

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 3, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 3, 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, Shaffer, and Kee with one vacant position. Cathcard and Cavender were absent. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Brian Duncan, Police Chief Michael Strode, Police Officer Martin Schomaker, and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

**AGENDA APPROVED**

Kee added an Executive Session for Attorney/Client and Wood Chips storage 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 Atkin, to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY ATTORNEY**

Nothing from Duncan.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
COUNCIL SIZE**

At the moment, there are 3 council members from each Ward. Ward 1 currently has 1 vacant position. At least 1 council member does not plan on run for re-election this year. This will be a good time to reduce the size of the council from 8 to 6. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to have Duncan draft a Charter Ordinance reducing the size effective January of 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**

After some discussion, it was suggested that the police department could cover code. This will now be on a complaint from the public, either over the phone or in person. A form will be filled out and put in a special bin for code complaints. If the police find there is an ordinance not being followed, a ticket will be issued.

**SAFETY  
EXECUTIVE SESSION-  
ATTORNEY/CLIENT**

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Barney to enter into a 20-minute executive session, in the Council room, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, Police Chief 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 7:18 pm to reconvene at 7:38 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:38 pm.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Shaffer to enter into An additional 10-minute executive session, in the Council room, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, Police Chief 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 7:39 pm to reconvene at 7:49 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:49 pm.

**PUBLIC WORKS  
CDLs**

Ryther had a call from Gary Ward from the county about CDL classes some of their personnel are taking and wondered if any of the city employees would be interested. Ryther let council know that all 3 in his department would like to take this. He was asked about the water department and all council agreed that at least one employee should take this class. The class is \$2,500 per person. Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Shaffer to pay for 3 street employees and 1 water employee to obtain their CDL. As long as they are employed by the city for the next 3 years after obtaining this license, they will have no cost to them. If they leave the city's employment, the \$2,500 will need to be paid back. Motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-  
ATTORNEY/CLIENT**

Motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Shaffer to enter into a 15-minute executive session, in the Council room, 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 7:57 pm to reconvene at 8:12 pm. Meeting called back into order at 8:12 pm.

**WOOD CHIPS STORAGE**

Ryther noted that the company that had cut branches for Every and put them through a wood chipper had asked where they could dump the chips. They are next to the branch dump off at South Owl and if anyone wants some for mulching, please go get what you will use.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS  
FLOODPLAIN ORDINANCE**

Duncan stated that he is working on the ordinance, and we will have to have a hearing during a council meeting and a notice must be published in the paper 20 days ahead of the hearing date.

**CITY MOWING CLARIFICATION**

After a short discussion because of various questions raised on the City mowing, this will be an "all or nothing" bid. Delay Stadium and the Airport will have a maximum height of 3" and is a March-October contract.

A discussion on 204 E Washington about upkeep. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to request sealed bids for the property to be received by 5:00 pm on March 14, 2025 and be opened at the March 17 Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**


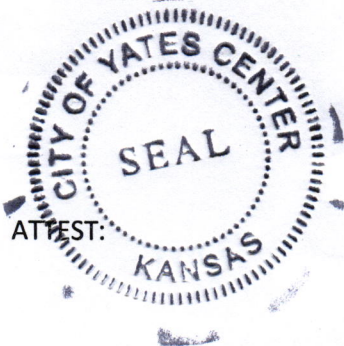
The Mayor had nothing

**CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney, to pay the claims and vouchers for in the amount of \$98,476.84. Motion carried unanimously.

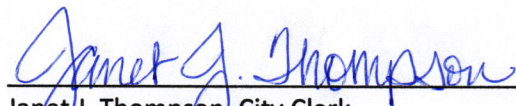
**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 8:34 pm.



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Justin Weston, Mayor



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Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved February 24, 2025