The Winfield City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 in the Council Chambers located at 115 N Locust Street, Winfield, IA with Mayor Willie Bender presiding. Council persons present: Brandy Smith, Jennifer Lemke, Matt Hernandez, Scott Jennings, and David Pieart. Others present: Angie Oepping, Scott Roen, JR Herrick, Alexa Kongable, Beau Van Amerongen, Elizabeth Hernandez, and Ben & Pam Johnson.

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

Approval of Consent Agenda – Bills and Minutes from July 8, 2026 council meeting-Consent agenda approved by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Departmental Reports-Departments provided electronic reports to the council. In addition, Mayor Bender stated that public works expressed their dissatisfaction with accountability from engineering firm, HR Green, in regards to the WWTP. Sorrel Glass will begin replacing windows the week of August 17th. Pool hours for the remainder of the season will be posted on Facebook.

Public Forum-Mr & Mrs Johnson expressed their concern with scooters running the stop signs and not looking both ways prior to crossing intersections. Questions were brought up in regards to age requirements for the scooters as well.

Library Renovations Update-A. Kongable informed the council that the carpet & electrical are complete and painting is almost complete. Library board questioned who is responsible for payment for garbage service as well as getting the flag pole fixed. A. Oepping will reach out to Wemiga Waste in regards to the trash and the flag pole will be fixed once the pool closes and public works rents a scissor lift.

Handicap Parking – New Library and Industrial Arts-JR and Alexa will get together and make a decision on where to put the handicap parking space at the library. Council agreed to place the handicap parking space at the furthest east parking stall for Industrial Arts. An ordinance will be presented in September.

4-H Chickens – 103 S Olive-Residents were not in attendance and the council had additional questions and asked to have the residents available at the next council meeting to answer those questions.

Casey's – Liquor License Renewal including update to Ownership Information-Liquor license and update to ownership information was approved by a motion of J. Lemke, B. Smith 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Welcome Inn – Liquor License Renewal-Liquor license approved by a motion of J. Lemke, S. Jennings 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Ordinance 366 – Electric Scooters-Council approved the 2nd reading and waived the 3rd reading by a motion of B. Smith, J. Lemke 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Ordinance 367 – Garbage Rates-Council approved the 1st reading of the ordinance setting the garbage rate at $21 for the 1st cart and $15 for each additional cart by a motion of J. Lemke, D. Pieart 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Advantage Administrators – PSF Administrative Services-Council approved the agreement by a motion of D. Pieart, J. Lemke 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

City Clerk – Vacation Accrual Payout-A. Oepping informed the council that with the carry-over of last year's vacation and the additional accrual, she will more than likely have more than 40 hours of vacation on her anniversary date on 9/12/26. According to the handbook, employees are only allowed to carry over 40 hours. A. Oepping asked to have the additional vacation paid out due to circumstances with not hiring a deputy clerk and not taking time off when she was learning the utility side of the job. However, A. Oepping didn't feel this will continue to be an issue since she will have a full year going forward to take the time off. A decision will be made at the September meeting when an actual number of vacation hours to be paid out will be known.

Police Chief/SRO Salary-Questions to be considered – can the position be salary exempt or non-exempt; can salary be paid from any other fund rather than the General Fund; look at extending the term of contract with the school. A resolution will be presented at the September meeting setting the salary for $33.65 per hour.

Date for Halloween Fest Celebration and Trick or Treat Night-Date set for Saturday, October 31st from 4:30-6pm for weiner roast and 6-8pm for trick or treating by a motion of J. Lemke, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried.

Old Business-Residents on Liberty Lane voiced concern to council members with the pooling of water at the intersection with Nebraska Ave. JR Herrick will look at options to get the standing water off the streets. S. Jennings questioned who is responsible for the disposal of fireworks and who's liable if the city disposes of them.

Mayors Comments-Mayor Bender thanked J. Lemke and the rest of the CCD committee for another successful Crooked Creek Days and having to adapt with the weather conditions that weekend.

Adjournment-The meeting adjourned at 6:28pm by a motion of S. Jennings, M. Hernandez 2nd Ayes-5, Nays-0 Carried. The next regular session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 8th at 5:00pm.

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Angie Oepping, City Clerk Willie Bender, Mayor