

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Weston called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call as follows: Barney, Reed, Stewart, Atkin, Cavender and Kee. Cathcard and Shaffer were absent. Other city officials present included: Police Chief Michael Strode, Assistant Police Chief Vinny Baker, Police Officer Chris Bowman, City Attorney Brian Duncan, Street Supervisor Rod Ryther, Court Clerk Chelsea Goodson and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

AGENDA AMENDED & APPROVED

Reed added Police vehicles under Safety and Kee added Gary Morris representing Antiques, Boutiques & Sweets under Administrative and 75 highway improvements, 54 highway improvements and grader repair under Public Works.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2023 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**GARY MORRIS-ANTIQUES,
BOUTIQUES & SWEETS**

Gary Morris was present to update council on the renovation of the 2-bedroom apartment above their shop. They are ready for the water to be hooked up as agreed at the March 7, 2022 meeting.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to give free water for one year once the meter is installed by the water department. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held how much money was left in the budget to provide business incentive funds for part of their renovation expenses. City clerk will research once February expenses have been entered. Gary will be put on the March 6 agenda to discuss further.

CITY ATTORNEY

Duncan had nothing.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS
ADMINISTRATIVE
OPEN CITY MOWING BIDS**

One bid received:

Green Acres – total for the season - \$23,330.00.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to accept the bid from Green Acres. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN CODE MOWING BIDS

One bid received:

Green Acres – \$100 per lot for first mowing
\$ 50 per lot for each additional mowing

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Reed to accept the bid from Green Acres. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN CODE TREE TRIMMING BIDS

No bids received. A discussion at the next meeting will determine what steps council needs to take.

OPEN HAY & FARM LEASE BIDS

Six bids received:

Tract 1-approx 37 acres on west side of South Owl Lake:

Oran Taylor - \$43.00/acre = \$1,591.00
Joel Ireland - \$30.00/acre = \$1,110.00
Wendell Leis - \$49.90/acre = \$1,846.30
Mark Morrison - \$35.50/acre = \$1,313.50
Mark Grisier - \$39.15/acre = \$1,448.55
Chris Stockebrand - \$40.13/acre = \$1,484.81

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Reed to accept the bid from Wendell Leis for \$49.90/acre for a total of \$1,846.30. Motion carried unanimously.

Tract 2-approx 72.81 acres on east and west side of YC Reservoir:

Oran Taylor - \$25.09/acre = \$1,826.80
Joel Ireland - \$37.25/acre = \$2,712.17
Wendell Leis - \$0/acre = \$0
Mark Morrison - \$0/acre = \$0
Mark Grisier - \$28.26/acre = \$2,057.61
Chris Stockebrand - \$28.85/acre = \$2,100.57

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Reed to accept the bid from Joel Ireland for \$37.25/acre for a total of \$2,712.17. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN HAY & FARM LEASE BIDS

Tract 3-approx 17 acres at the former YC Airport (1 year lease):

- Oran Taylor - \$34.00/acre = \$578.00
- Joel Ireland - \$35.50/acre = \$603.50
- Wendell Leis - \$46.50/acre = \$790.50
- Mark Morrison - \$35.50/acre = \$603.50
- Mark Grisier - \$42.10/acre = \$715.70
- Chris Stockebrand - \$40.15/acre = \$682.55

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Reed to accept the bid from Wendell Leis for \$46.50/acre for a total of \$790.50. Motion carried unanimously.

Farm ground-approx 14.67 acres on south of the nursing home:

- Oran Taylor - \$55.35/acre = \$812.00
- Joel Ireland - \$35.50/acre = \$733.50
- Wendell Leis - \$0/acre = \$0
- Mark Morrison - \$0/acre = \$0
- Mark Grisier - \$52.55/acre = \$770.90
- Chris Stockebrand - \$0/acre = \$0

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to accept the bid from Oran Taylor for \$55.35/acre for a total of \$812.00. Motion carried unanimously.

TAX ABATEMENT-NORMAN AND LINDA MASSOTH

Application was presented on behalf of Norman and Linda Massoth. This is a tax abatement for reduction of city property taxes only for the new construction of a garage.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the tax abatement for the next 4 years. Motion carried unanimously.

**SAFETY
POLICE STAFFING**

Chief Michael Strode announced that Jacob Morrison will be starting as an officer on Friday, February 24.

NO PARKING SIGNS ON S MAIN

Chief Michael Strode stated it had been 90 days since the no parking signs have been placed on S. Main from Mary to Chellis street on the West side only. He asked if council wanted to leave them up or take them down.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Stewart to leave the signs up and have Duncan draw up Ordinance #1168 for the permanent placement. Motion carried unanimously.

DIGITICKET PROGRAM/INTERFACE

Assistant Chief Vinny Baker presented the DigiTicket information that the officers would like to use. It will cut time of stops in half (average of 8 minutes could be cut to 4 minutes), court clerk won't have to enter tickets, just upload information and the City Attorney would also be able to access ticket information.

There are two options feasible for the city for payment. The first option is to purchase all equipment, they will come and install in each vehicle, but will charge milage and labor. We also would have to purchase the paper used in the printer and any maintenance would also have to be paid for. This option is just under \$21,000.00. There is also an interface the city would have to purchase for our court program for \$1,500.00 from Jayhawk Software.

The second option is to lease all equipment. They will come and install in each vehicle, at no cost to the city, provide maintenance and paper. They will also pay for the interface from Jayhawk Software. This option is \$844 a month for all 4 units. If the city pays for a year at a time, which would be \$10,128, they would give a \$405 discount making the yearly lease \$9,723.

A discussion was held about possible ways to pay for this program and the benefits to all staff.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to raise the court costs by \$15, from \$125 to \$140 with the \$15 allocated for technology assistance starting March 1, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

This will be discussed further at the March 6 meeting.

POLICE VEHICLES

Discussion was held on vehicles for the Police Department. The Charger is constantly in the shop, so Chief Strode would like to get it sold and order another vehicle, possibly 2. This could start a rotation of acquiring new vehicles, with warranties, instead of used. Council gave Chief the authority to ask for bids and this will be discussed further at a future meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY 75 IMPROVEMENTS

Street Supervisor Ryther had information about the Connecting Link Improvement Program (CCLIP) for repair highway 75 from north of Holloway street to approximately 150 feet of Chellis street. This is slated for 2025 fiscal year and is totally funded through CCLIP.

HIGHWAY 54 IMPROVEMENTS

Street Supervisor Ryther had information about the Scrub Seal & Chip Seal of highway 54 from West city limits to 200 feet West of US-75 and from 200 feet East of US-75 to East city limits. This is completely funded, just waiting to hear when it will be scheduled.

GRADER REPAIRS

Street Supervisor Ryther stated the wiper on the grader has quit working. It's not used much, only in rain or snow. The motor has quit and that part is around \$180. The labor, because the motor is within the cab, will be approx \$800 - \$1,000.

Motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Barney to approve repairs to the grader not to exceed \$2,500. Motion carried unanimously.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS
ROCK ON ROAD ON WEST SIDE OF
SOUTH OWL RESERVOIR**

Reed just let council know that Tim Splechter had seen that the road on the West side is not in good shape. His cost of rock was lower than what he had bid, so he would like to donate 6 loads of rock to help with the road. Council was very appreciative.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS
THANK YOU NOTE**

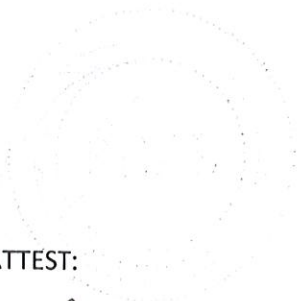
Weston read a thank you note from the Presbyterian Church thanking the city for paying for part of the cleaning after the evacuation of the high school during a bomb threat.

CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender, to pay the claims and vouchers in the amount of \$96,401.88. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 8:23 pm.




Justin W. Weston, Mayor

ATTEST:


Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved March 6, 2023