

The City of Winfield met in regular session on Wednesday August 13, 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, Randy Redlinger, and Matt Hernandez. Council person absent: Brandy Smith. Others present: Angie Oepping, JR Herrick, Lisa Rees, Scott Jennings, Howard Snook, and Elizabeth Hernandez.

Open Bids – 306 E Ash Street-No Bids Received.

Public Hearing on Proposal to Sell Real Property Locally Known as 306 E Ash Street – 5pm-Public hearing opened at 5:00pm by a motion of M. Hernandez, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried. There was no public comment. The public hearing closed at 5:05pm by a motion of M. Hernandez, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried.

Approval of Agenda-Council approved the agenda by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Bills and Minutes from July 14, 2025 council meeting-Consent agenda approved by a motion of D. Pieart, J. Lemke 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried.

Departmental Reports-Electronic reports were provided to the council for review. J. Lemke stated that the cemetery control board has yet to meet to finalize the Joint Agreement; L. Rees gave an explanation of the utility reconciliation that was noted on the Annual Examination; A. Oepping stated that there are 3 council seats up for election this year and that papers can be picked up at the city office.

Public Forum-Resident Elizabeth Hernandez thanked the CCD committee for their work this year.

Caseys – Liquor License Renewal-License renewal approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried.

Welcome Inn – Liquor License Renewal-License renewal approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried.

Resolution 07-2026 – Awarding Bid and Authorizing Sale of 306 E Ash Street-No action due to the lack of bids received.

City Mowing Contract-Council discussed the issues and complaints that were received with the mowing of city property. Council asked that A. Oepping provide the council with amount paid for mowing contract for FY23; FY24; and FY25 (to-date). Council also asked that JR Herrick look into pricing on a new mower.

Sewer Issue – 401 E Pine-Council discussed the sewer issue and it was determined that the sewer line is a shared line with the property to the north. The discussion also led to the fact that the sewer lines, curb boxes, and gas stubs need addressed with the property owner to the north. Council denied any financial assistance due to the precedent it would set and due to past issues in which the city never provided financial assistance.

I & I Sanitary Sewer-JR Herrick updated the council on his investigation of where storm water could potentially be getting into the sanitary sewer. No definitive answer yet but is continuing to investigate and get assistance from HR Green.

Tree Removal – W Pearl Street-Council approved a cost share of 50/50 (\$1500 city share) for the removal of the tree located along W Pearl Street by a motion of J. Lemke. M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried.

Date for Halloween Fest Celebration and Trick or Treat Night-Halloween Fest is set for Friday, October 31st with the wiener roast from 4:30pm – 6pm and trick or treat from 6pm – 8pm by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried.

Old Business-Complaints for four wheelers and dirt bikes around town during CCD; J. Herrick spoke to attorney in regards to the court order to remove junk vehicle; J. Herrick stated that 3 water shutoffs were hit during the removal of trailers at 301 S Maple and that the capping of sewer intakes needs to be completed and discussed an issue with a gas riser. Topic of placing no U-Turns at the intersections of Locust/Ash and Locust/Pine was denied to be placed on September's agenda; D. Pieart is researching a chair lift for the old PGSB/new library building; no parking signs on the south side of 120th to be included on September's agenda.

Mayors Comments-Mayor Bender thanked the past CCD committee for their work in fundraising for this year's event as well as thanking Jen Lemke and Angie Oepping for organizing the events for the weekend. Mayor Bender stated that the EPA is questioning the BABA waiver that was submitted for the \$1M grant that the city was awarded and that the city is working closely with SEIRPC as well as the regional EPA office on the next steps. Mayor Bender informed the council that Officer Scott Roen will be graduating from the Academy on Friday, August 22nd.

Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 7:08pm by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-4, Nays-0, Absent-1 Carried. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10th at 5:00pm.

Angie Oepping, City Clerk

Willie Bender, Mayor