

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
MAY 5, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 5, 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, Cavender and Kee with one vacant position. Shaffer was absent. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Brian Duncan, Police Chief Michael Strode, Assistant Police Chief Vinny Baker, Street Superintendent Rod Ryther, and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

**AGENDA APPROVED**

Kee added Business Incentives under Administrative. 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 April 21, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**DEB MIKULKA**

Deb was here to give a little background on herself and how she eventually started writing grants. In her opinion the city, possibly along with the county, should have a grant writer. Most of the grants, the writer can include their wages in the grant. Not all grants can this be done, so the writer and city would have to agree on an amount of pay. Council will keep this in mind and reach out to her with any questions.

**CITY ATTORNEY**

Nothing from Duncan.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**ANIMAL CONTROL BACK TO ADMIN**

After a short discussion it was decided that Animal Control should go back under Administrative instead of Safety. Kristen Cagle, having the most knowledge of animal control, will oversee Cullison. Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Barney to move Animal Control back to Administrative. Motion carried with Kee opposing.

**BEN WEBER**

Ben was present to let council know several things he is in the process of. First was about the building where Gary Preston used to run. Dalton Brittain is now running it with tire repairs, installing new tires (referring customers to Sievers Auto Parts for tire), oil changes and some very light mechanic work.

Next was fertilizer utilizing earth extractions. Hoping for industrial agricultural as well as personal use for house plants. Eventually, they will want water and sewer installed. Right now, they are using a 2-car garage at 305 W. Holloway. They are still researching grants and looking for investors. Harvesting will take place in about a month.

The last was turning the lot south of Dollar General into a paid parking for semis. As a business incentive, he would like more gravel added and graded, when he ready to go forward.

Council thanked him for coming in and ask that he keep them updated.

**SAFETY  
EXECUTIVE SESSION-  
ATTORNEY/CLIENT**

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Atkin to enter into a 10-minute executive session, in the Clerk's Office, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, Police Chief, Assistant Police Chief and the Street Superintendent 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 7:58 pm to reconvene at 8:07 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:07 pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR NON-  
ELECTED PERSONNEL**

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Cavender to enter into a 15-minute executive session, in the Clerk's Office, with the Council, Mayor, and City Attorney present to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 8:08 pm to reconvene at 8:23 pm. Meeting called back into order at 8:15 pm.

**BUNKER GEAR FUND**

Atkin asked the City Clerk to research the amount that should be in the Bunker Gear fund as it appears it's been rolling back into General. There is a revenue line item that sales tax money is transferred into. This shows over \$64,000. Atkin stated that with department needs 4 new sets this year at an individual cost of around \$10,000. Atkin will reach out to vendors or Chief Gaulding to find the best price and then bring it back to the council.

**PUBLIC WORKS  
SUMMER MOWING**

Ryther had a gentlemen approach him asking if they needed help mowing through the season and if so, he would be interested. Ryther will contact him and have him fill out an application and once he does, the Clerk will reach out to the Park committee to set up an interview.

**NOTICES FOR WATER SHUT OFFS**

The City Clerk wanted to let council know that certified letters are now \$9.68 each. At least 50% never sign for them, they just call city hall and ask what it's about. The office has had good response from door cards put out about their bill being high for the month, or shutoffs. After a short discussion council agreed to a trial of door cards first, and after 3 days, if no response, then send a certified letter.

**WATER/WASTEWATER**

After a short discussion it was decided that the City Clerk would reach out to KRWA to see what the city needs to do to post the opening.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

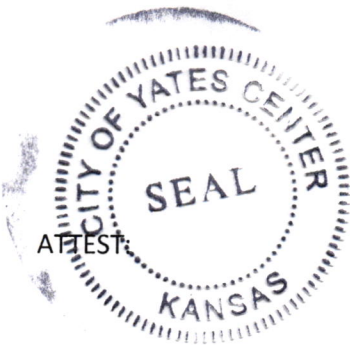
Nothing from the Mayor.

**CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to pay the claims and vouchers for in the amount of \$200,955.43. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Atkin to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 8:46 pm.



Justin Weston, Mayor

Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved May 5, 2025