

The City of Winfield met in regular session on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 5:00pm in the Council Chambers located at 115 N Locust Street with Mayor Willie Bender presiding. Council persons present: Jennifer Lemke, David Pieart, Matt Hernandez, Brandy Smith, and Randy Redlinger. Others present: Angie Oepping, Jeff Dietrich, JR Herrick, Elizabeth Hernandez, Alexa Kongable, Scott Jennings, Nancy Ballinger with Aflac, and Richard & Becky Wilson.

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

Approval of Consent Agenda – Bills and Minutes from April 9, 2025 Council Meeting & April 29 Special Session Council Meeting-Consent Agenda approved by a motion of M. Hernandez, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Departmental Reports-Electronic reports were provided by the department for review. JR Herrick asked the council's permission to remove white railing along the south side of the city parking lot by the Freedom Rock. JR Herrick also informed the council that Central Tank will be working on sand blasting and painting the water tower and would like to put in an additional manway at the cost of materials (\$4,500). JR Herrick stated his concerns with the condition of the high school softball field and asked if the rec league was planning a cleanup day. J. Dietrich stated court dates have been set for a junk vehicle nuisance as well as the nuisance at the trailer park. A. Oepping added to her report that there are approximately 110 water meters that would need replaced if the city were to switch to the automated reader system.

Public Forum-Resident Elizabeth Hernandez thanked the council for their ongoing conversations on the water usage and stated that she is still noticing fluctuations in her usage. Alexa Kongable attended the meeting as a representative of the library board and asked about the plans for the unwanted furniture at the old bank building (future library); plans for handicap parking and installing handicap doors and bathroom necessities; library board will be receiving bids for carpet and ceiling tile in which Mayor Bender asked for those bids to be presented to the council as well.

Boomerang Progress Report and Pay Application #18-Council approved by a motion of D. Pieart, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Ordinance 362 – Amending Chapter 56 Dog License Required (3rd Reading)-Council approved the 3rd and final reading of the ordinance by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Resolution 25-2025-Decommission Homer Hillyard and Virginia Hillyard Playground Equipment (Commons)-Resolution approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Benches at Commons – Homer Hillyard & Virginia Hillyard Memorials-A. Oepping will reach out to the family and provide two different bench options that match the other benches throughout town and ask if they would like to also include a cement slab for the benches to set on. The council approved the memorials by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Sunrise Terrace Storm Water Run-Off-JR Herrick developed an alternate plan to divert the water from the nursing home west parking lot under W Central Ave and along the east side of Nebraska Ave; however, cost increased from approximately \$4,500 to \$14,000. Council recommended reaching back out to the county engineer with his input and an additional alternative plan.

SRO 28E Agreement Extension-A. Oepping will complete the changes discussed and will have a final draft to be approved at the June 11th city council meeting as well as the June school board meeting.

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy – Weekly Pay-Council approved paying for travel time outside of normal hours; hours at the academy will be paid at 40 hours.

306 E Ash – Abstract Fees-After discussion, the council will not pay for the creation of a new abstract.

Sale of Unwanted Assets in Future Library Building-Pictures will be taken and advertised on Facebook as a free will donation with proceeds going to the library renovations. J. Lemke agreed to be available for city-wide garage sales until noon.

Aflac Representative – Nancy Ballinger-Nancy presented benefits available for the city employees.

Old Business – Economic Development Loan Agreement will be on the June meeting agenda. Nuisance properties on E Pearl Street and N. Locust were a topic of concern. Parks committee will look into purchasing picnic tables for the city park, getting trash receptacles at the city park, lounge chairs for the pool, and had concerns of trash being mowed over at the park.

Mayor’s Comments-Mayor Bender thanked Chief Dietrich for his 21 years of service with the city.

Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 7:13pm by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays- Carried. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11th at 5:00pm.

Angie Oepping, City Clerk

Willie Bender, Mayor