, presented a certificate of merit and commendation Sept. 20 to Seward Volunteer Fire and Rescue Assistant Chief Dan Brumm, right. Photo provided courtesy of Derek Bargmann, City Clerk/HR Director, Seward.*



*Seward Mayor Josh Eickmeier, right, offers thanks and a certificate of merit and commendation to Seward Police Chief Brian Peters Sept. 20. Photo provided courtesy of Derek Bargmann, City Clerk/HR Director, Seward.*



*Continued from page 20*

He was transported to a Lincoln hospital, treated and eventually released.

Eickmeier said the man was interviewed following the fire investigation.

"He specifically noted how grateful he was for all of the lifesaving efforts, and noted that he would have been unable to get out of the rear apartment without the quick actions of three aforementioned first responders," Eickmeier said.

### **Will receive ribbons**

The three were given a certificate of merit and commendation from the city and will receive ribbons to wear on their uniforms.

"Having the volunteer fire department and our police department as well as the sheriff's department all working together, and all the other departments that were able to respond that day, it does take a group effort," Eickmeier said, "especially when you're talking about a structure fire. You just don't know how that's going to end up, especially in a building as unique as that particular apartment."

Vance also presented them with a letter of commendation, and they will receive plaques.

"I'm proud to work with men like this that take their public service seriously, putting their lives in danger," Vance said.

City Administrator Greg Butcher also spoke to the recipients.

"I was on scene, and I personally got

to view the police video that showed the activity as it happened. It was a scary scene," Butcher said. "(The man) could not relay enough how thankful

he was for the grace under pressure it took to get him out of there. You activated and did exactly what this community asked of you." ■

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# Patrick O'Donnell, nation's longest-serving Clerk of the Legislature, plans to retire

BY PAUL HAMMEL  
NEBRASKA EXAMINER

<https://nebraskaexaminer.com/>

*Reprinted with permission.*

Patrick O'Donnell, the longtime Clerk of the Nebraska Legislature, announced in October that he's retiring at the end of the year.

O'Donnell, 73, currently is the longest-serving Clerk of a state Legislature in the nation, having held the post since 1978.

In an email to state Senators, O'Donnell gave no detail about why he was leaving now, after 44 years on the job – saying simply that he was retiring at year's end.

## 'Honor to serve'

"It has been an honor to serve," he wrote. "I wish you well in the upcoming session."

When O'Donnell might retire had been the subject of speculation in recent years.

Veteran lobbyist Walt Radcliffe, a longtime friend and former fraternity brother of O'Donnell's at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said his retirement was not health related.

"He's going out on his own terms and his own time and he's going out on top. How many people have that opportunity?" Radcliffe said.

"It's a good deal for him, a bad deal for the Legislature," he added.

## A valuable asset

Advertisements for a replacement will be sent out soon, according to State Sen. Dan Hughes of Venango, who chairs the Legislature's Executive Board.

O'Donnell, a lawyer and a native of Lincoln, was paid \$201,710 in 2021, according to state records.



*Patrick J. O'Donnell, the longtime Clerk of the Nebraska Legislature, announced he's retiring at the end of 2022. (Courtesy of the Clerk of the Legislature's Office)*

During his last year in law school, a research project led to his being hired as an aide to the Legislature's Judiciary Committee, according to a profile by the UNL Alumni Association Quarterly in 2021.

## 'I never left'

"I started working here and I never left," O'Donnell said.

He once told the *Omaha World-Herald*: "This place kind of gets in your blood. I feel like I'm part of something that's important."

He was elected assistant clerk in 1977 and, when then-Clerk of the Legislature Vince Brown resigned, O'Donnell was elected to the top job. He has been re-elected every two years since.

At least two other past legislative clerks or secretaries have served longer: McDowell Lee of the Alabama Senate and Joseph A. Beek of the California Senate each served for 48 years, according to the National Conference

of State Legislatures.

Hughes said that a hiring committee composed of Executive Board members will recommend a replacement to the full Executive Board, which will then recommend a selection to the full Legislature, which will vote on the appointment after the 2023 session begins.

Sen. Hughes said he got to know O'Donnell better when Sen. Hughes served as Chair of the Executive Board and when he presided over the Legislature.

## 'A huge impact'

"I certainly appreciated his knowledge and his ability to allow the Legislature to operate as efficiently and seamlessly as possible," Sen. Hughes said.

"He had a huge impact on the Unicameral and he's going to be tough to replace," the Senator said. "But I'm sure we'll find an excellent candidate."

*Continued on page 23*

*Continued from page 22*

Dick Brown, who has served as assistant Clerk of the Legislature under O'Donnell since 1978, said that it was too soon to decide whether he would seek the top job.

### **Loves the Yankees**

Calls to O'Donnell seeking comment went unanswered. One source said it might be because his beloved New York Yankees were playing a key playoff game.

As Clerk, O'Donnell's most visible role might be in speed-reading bills just before a vote on the legislation on Final Reading. The reading is required by the State Constitution unless waived by lawmakers.

The clerk also supervises more than 70 full- and part-time employees who support the Legislature as assistants in the clerk's office, transcribers of bills, information officers and IT workers. The "red coats" – the sergeants of arms who maintain decorum in the

legislative chamber – also are under the clerk's office, as are student pages.

### **'A great resource'**

O'Donnell also has been a key adviser to state Senators on the rules of the Legislature.

Omaha Sen. Steve Lathrop said the announcement wasn't a total surprise.

## **2023 Legislature to see several new faces**

The 2023 Legislature, which is a 90-day session, will convene Jan. 4. The 2023 Legislature will have at least 14 new Senators and possibly more, depending on the outcome of the upcoming election. Among the outgoing Senators are seven legislative committee chairs. In addition, Lincoln Sen. Mike Hilgers, Speaker of the Legislature, is a candidate for State Attorney General. ■

"He's been a great resource for state Senators for a long time," Lathrop said. "The institution will miss Pat O'Donnell." ■

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Most Senators also have email addresses. The web site address is <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/web/public/home>. ■

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NOVEMBER 16, 2022

## State Municipal League Toolkit



# National Civic League now accepting applications for 2023 All-America City Award

The National Civic League is accepting applications for the 2023 All-America City Award. The theme for 2023 is “Creating thriving communities through youth engagement.” The 2023 award event will be in-person for the first time since 2019 and the League is looking forward to connecting with communities that are exhibiting the best in local innovation, civic engagement and cross-sector collaboration.

The 2023 All-America City Award will recognize 10 communities that are working to improve the lives of young people, with particular attention to efforts that engage young people in this work. Democracy thrives when all residents are active and engaged in the policies and decisions that shape their lives. In 2023, the National Civic League is seeking to identify communities that are breaking down barriers to meaningful youth participation and enacting programs that will improve quality of life for youth and all residents, by extension.

## Applicant requirements

All-America City applicants for 2023 will be asked to demonstrate innovation, impact, equity and inclusiveness, civic engagement and cross sector collaboration by discussing the strength of their civic capital – the formal and informal relationships, networks and capacities they use to make decisions and solve problems – and to provide examples of community-driven projects/programs that have adapted and transformed the community to be more receptive to youth voices and have addressed their concerns for the future.

The National Civic League views civic engagement as more than presenting information or having people respond to questionnaires (though both are important); instead, the League promotes efforts that seek to listen to and learn from residents in ongoing conversations and leverage those insights to shape the way programs are administered, designed and executed.

“The All-America City Award offers an opportunity for community stakeholders to come together to share and celebrate the programs and projects that make their homes great places to live,” Rebecca Trout, All-America City Award Director, said.

Local leaders interested in applying for the All-America City Award should submit a letter of intent to apply by Dec. 15, which saves applicants \$100 on the application fee. Please note that a letter of intent is not required to apply.



### 2023 All-America City Award

*Creating Thriving Communities through Youth Engagement*

The National Civic League seeks to identify communities that are breaking down barriers to meaningful youth participation and enacting programs that will improve quality of life for youth, and, by extension, all members of the community.



#### Be the Next All-America City from Nebraska!

Dawson County (1993)	Norfolk (1975)
Gothenburg (1991, 2019)	Ogallala (1965)
Grand Island (1955, 1967, 1981, 1982)	Omaha (1957)
Lexington (1973)	Ravenna (1978)
Lincoln (1978)	South Sioux City (2003)
	Verdigre (1972)

Applications and letters of intent are now being accepted.  
Letters of intent due 12/15/22, applications due 2/15/23.  
[Learn more: www.nationalcivicleague.org/america-city-award/](https://www.nationalcivicleague.org/america-city-award/)

The application can be downloaded at (<https://www.nationalcivicleague.org/america-city-award/how-to-apply/>) and is due Feb. 15, 2023. Twenty finalists will be named in March 2023 and will be invited to attend the All-America City Award event in Denver, Colo., in June, during which the 10 eventual winners will be selected and announced.

## 10 communities receive awards

The All-America City Award (AAC) is given each year by the National Civic League to 10 communities in recognition of their outstanding civic accomplishments. The award spurs communities to use innovative approaches to create stronger connections among residents, nonprofits, academic institutions, businesses and government leaders. The AAC Award celebrates those efforts and becomes a platform for sharing innovation, inspiration and insight with other communities throughout the country.

Founded in 1894, the National Civic League is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance civic engagement to achieve thriving, equitable communities. ■

*Source – National Civic League*

This column is provided, free of charge, for use and reference by Nebraska municipal officials and employees. All others pay 55 cents per word to place ads. Closing date is the first of the month of publication. Ads are subject to editing and will appear once unless otherwise requested. Classified ads also can appear on the League's website at [www.lnm.org](http://www.lnm.org).

## Positions

**Several Positions.** Due to Growth and Retirements, City of North Platte is currently looking to fill the following job positions:

- Director of Information Systems
- Public Service Director
- Administrative Secretary/Public Relations Coordinator
- Personnel & Payroll Technician
- Assistant Concessions/Rides Manager
- Semi-Truck Driver (Maintenance Worker III)
- Sanitation Driver-Loader
- Assistant Accountant/Internal Auditor
- Part-time Parks Maintenance I
- Police Officer
- Part-time Technology Assistant – Library
- Senior Accountant
- Storm -Water Management & Code Enforcement Officer
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

Please refer to the City of North Platte's Web Site for the job descriptions of each job position listed at: <https://www.ci.north-platte.ne.us/>

A job application is on the City of North Platte's Web Site, or you may get an application at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall.

Closing for the job positions will be Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, Unless otherwise noted on the City of North Platte's Web Site.

Please submit completed job applications by email to: [info@ci.north-platte.ne.us](mailto:info@ci.north-platte.ne.us)

## Positions

Mail to: City of North Platte  
Attn: City Clerk's Office  
211 West 3rd Street  
North Platte, NE 69101

**Apprentice Lineman.** City of Gothenburg is accepting applications for the position of Apprentice Lineman.

Essential duties include assisting and performing skilled line work in the operation, maintenance, and repair of overhead and underground electrical distribution systems, operating a variety of specialized related equipment and vehicles. Applications and a job description may be picked up at the City Office at 409 9th Street; or you can apply online at <https://ci.gothenburg.ne.us/>. If you have any questions contact Tara Hite, HR/Admin. Assistant at (308)537-3677. The City is an EOE, offering a good starting salary and an excellent benefit package. This position will remain open until filled.

**Apprentice / Journeyman Linework.** Experience in construction, operation and maintenance of overhead and underground high voltage electrical facilities or graduation from an accredited technical college line-technician program is desirable. Willing to train the right person. 40-hour week, rotating call schedule; residency requirement – Nemaha County and no more than 12 miles from where they report to work; competitive salary and excellent benefit package. Send resume including salary history and three references to Board of Public Works, P.O. Box 288, Auburn, NE

## Positions

68305-0288 or email to [dhunter@auburnbpw.com](mailto:dhunter@auburnbpw.com).

Position is open until filled. EOE

## About the League

The League of Nebraska Municipalities is a nonprofit service association formed in 1909 to serve as a voice for Nebraska municipalities at the Nebraska Legislature.

Governed by a 15-member Executive Board comprised of municipal officials, the League has 395 member cities and villages. It represents municipalities whose population totals 98 percent of Nebraskans who live in municipalities. ■

### Nebraska Municipal Review

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