

# THE BEAT

February | 2025

*The Beat* is a biannual publication designed for Beatrice residents and stakeholders, offering valuable insights into City government operations.

## 2025 PET LICENSES

Pet licenses can now be purchased for 2025 at the City Clerk's Office, 400 Ella Street. All dogs or cats over the age of six (6) months within the city limits are required to be licensed. Having your pet licensed helps our Animal Control Officer identify and reunite the pet with its owner. When coming into our office to license your pet, please have a valid rabies certificate from your veterinarian.



## SNOW PLOWING PROCEDURES

The snow removal program is very important due to the enormous effect a winter storm has on the daily routines of every citizen of the city. **Keeping the highways and emergency snow routes open to traffic every winter storm is the Street Department's number one priority.** When weather conditions dictate, the City Administrator may declare a Snow Emergency, which prohibits the parking of vehicles on Snow Emergency Routes. **The purpose of declaring a Snow Emergency is to assist the Street Department in their snow plowing operation.** The announcement of a Snow Emergency will be publicized through the City's website and social media, the local radio station, and if feasible, the local newspaper.

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It looks like Mother Nature made its way to our city, and once again, our crews worked hard and did a great job on all of our streets. We are very fortunate to live in a community with so many outstanding employees across all our departments. I would be remiss if I didn't mention another attribute I see in our exceptional team: resilience. In an age of social media, it's easy to be critical of the work we do, yet often difficult to highlight the excellent jobs we accomplish. That said, I believe 2025 will be an excellent year for the City as we continue to build on the accomplishments of 2024. I want to thank each of our City employees for all that they do on a daily basis. I know Beatrice is a better place because of each of them.



Mayor Bob Morgan

## STAY IN TOUCH

The City utilizes a variety of both traditional and nontraditional communication tools to reach its many stakeholders. Please use and peruse the tools at your disposal to find the information you need, when you need it! View a full list of ways we communicate:

[beatrice.ne.gov/communications-community-relations](http://beatrice.ne.gov/communications-community-relations).

## COUNCIL UPDATE

The City Council welcomed two newly elected members at the December 2nd meeting. Dana Hydo of Ward 3, and Alex Eckhoff of Ward 4, were sworn in to serve a 4 year term. Contact information for all City Council members is available at [beatrice.ne.gov/mayor-council](http://beatrice.ne.gov/mayor-council).

## CAST INITIATIVE

The Court Street Access and Safety Transformation (CAST) Initiative, adopted by the Beatrice City Council in August 2023, aims to enhance safety and economic growth in downtown. In June 2024, Beatrice received a \$21.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation for this project. CAST will reroute Highway 136 one block south to Market Street, between 2nd and 8th Streets, improving safety and community mobility. The City is committed to involving local businesses and the public through collaboration with our community partners to ensure transparency and keep everyone informed.

## BILL PAY MADE EASY

Looking for simple and easy ways to pay your Board of Public Works utility bill? Please consider the convenient options below. For more information about these services, call the billing office at (402) 228-5200, Option 1, or visit [www.beatrice.ne.gov/utilities](http://www.beatrice.ne.gov/utilities).



### PAPERLESS BILLING

Log on to [XpressBillPay.com](http://XpressBillPay.com) and create your free personal account. The online bill will look similar to the paper statement you are familiar with.



### AUTOPAY

You can also set your account up for automatic monthly payments thru [XpressBillPay.com](http://XpressBillPay.com) - via credit card, debit card, or electronic funds transfer - which will save you time, money, and hassle, as you will no longer have to drop off or mail-in another utility payment.



### BUDGET PLAN BILLING

With Budget Billing, you have the option to keep the amount of your residential electric bill the same year round, based on your average electric bill. It's not a savings program, but rather a way for you to make your month-to-month budgeting easier.

## 2025 HOLIDAY GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Below are the observed holidays that will affect your garbage & curbside recycling collection schedule throughout the year. Please remember to place your waste cart at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your scheduled day to ensure collection. **Your collection time may vary.** This schedule applies to all residential routes, both in Beatrice and out-of-town routes. Commercial routes may vary depending on the frequency of service.

### HOLIDAY

Memorial Day  
**Independence Day**  
Labor Day  
**Thanksgiving Day**  
Day After Thanksgiving  
**Christmas Day**  
New Year's Day

### DATE OBSERVED (NO COLLECTION)

Monday, May 26  
**Friday, July 4**  
Monday, September 1  
**Thursday, November 27**  
Friday, November 28  
**Thursday, December 25**  
Thursday, January 1, 2026

### COLLECTION DATE

Tuesday, May 27  
**Monday, July 7**  
Tuesday, September 2  
**Wednesday, November 26**  
Monday, December 1  
**Friday, December 26**  
Friday, January 2, 2026