

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 24, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 24, 2025, at City Hall. The February 18 meeting was postponed because of the weather. 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, Cavender and Kee with one vacant position. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Brian Duncan, Police Chief Michael Strode, Police Officer Martin Schomaker, Water Supervisor Scott Grogg and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

AGENDA APPROVED

Kee added an Executive Session for Attorney/Client under Parks. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin 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 3, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY

Nothing from Duncan.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS
ADMINISTRATIVE
PET TAGS**

Atkin has had some residents come to him about pet tags. Since most rabies vaccinations are for 2 years, why can't they get their pet tags every 2 years. The City Clerk is afraid this would be a paperwork nightmare. Much more discussion needs to take place before there is a final decision on this.

COPIER QUOTE

The contract for the current copier will be up May 23, 2025, so they sent the city a quote for a new one. A new copier, very similar to the current one, with the trade in will be \$5,496.40 (cash purchase) or \$119.62 60-month Lease option, which would end up with a total price of \$7,177.20. Our current contract is .0174¢ for black & white copies and .1668¢ for color copies. The new contract will be .01¢ for black & white copies and .05¢ for color copies.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to waive the bid process and purchase the copier for not more than \$5,496.40 with a \$70.00 toner and service contract that includes 2,000 mono and 1,000 color copies. Motion carried unanimously.

CODE MOWING BIDS

Robert Kepley \$37.50/hour per lot first time
\$37.50/hour per lot additional times

Green Acre Lawns \$100 per lot first time
\$60 per lot additional times

R.P.'s Custom \$95 per lot first time
\$50 per lot additional times

C.J.'s Lawn \$95 per lot first time
\$50 per lot additional times

After some discussion, motion was made by Barney, seconded by Stewart to have Green Acre Lawns mow the code yards. Motion was carried with Shaffer abstaining.

**SAFETY
STOP SIGNS**

Chief Strode wants to make some stop signs permanent that were place 90+ days ago. These are along S Prairie at Wilson, South and Park. They will add Chellis into this as well. Motion made by Cathcard, seconded by Kee to have the City Attorney draft an ordinance for permanent stop signs at the locations plus remove the yield sign at Chellis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Kee for the North end of Prairie at Bell on the South side, make this stop sign permanent. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Kee for the stop signs on Bell at Main on the East and West to be permanent. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Kee for the stop signs on Green at Butler on the North and South to be permanent. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Barney to remove the stop signs on S Kalida at E Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Cathcard, seconded by Shaffer to remove the yield signs at Chellis on State and replace with stop signs. Motion carried unanimously.

ANIMAL SHELTER

Barney started the discussion on the Animal Shelter. Each dog needs a raised bed so they are not laying on the concrete. There is straw and blankets, but a raised bed is much better. She would also like to have the flaps replaced where they can go outside. Cathcard and Barney will get together and get a plan to acquire some shelter needs.

NUISANCE ALARMS

Atkin stated they have been to one location several times because of an automatic alarm. Each time, the alarm has malfunctioned. He would like to implement a fine structure, if there is not one already in place, of more than 2 in a year, the 3rd and any additional the owner would be issued a ticket. Duncan will research this.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-
ATTORNEY/CLIENT**

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Kee to enter into a 15-minute executive session, in the Clerk's office, with the Council, Mayor, and City Attorney 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 7:55 pm to reconvene at 8:00 pm. Meeting called back into order at 8:00 pm.

**PUBLIC WORKS
LIFT STATION UPGRADES**

Grogg reminded the council that \$200,000 was encumbered by 2 new sewer lift stations. The best bid was from Haynes Equipment for \$89,750 each. Once the quote is signed, it will be 4-6 weeks for delivery. These have a 5-year warranty with all American made parts. They will keep the old ones in case they need parts for the current ones. The new ones will be placed at Madison & Pratt and in the 1200 block of North Grove. Grogg will start searching for contractors to install them. Motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Barney to allow Grogg to purchase the 2 sewer lift stations not to exceed \$89,750 each. Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR NON-
ELECTED PERSONNEL**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to enter into a to enter into a 15-minute executive session, in the Clerk's office, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney and Water Supervisor present to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 8:11 pm to reconvene at 8:26 pm. Meeting called back into order at 8:26 pm.

RFP BIDS

The city received 2 proposals for the highway 75 repair. BG Consultants and Wilson and Company. Since Ryther was sick and not present, this will be tabled until next Monday's meeting.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS
CITY MOWING BIDS**

There were 2 bids for the city mowing:

Cowboy Cutters - \$30,564.36
Green Acre Lawns - \$18,080.00

Motion made by Barney, seconded by Kee to have Green Acre Lawns mow the city properties included in the bid. Motion carried with Shaffer abstaining.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-
ATTORNEY/CLIENT**

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Shaffer to enter into a 5-minute executive session, in the Clerk's office, with the Council, Mayor, and City Attorney 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 8:35 pm to reconvene at 8:40 pm. Meeting called back into order at 8:40 pm.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor reminded everyone about the Safe Roads program at the Rural Fire Barn on February 26 from 4-6 pm.

Also, in regards to the LSLI (Lead Service Line Inventory), the company that has been helping with the inventory will be in town on March 10th from 4-6 p.m. to go door-to-door to try to get incomplete information from residents. There will be 7 of their people here and they will need a city employee or council member with them. Any council members that can help would be greatly appreciated.


CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to pay the claims and vouchers for in the amount of \$98,187.78. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Barney to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 8:43 pm.




Justin Weston, Mayor


Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved March 3, 2025