

The City of Winfield met in regular session on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 5:00pm at Council Chambers, 115 N. Locust Street with Mayor Willie Bender presiding. Council persons present: David Pieart, Brandy Smith, Matt Hernandez, Jennifer Lemke, and Randy Redlinger. Others present: Angie Oepping, JR Herrick, Jeff Dietrich, Lisa Rees, Wanda & Scott Jennings, Patti Gerling, and Dave & Lori Schlatter.

Approval of Agenda-Agenda approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda-Bills and Minutes from January 17, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting and January 31, 2024 Special Session Meeting-Approved by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Departmental Reports – Departments reviewed their electronic reports with the council. Patti Gerling addressed the council about the school reaching out to partner the city librarian with the school two days per month, as well as the new proposed bill stating that the library board would transfer responsibilities to the city council.

Public Forum-No one from public addressed the council.

Cemetery Board Update-Patti Gerling reported that the board spent \$7,195 on the Veteran's Monument; 17 mowings at \$13,000; 16 Burials; and 6 plots sold. The board is still looking for someone to fix the foundations.

Urban Revitalization Plan/Tax Abatement – Victory Lane Adventures-Dave and Lori Schlatter answered questions from the council and stated that they were looking at putting up 2-4 four-plex's along Maple Street. The plan is to rent them out and not sell them. Schlatter's are asking the city council to consider amending the city's urban revitalization plan to allow a 10-year tax abatement on multi-residential units. Council stated that they would like to look at the numbers and figure out what the best option is for the city.

Wind Turbines – County-After discussion the council decided to allow Mayor Bender to draft a letter sharing the city council's opposition to the proposed project and the negative impacts it could have on the city.

Gas Service Rules Revision-JR reviewed the revisions with the council. Council agreed to change the wording for those customers outside of the corporate limits to bear all costs with hooking up to the city's gas transmission line with the work being completed by the city.

Resolution 08-2024 – Set Public Hearing for Consolidated General Fund Tax Levy-Resolution approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Review Revisions to Budget FYE-2025 and/or Set Budget Workshop #2-Revisions to the FYE 2025 budget were reviewed by the council and accepted.

Boomerang Pay Application #4-Council approved the pay application #4 by a motion of M. Hernandez, R. Redlinger 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

HR Green – Change Order #1 (Asbestos Removal from Trickling Filter)-Council approved the change order #1 by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Ditch Burning-Council agreed to proceed with having the fire department burn the ditch.

Old Business-Purchase Agreement has not been returned for property at 306 E Ash. Lisa Rees will try reaching out to the property owner. Letters will be sent to property owner's in regards to the burned structures on their property.

Mayor's Comments-Mayor Bender stated that the school is considering contributing \$10,000 on top of the \$15,000 grant for a School Resource Officer.

Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 6:26pm by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5:00pm.

Angie Oepping, City Clerk

Willie Bender, Mayor