

The City of Winfield met in special session on Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers located at 115 N Locust Street with Mayor Willie Bender presiding. Council persons present: Jennifer Lemke, Randy Redlinger, Brandy Smith, David Pieart, and Matt Hernandez. Others present: Angie Oepping, JR Herrick, Lisa Rees, Scott Roen, Elizabeth Hernandez, Scott Jennings, Richard & Becky Wilsom, Lynn Whaley, Angie Wilson, Cheryl Beard, and Joel & Jessica Haines.

Public Hearing – Proposed Property Tax Hearing – 5:00pm-Public hearing opened at 5:00pm by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. Mayor Bender asked for questions from the public and explained that the city's proposed property tax rate has remained the same as the previous year (difference of less than one penny). He also explained that resident's property tax also includes school and county taxes. The public hearing closed at 5:15pm by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Adjournment-The special meeting adjourned at 5:15pm by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

The City of Winfield met in regular session on Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 5:15pm in the Council Chambers located at 115 N Locust Street with Mayor Willie Bender presiding. Council persons present: Jennifer Lemke, Randy Redlinger, Brandy Smith, David Pieart, and Matt Hernandez. Others present: Angie Oepping, JR Herrick, Lisa Rees, Scott Roen, Elizabeth Hernandez, Scott Jennings, Richard & Becky Wilsom, Lynn Whaley, Angie Wilson, Cheryl Beard, and Joel & Jessica Haines.

Open Bids – 306 E Ash Street-The city received one bid from Ryan Barton, owner of Jim Barton Construction, in the amount of \$1.00 to build a two bed and one bath house with a 1 car garage.

Public Hearing on Proposal to Sell Real Property Locally Known as 306 E Ash Street – 5:15pm-Public hearing opened at 5:16pm by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. There was no public comment. The public hearing closed at 5:18pm by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

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

Approval of Consent Agenda-Bills & Minutes from March 13, 2025 Regular Council Meeting-A. Oepping provided 3 additional bills for approval. The minutes and bills were approved by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Departmental Reports-Electronic reports were provided to the council. JR Herrick stated that the DNR completed a wastewater inspection and asked for a written response by May 1st. JR also provided the council with an update on the WWTP and stated that the city received their new water permit and received the seal coat bid for 2025 of around \$49,000. Officer Roen stated that he has captured and relocated 13 cats to two separate farms and is looking for additional locations for future cats. Officer Roen stated that the prom crash simulation that was performed had a huge impact on students. Officer Roen reminded everyone that Iowa has signed into law 'Hands-Free Driving' which takes effect on July 1, 2025. J. Lemke stated that the committee for the 28E Agreement with the school and rec league had an annual meeting and discussed the conditions at the field, trimming around the fence lines, installing new programmable locks (splitting cost 3-ways), and the removal of playground equipment.

Public Forum-No comments from the public

Wemiga Waste Containers-Lynn Whaley and A. Oepping discussed the struggles of determining which residents were age 60 and over to receive the 65-gallon trash receptacles. It was decided that all residents will receive the 96-gallon trash receptacles unless they notify city hall that they prefer the 65-gallon receptacle. Lynn will

provide a letter to send to residents explaining the new garbage process and plans to meet with A. Oepping and L. Rees to discuss the game plan of implementation.

Economic Development Loan Agreement Update-Joel and Jessica Haines stated that they have a potential buyer for the building and are waiting for a completed purchase agreement. They will keep the city office staff updated on the progress.

205 N Olive Street – Café (Zoning R-2)-Angie Wilson stated that she will be focusing on sweets and desserts available for purchase and presented sample signs to be placed at her residence. A. Wilson also informed the council that her licensing has been set up and is awaiting the health department to visit. Council approved the 6' x 3' sign to be placed on the front of her house by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Crooked Creek Days-Angie Wilson and Cheryl Beard stated that they have begun a couple fundraisers for Crooked Creek Days; however, due to some conflict and issues with communication amongst the committee have both decided to step down from the CCD committee. J. Lemke thanked Angie Wilson for her ideas and thanked Cheryl Beard for her work last year and informed them that the city council is not in charge of CCD; therefore, have no control of who is in charge.

Boomerang – Progress Report and Pay Application #17-Council reviewed progress report and approved pay application #17 by a motion of B. Smith, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Sidewalk Rebate Program-Council discussed current rebate of reimbursing \$10/linear foot and approved increasing the rebate to \$12/linear foot by a motion of M. Hernandez, R. Redlinger 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

May 2025 Council Meeting Date & Time-Council meeting will remain as May 14th at 5pm.

Resolution 21-2025 – Awarding Bid and Authorizing Sale of 306 E Ash Street-Council accepted the \$1.00 bid from Ryan Barton, Owner of Jim Barton Construction, and approved the resolution by a motion of R. Redlinger, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Resolution 22-2025 – Resolution Setting Public Hearing for FYE-2026 Budget Estimate-Resolution approved by a motion of M. Hernandez, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Resolution 23-2025 – Resolution Approving Tax Abatement Application-Resolution approved by a motion of B. Smith, J. Lemke 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Ordinance 361 – Amending Chapter 55 Animal Protection and Control (3rd Reading)-Third and final reading of the ordinance was approved by a motion of B. Smith, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Ordinance 362 – Amending Chapter 56 Dog License Required (2nd Reading)-Second reading of the ordinance was approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Swimming Pool – Hiring Lifeguards, Pool Memberships, Hours, Discounts, Swim Lessons-Council approved the pool changes for the 2025 season including the continuation of the daycare pass for \$225 and changing hours to 1pm-6pm on Sunday through Thursday and 1pm-7pm on Friday and Saturday by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Cigarette Permit – Casey's General Store-Cigarette Permit approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

City Hall Painting Estimate-Council approved the exterior city hall painting estimate from Reichenbach Painting for \$2,200-\$2,400 by a motion of B. Smith, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Winfield Community Veterans Building Cleaning-With congregate meals no longer utilizing the building, those groups using the building at no cost are expected to clean after themselves. Cleaning person will clean after the building has been rented and at a bare minimum of once per month.

Automatic Meter Readers – Gas and Water-JR Herrich received a quote for a fully automatic reading system for the water at \$129,100.11 (this does not include the price of changing out old meters). The same company has started an automatic reader for gas meters as well. City staff will get an accurate number of how many old meters are still inside residences.

Playground Removal at the Commons-Due to the condition of safety of the playground at the Commons the 28E Committee would like the playground removed. Council will discuss further and be presented a resolution to decommission the memorial playground at the April 29th special meeting.

Wind Spinner – Concrete Slab-The Lion's Club would like to anchor the wind spinner that will be placed at 101 N Locust Street on a circular concrete slab. They stated that the concrete slab will be placed low enough and allow room for a mower to mow around it. Council approved the concrete slab by a motion of M. Hernandez, R. Redlinger 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Old Business-JR Herrick stated that the county denied the request to divert water from Sunrise Terrace property along the west side of Nebraska Ave. JR will be going back to the board to see how much they are willing to help in the shared cost. A. Oepping stated that the school is awaiting the abstract to purchase the home on S. Olive Street so that the school can tear down the house and build an additional parking lot. D. Pieart shared a layout that he received from the librarian for the space at the old Pilot Grove Savings Bank building. D. Pieart stated that the librarian would like assistance on ADA compliant regulations as well as using the basement of the building for storage.

Mayors Comments-Mayor Bender recognized the Winfield Historical Society and the Hillyard family on a great program that was put on recognizing the history of John Deere in Winfield. He stated that he was very proud of the Winfield Community. Mayor Bender also stated that he will research the statements made in regards to a city staff member and accusations that were brought forth during the meeting.

Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 7:24pm by a motion of M. Hernandez, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14th at 5pm.

Angie Oepping, City Clerk

Willie Bender, Mayor