

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

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

**Approval of Consent Agenda – Bills and Minutes from August 13, 2025 Regular Council Meeting**-Consent agenda approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

**Departmental Reports**-electronic reports were provided to the council. JR Herrick stated that the city received an abundance of pea gravel when L.L. Pelling completed the work on W Central Ave and wanted to reach out to residents asking if anyone would like some. Demo work has started at the new library location and librarian, Jacque's, surgery is scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup>. S. Roen addressed the council on how to deal with the increasing issue of ATV's and golf carts. Council agreed that individuals that are not following the law should be pulled over – in addition, a letter will go out to the community on what the laws are for ATV/UTS's and golf carts.

**Public Forum**-Pam Johnson addressed the council in regards to the Lions Club still wanting to host a Halloween Costume Contest during the wiener roast on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Mrs Johnson also expressed her concern with the curve by Sunrise Terrace and suggested that lines be painted to keep individuals from crossing over into the lane of incoming traffic.

**City of Winfield – Mowing Contract**-The council reviewed the mowing contract expenditures for the past 3 mowing seasons as well as quotes that were received for the city to purchase a new mower. Quotes ranged from \$17,600 (Morning Sun) and \$10,000 & \$12,150 (Donnelson Armstrong Tractor). The council made the decision to share mowing contract expectations at the October council meeting with bids to be opened at the November city council meeting.

**Economic Loan Repayment**-owners stated that annual payment will be made on 9/12/25.

**Joint Agreement – City of Winfield & Scott Township**-Control board met and discussed changes to the agreement. The agreement was then sent to Brent Ruther (city attorney) in which he provided some additional changes. After a lengthy discussion on benefits to the city's tax payers and current financial status of the city's general fund, the Council decided that they did not want to move forward with the agreement and recommended seeking legal advice on obligation to past payments. A resolution for dissolution will be presented at the October city council meeting.

**Nuisance Properties**-A list of nuisance properties was discussed and printouts were provided to the police department to begin the nuisance abatement process.

**Leaf Disposal**-The city will continue picking up the paper leaf bags that residents place on the curb for disposal.

**306 E Ash Property**-City received an offer of \$1 for the property with that the stipulation the structures would be demolished within 120 days. Council motioned to hold a public hearing to accept the offer on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm by J. Lemke, B. Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

**Library Renovation Bids**-a quote was received from Winfield Builders Supply for material only on the ceiling tile. Three quotes have been received for flooring and they are awaiting an additional quote to come in.

**Sales Proposal – Edmunds GovTech Municipal Software**-due to financial constraints at the time, no action was taken.

**Resolution 08-2026 – Resolution Approving Tax Abatement Application**-Council approved resolution by a motion of R. Redlinger, D. Pieart 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

**Liquor License Renewal – El Mariachi 2**-License approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

**Liquor License – Dollar General**-License approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

**Community Veterans Building Rental – Youth Group**-Council approved the use of the building at no cost on Sunday evenings during the school year; however, the youth group will be made aware if there are conflicts with someone wanting to rent the building.

**Old Business**-JR will speak with resident on E. Center about the water disconnect to the garage. Letter to be provided to resident on N. Olive in regards to dual wall tile. A. Oepping and S. Roen will look into potential grants for digital speed signs on S. Locust.

**Mayors Comments**-The mayor and JR Herrick attended a town hall meeting with Mariannette Miller-Meeks and stated that she was aware of the issue with the Community Project funding grant; however, still no update. Mayor Bender has been meeting with superintendent Karinda Wahls monthly to discuss community and school involvement to try to grow enrollment and bring families to town. Mayor Bender stated that performance reviews for all full-time employees will be given this fall. Mayor Bender congratulated officer Scott Roen on his graduation from the Academy. Mayor Bender reminded the public that council nomination papers are due September 18<sup>th</sup> and thanked J. Lemke, D. Pieart, and R. Redlinger for their years of service on the council and hoped that they consider re-running.

**Adjournment**-The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm by a motion of M. Hernandez, B. Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm.

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Angie Oepping, City Clerk

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Willie Bender, Mayor