

The City of Winfield met in regular session on Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers located at 115 N. Locust Street with Mayor Willie Bender presiding. Council persons present: Brandy Smith, Randy Redlinger, Jennifer Lemke, Matt Hernandez, and David Pieart. Others present: Angie Oepping, JR Herrick, Scott Jennings, Elizabeth Hernandez, Scott Roen, and Matt Wildman.

Public Hearing – Transfer of City Real Estate (Scott Township Cemetery) & Withdraw from 1978 Joint Agreement – 5pm- Public hearing opened at 5:00pm by a motion of M. Hernandez, J. Lemke 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. No one from the public addressed concerns or had questions for the council. Public Hearing closed at 5:04pm by a motion of D. Pieart, J. Lemke 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Approval of Agenda-Council approved the agenda by a motion of D. Pieart, J. Lemke 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Bills and Minutes from November 12, 2025 Council Meeting-Consent agenda approved by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Departmental Reports-Departments provided electronic reports to the council for review. No reports for Library.

Public Forum-No one available from the public.

Future Library Renovations Update-B. Smith & J. Lemke attended the library board meeting and stated that the board would like to get started on the electrical first. Other priorities are making the bathrooms handicap accessible, flooring, replacing bad ceiling tiles, windows, handicap parking stall, and signage for the building. The plan is to get volunteers to move books, etc from current location to the new location. Mayor Bender will set up a meeting with library board chairman Matt Anderson and any other board member that he would like to invite in addition to council persons J. Lemke and D. Pieart to keep the lines of communication open. **Hoekstra Electric Estimate-**council tabled proceeding with estimate due to additional electrical issues that need addressed and would like to see an updated itemized estimate.

Library CD's-The larger of the two CD's (\$60,418.30) will mature in March of 2026. At that time the CD will be cashed in and any paid invoices will be reimbursed back to the city. The second CD (\$5,199.62) will not be cashed in unless necessary. In addition, there is a savings account of \$5,003.97 for the library renovation project.

Ordinance 363 – No Parking along south side of 120th Street (3rd Reading)-The third and final reading of the ordinance was approved by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Resolution 12-2026 – Appreciation to Randy Redlinger-Resolution approved by a motion of D. Pieart, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-1 (R. Redlinger) Carried.

Resolution 13-2026 – Transferring Funds FYE 2026-Resolution approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Resolution 14-2026 – Withdrawal & Transfer of Property (Scott Township Cemetery)-Resolution approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Resolution 15-2026 – Setting Employee Salary (Part-Time Police)-Officer Roen stated that former part-time employee Anthony Carrasco had turned in his resignation. Council approved the resolution to set the salary for the part-time police officer by a motion of M. Hernandez, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-1 (J. Lemke) Carried.

Pool Manager 2026 Contract-Council would like to advertise for the pool manager position and reach out to Jill Townsley and ask if she would be willing to consult and train the new manager for the 2026 pool season.

Public Works Part-Time Pay-Council approved raising the part-time pay for public works to \$19.14 per hour by a motion of R. Redlinger, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. A resolution will be presented at the January 2026 city council meeting.

WWTP Improvement Project Certificate of Substantial Completion-M. Wildman informed the council that the contractor has completed the punch list and that the new sewer plant was considered operational on 4/22/25 in which would start the 2-year warranty (4/22/27). J. Lemke motioned to sign off on the certificate, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Boomerang Change Order 6 for the WWTP Improvements Project-Change order was approved by a motion of M. Hernandez, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Boomerang Pay Request #20 for the WWTP Improvements Project – Release of Retainage-Pay request #20 was approved by a motion of D. Pieart, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

HR Green Professional Services Agreement Amendment 2-Agreement amendment was approved by a motion of B. Smith, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Old Business-M. Hernandez questioned his water usage and the fluctuation of usage for the past two months. A. Oepping stated that the city employees have been focusing on reading at the same time (within a day or two) each month since March and will look into the issue. Still no word on the sale of J&J Pizza; the family for the memorial benches at the city park would like to see pictures and prices of the options to replace; no rebate has been provided to the resident on E. Ash for sidewalk replacement due to taking out but not replacing a portion of the sidewalk; council person J. Lemke stated that she would like to be proactive on sending letters to businesses that have broken or trip hazard sidewalks along the two blocks of the business district.

Mayors Comments-Mayor Bender thanked JR and his crew for the great job on the snow removal; thanked Randy Redlinger for all his years of service and all he had done for the city throughout the years; Congratulated Jennifer Lemke and David Pieart on their re-election and incumbent Scott Jennings on being elected. Mayor Bender stated he had a conversation with Brittni Rahmus at SEIRPC in regards to the Community Project Funding Grant of \$1 million and the plan is to continue pushing forward to receive the funding for the WWTP project.

Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 6:51pm by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. The Oath of Office was administered to the 3 elected city council members at the conclusion of the meeting. The next regular scheduled city council meeting is Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 5:00pm.

Angie Oepping, City Clerk

Willie Bender, Mayor