

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 18, 2023, at City Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Weston called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call as follows: Barney, Reed, Stewart, Atkin, Shaffer, Cavender, and Kee. Cathcard was absent. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Brian Duncan, Police Chief Michael Strode, Street Supervisor Rodney Ryther, Water/Wastewater Supervisor Scott Grogg, City Clerk Janet Thompson, Officer Chris Bowman, and Deputy City Clerk Chelsea Goodson.

**AGENDA AMENDED & APPROVED**

Kee added Fire School in Industrial Park under Safety and added Old Oil Leases at South Owl under Parks and Public Lands.

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

**MINUTES APPROVED**

Motion was made by Cavender, seconded by Atkin, to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023, meeting as printed. Motion carried with Kee abstaining.

**CARLA MINEER & SHIRLEY WINTERS-  
STOP SIGN ON HIGHWAY 54**

Carla Mineer and Shirley Winters were present to request that a stop sign be placed on Mary Street at Main. Before they began their presentation, Duncan, at the request of the council, informed Mineer and Winters that the council does not have the authority to alter or add signage on the highway. Duncan suggested that they instead reach out to the Kansas Department of Transportation with their request.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DINNER**

Kee notified the council that the Woodson County Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual member dinner on November 12, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. and that each member is allowed to have five guests. Kee passed around an informational flyer.

**CITY ATTORNEY**

Duncan had nothing at this time.

**EMERALD CITY FOODS LLC –  
BUSINESS INCENTIVES**

Mandy Fuller presented a business incentives application for Emerald City Foods LLC. All necessary paperwork was provided.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to award free water for a year to Emerald City Foods LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
BCBS INSURANCE PROPOSAL**

Thompson presented the renewal rates for employee health insurance from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. The rates will decrease by 13.32%.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to renew the employee health insurance for 2023-2024. Motion carried unanimously.

**ZONING BOARD**

Kee advised the council that the city currently has six volunteers for the Yates Center Zoning Board and Appeals Board: Ryan Neito, Jacob Morrison, Deborah Mikulka, Norman Massoth, Jared Leis, and Cindy Adams. The city must fill two more spots, for a total of eight, to move forward with the boards. The council discussed other individuals who have expressed interest in the positions. The council will reach out to Teresa Lee and Davin West to fill the remaining positions. Duncan asked to be emailed a list of all the names once the positions have been filled.

**SAFETY  
SETTING UP INDIVIDUAL FUND  
FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Strode informed the council that the Yates Center Police Department's expenses from Digiticket are not being reduced by the \$15 technology assistance fee within court costs. Thompson explained that the YCPD needs a separate fund added to its budget with an income and expense line for this express purpose.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Stewart, to allow the Clerk to add a separate fund in the YCPD budget allowing funds from the technology assistance fee to be applied to Digiticket expenses.

**FIRE SCHOOL IN INDUSTRIAL  
PARK**

Atkin advised the council that he has invited the Kansas State Firefighters Association in conjunction with Kansas University to Yates Center to offer a two-day firefighting training class on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for the local volunteer fire departments. Atkin requested that the council finalize which lots in the Industrial Park will be granted to the Yates Center Volunteer Fire Department for training. Reed also suggested

that the council direct the Code Enforcement Officer, Kristen Cagle, to address the clearing of the access road to such lots.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee, that Lots 4 and 7 from the Industrial Park be assigned to the Yates Center Volunteer Fire Department, as shown on the map by Councilmember Barney.

**PUBLIC WORKS  
MIDCO DIVING SERVICE BID FOR  
WATER TOWER AND AUTH MAYOR  
TO SIGN**

Duncan informed the council that the water tower needs to undergo an inspection and cleaning to fulfill state requirements as well as to examine work previously completed by Suez/Advanced Solutions. Grogg read the bid from Midco Diving Service for the inspection and cleaning in the amount of \$7,752.00.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Cavender, to grant the mayor the authority to sign the Midco Diving Service bid for the inspection and cleaning of the Yates Center water tower in the amount of \$7,725.00. Motion carried unanimously.

**HIRING ADDITIONAL PERSON FOR  
STREETS/PARKS**

Ryther asked the council whether they will hire an employee to fill the cross-position between the Street Department and Parks and Public Lands.

Motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Barney, to advertise for and hire an additional employee for streets/parks. Motion carried unanimously.

**BIDS FOR INSULATION IN NEW  
WATER SHOP**

Grogg requested that the council approve a call for bids for 2-inch closed-cell insulation at the new water shop.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee, to solicit bids for 2-inch closed-cell insulation at the water shop upon receipt of acceptable bid specs from Scott Grogg, to be returned by October 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS  
TRICKLE PIPE BID FROM MAYER  
SPECIALTIES**

Grogg presented a bid from Mayer Specialties Service LLC to add a lining to repair the trickle pipe at the Kids Pond Dam in the amount of \$18, 656.00. Reed noted that this amount was

significantly less than had been originally budgeted for the repair.

Motion was made by Reed, seconded by Kee, to waive the bid process for the repair. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Reed, seconded by Kee, to accept the bid from Mayer Specialties Service LLC in the amount of \$18,656.00 for the trickle pipe repair at the Kids Pond Dam. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **OLD OIL LEASES AT SOUTH OWL LAKE**

Ryther asked the council about the status of the old oil leases at South Owl Lake and informed the council that some poles, wires, and other castoffs had been left at the site. Duncan noted that the city has already filed an affidavit of non-production returning the property to the city and that the wells were plugged. Ryther requested that the council approve a call for bids to remove the remaining materials from the property.

Motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Cavender, to solicit bids for the removal of unwanted materials left by oil lease holders at South Owl Lake upon receipt of acceptable bid specs from Rodney Ryther, to be returned by October 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **THANKS TO THE YCPD FOR EMS SUPPORT**

Atkin called Chief Strode and Officer Bowman into the council chamber to recognize the Yates Center Police Department's service in supporting EMS calls in the city. Atkin and Stewart noted that the Woodson County Emergency Services Director recognized the YCPD for its service and support of EMS calls that occur in the City of Yates Center.

#### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

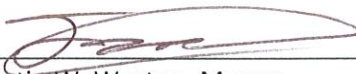
The Mayor had nothing at this time

#### **CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to pay the claims and vouchers in the amount of \$174,854.55. Motion carried unanimously.


#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Cavender, seconded by Atkin, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:50 pm.

  
Justin W. Weston, Mayor



ATTEST:

  
Chelsea D. Goodson, Deputy City Clerk

Approved October 2, 2022