

The City of Winfield met in regular session on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers located at 115 N. Locust Street with Willie Bender presiding. Council persons present: Brandy Smith, Jennifer Lemke, and Matt Hernandez. Absent: Randy Redlinger, David Piart. Others present: Angie Oepping, JR Herrick, Scott Roen, John Bain, Bryan Hammond, Larry & Patti Gerling, Neil Davis, Greg Lemke, and Elizabeth Hernandez.

**Approval of Agenda**-Council approved the agenda by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-3, Nays-0, Absent-2 Carried.

**Approval of Consent Agenda – Bills and Minutes from September 10, 2025 regular session and September 24, 2025 special session meetings**-Consent agenda approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-3, Nays-0, Absent-2 Carried.

**Departmental Reports**-Electronic reports were provided to the council. J. Herrick stated that the gas line movement on Hwy 78 should be completed on 10/9 and that signatures were completed for 100% reimbursement from the Iowa DOT. No report from the library but monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday, 10/13 in which Mayor Bender and Council person D. Piart are planning to attend. S. Roen stated he would like to look into purchasing a camera for the south side of the fire station. Quotes will be provided at the November council meeting. S. Roen has spoken to many of the residents on the nuisance list and he is also researching a GTSB grant for the speed sign on S. Locust Street.

**Public Forum**-No one available from the public

**Control Board Joint Agreement – City of Winfield & Scott Township**-Trustees Larry Gerling, Bryan Hammond, and Neil Davis and Township Clerk, Patti Gerling were in attendance. Mayor Bender started the conversation stating that the city was unaware that the city owned any portion of the property at the cemetery. Mayor Bender then stated that the two entities (City of Winfield and Scott Township) have two different directions they could go – number one is that the city could surrender rights to the property over to the township or the two entities could continue moving forward with the joint agreement. Mayor Bender concluded by saying that both entities need to come together and decide what direction both parties would like to go. Concerns from the council were financial records being provided; the number of regular control board meetings in the past 8 years; the monetary value of city employee's time spent on maintenance of cemetery roadways; and the non-compliance to the 1978 joint agreement. After lengthy discussion, Larry Gerling (Scott Township Trustee) stated that the township would be willing to take full ownership of the cemetery property in which all council persons present agreed. A. Oepping will reach out to the city attorney, Brent Ruther, on the steps necessary to dissolve the control board as well as releasing ownership of the property. Mayor Bender as well as J. Herrick agreed that the city employees will still do snow removal on the cemetery roadways for burials. More information will be provided at the November council meeting in regards to the next steps as well as the city's financial obligation for unsettled payments since July 2024.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant – EPA Funding/SRF Funding**-J. Herrick addressed the council in regards to conversations with contractor and engineers in regards to the holdout on payments due to the \$1 million possible grant from Community Project Funding. One question J. Herrick addressed is whether or not those grant dollars could be used for a project at the water plant. Mayor will follow-up with John Kauffman at Mariannette Miller-Meeks office on the status of the Community Project Funding grant.

**Ordinance 363 – No Parking along south side of 120<sup>th</sup> Street**-Ordinance approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-3, Nays-0, Absent-2 Carried.

**Stop Signs at Intersections**-After discussion council will have on the November agenda the addition of stop signs on Elm Street at Clark St (remove yield signs on Clark) and making the intersection at Olive and West Elm a 4-way stop.

**Mowing Bid Expectations**-Council reviewed the list of properties to be mowed and expectations for the mowing contractor. Bids will be opened at the November 12<sup>th</sup> city council meeting. City reserves right to reject any and all bids.

**Pool Pass Pricing – Christmas Certificate**-Pricing will remain at \$75 for individual and \$150 for family. An individual pass can be added to a family pass for an additional \$50. This is only for one additional individual and pricing expires on 12/31/25.

**Old Business**-S. Roen has spoken to many individuals with 4-wheelers, UTV's, and golf carts and talked to them about the registration process to be in compliance to driving on city streets. M. Hernandez raised his concern with the growing number of cat population again.

**Mayors Comments**-Mayor Bender stated that performance reviews will begin this week for department heads and that he is still continuing to meet with the school to work together to bring families to our community. One project that is in the works is highlighting a business each month by creating a video and getting students involved with the project.

**Adjournment**-The meeting adjourned at 6:17pm by a motion of B. Smith, J. Lemke 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-3, Nays-0, Absent-2 Carried. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.

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Angie Oepping, City Clerk

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Willie Bender, Mayor