

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 21, 2024**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, October 21, 2024, 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, Atkin, Cathcard and Kee with one vacant position. Stewart, Shaffer and Cavender were absent. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Brian Duncan, Police Chief Michael Strode, Assistant Police Chief Vinny Baker, Police Officer Jake Morrison, and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

AGENDA AMENDED & APPROVED

Kee added an Executive Session for Attorney/Client after minutes approved and Christmas Light Memorial Fund under Administrative. 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 Atkin, to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2024 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-
ATTORNEY/CLIENT**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney to enter into a 10-minute executive session, in the City Clerk's office, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, and City Clerk for attorney/client privilege for the purpose of discussing with the city attorney matters of a confidential character. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 7:04 pm to reconvene at 7:14 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:14 pm.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney to go back into executive session for another 10 minutes in the City Clerk's office with the same parties. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 7:14 pm to reconvene at 7:24 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:20 pm.

CAVENDER ARRIVED

Cavender arrived at 7:15 pm and joined the executive session.

BILLY SCHEER-RIGHT OF WAY

Mr. Scheer was here again to see what the city has decided. James Farmer was via phone. A survey has been requested and will be paid for by the city. Once that is complete and the city has the report back, the Parks and Public Lands committee will meet with each party as well as the entire council to discuss what needs to happen next.

CITY ATTORNEY

Duncan had nothing.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS
ADMINISTRATIVE
SIGN FOR CITY HALL**

A short discussion was held of the need for a sign at City Hall. Administrative committee should take this and get at least 3 bids. Cathcard will get the City Clerk the contact information of one company. Kee asked the Clerk to get the bids.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE

Barney stated the adopt a child applications have been sent out. Trunk or Treat will take place, but there is a meeting tomorrow about the parade.

CHRISTMAS LIGHT MEMORIAL FUND

A resident recently passed away and left some money to be used for City Christmas lights and decorations. Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to have the City Clerk create a line item in the General Fund for Christmas Lights Memorials. Motion carried unanimously. It was also noted that any one that would like to contribute to the fund to please contact the City office.

SAFETY

JERRY SEDLACEK-WOODSON COUNTY

Mr. Sedlacek was present on behalf of Woodson County commissioners to talk about the possibility of combining law enforcement of the county and city. Cathcard stated when he joined the city council, he had the same thought, but after several years, does not think it's a good idea, which most of the council agreed. The City Police Chief has to answer to the Safety Committee and Council. Council was not sure who the Sheriff answers to, if anyone. Kee stated the city would have to abolish the police department and then have a contract with the Sheriff department to patrol the city. If it didn't work, then the city would have to hire personnel and purchase all vehicles and equipment. The mayor stated there are just too many variants at this time. Council agreed that the city is not interest at this point and need to look into growing both departments and work side by side together. Sedlacek also mentioned that the dispatch, starting in January 2025, will be under the direction of the commissioners, not the Sheriff.

**PUBLIC WORKS
ROAD OILER**

The mayor and Ryther had discussed purchasing a road oiler with the county. At this time, there is no budget set aside for such a purchase.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS
SOUTH OWL CAMPING DISCUSSION**

Chief Strode presented a form that we could use similar to what Altamont uses. We need to get locks for both the water and electric and get a sign made stating that campers need to call City Hall if during business hours or the Sheriff's Department after hours, weekends or holidays. Also need to have check in and out times. The office and police department will work together to have everything in place at least by the first of the year.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

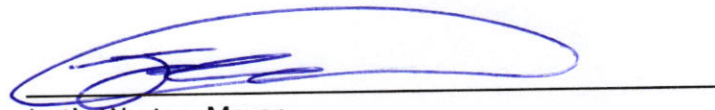
The mayor had nothing.

CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender, to pay the claims and vouchers in the amount of \$52,213.41. Motion carried unanimously.

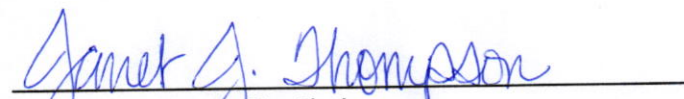
ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Cavender to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 8:17 pm.



Justin Weston, Mayor

ATTEST:



Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved November 4, 2024