

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 7, 2025, 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, Stewart, Atkin, Cathcard, Shaffer (arrived at 7:03 pm), Cavender and Kee with one vacant position. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Brian Duncan, Police Chief Michael Strode, Assistant Police Chief Vinny Baker, and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

AGENDA APPROVED

Kee removed the Executive Session from Admin, added Revitalize YC under Admin and added Water Superintendent under Public Works. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender, to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

SHELLEY OLD

Shelley Old was present representing SEKA (associated with SEK Mental Health Dept for children with behavior issues) to ask about taking a small group of kids (10-15 kids) to fish at the Kid's pond. When she called the City office to ask about it, she was told no because it was too close to the Fishing Derby. They will have Wildlife & Parks, Fish & Game, Farm Bureau and Hay Capital Outdoors. This is an activity that helps to keep the kids minds stimulated. The City Clerk apologized because she was not made aware that it was a special outing. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to allow the SEKA group to use the Kid's pond on Thursday, May 29, from 11 am until 2 pm at no charge. Motion carried unanimously.

TOM DAVIS

Tom Davis was present to talk about Birdies and Bluegrass which will be held June 14, 2025. Last year they were able to donate \$48,000 to Friends for Life. They still have fireworks from the past 2 years. It was suggested that if the fireworks cannot be fired this year, possibly shooting them during the 150th celebration of Yates Center. Motion was made by Atkin, second by Shaffer to donate the annual amount of \$6,000 to Birdies and Bluegrass to be used at their discretion. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY

Nothing from Duncan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

APPROVE COUNCIL SIZE ORDINANCE

Motion made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to approve Charter Ordinance #23, Reducing the council size to 6 after the November 2025 election. Motion carried unanimously.

REVITALIZE YC

Atkin showed council the postcards that were printed last year. The city had South Owl Lake and Lincoln Park listed. A few more options were noted that the city could list. The cost is \$25 per entry and you receive 100 cards for each entry. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Shaffer to list various places for people to visit while in town at \$25 each. Motion carried with Atkin abstaining.

GRANT WRITER

Cathcard stated he would like to possibly hire a grant writer along with the county. They can generally write their wages into the grants. Cathcard asked to have this on the April 21 agenda to discuss with the person he has in mind.

FIREWORKS STAND BY PETE'S

A person called from Frese Industries about setting up a tent to sell fireworks by Pete's. They actually have a contract with Pete's Corporation to set up next to any Pete's. Currently there are 2 other places to purchase fireworks, and council feels this will give residents another option. This was approved by council.

SAFETY

ANIMAL CONTROL/SHELTER

Cathcard would like to completely remove the current cement and replace with a heated floor and drainage. Unfortunately, that is not in the budget. The outside pens need to be covered, just a simple metal roof and guttering to keep a lot of the water away. Getting stable electric is the first priority so the shelter can be heated and cooled.

ATV/UTV LAWS

After some research and discussion, it was decided that ATV, UTV and Golf Carts will still be allowed on city streets, but all drivers and passengers must follow all laws pertaining to vehicles and motorcycles. A few of the top safety precautions are: Children that would be in a car seat in a vehicle, must be in one when riding in an ATV, UTV, Golf Cart, etc. Driver must have a valid driver's license. Under the age of 16 must wear a helmet.

PUBLIC WORKS

WATER SUPERINTENDENT

The new water superintendent has been hired. Franklin Gaines will start Monday, April 14.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS
FLOODPLAIN HEARING**

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Cavender to open the Floodplain hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Opened the floor for question, concerns, or comments. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to close the Floodplain hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE

Motion was made by Barney, seconded by Atkin to adopt Floodplain Ordinance #1185. Motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

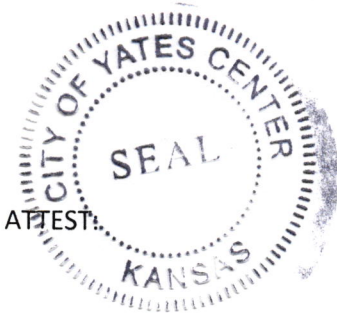
Nothing from the Mayor.

CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender, to pay the claims and vouchers for in the amount of \$84,870.58. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Cavender to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:44 pm.



Justin Weston, Mayor

Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved April 21, 2025