

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 4, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 4, 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: Police Officer JD Hazelwood and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

NEW CITY ATTORNEY

Kee introduced Jacob (Jake) Manbeck from Iola, our new city attorney. Mayor Weston swore in Manbeck.

AGENDA APPROVED

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender, to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

CHELICIA HESKETT-RV CAMPING

Heskett came to ask to extend their stay. The other person they are camping with ended up having open heart surgery and they are helping to take care of him. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to allow both camper and extended stay of September 10. Motion carried unanimously.

Right now, they can move to spots 1 and 2 and one of the girls in the office will call them, or they can come to the office or call, to verify the spots and if they will need to move at any point.

PRESENTATION OF AUDIT

Neil Phillips was present with the audit for 2024. No major discrepancies that they found and answered questions for the council.

CITY ATTORNEY

Manbeck had no comments.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS
ADMINISTRATIVE
REVIEW CHARTER ORD 23**

The council will go from 8 to 6 after the November election. The positions up for election are Ward 1, Position 3 (Barney) and Ward 2, Position 3 (Cathcard), and the Mayor. The vacant seat and Ward 2, Position 4 (Shaffer) seats will be eliminated.

ANIMAL POUND DISCUSSION

Manbeck has not heard anything from the state concerning the shelter. Kee wants the shelter closed; Atkin would like to have the city attorney let the state know that the shelter will be closed and the city will work on it as time permits. We will contact the state when it is up to their code for inspection.

CITY HALL ROOF

Cathcard asked if an insurance claim would cover all city building roofs or if each building would be one claim. The city clerk had contacted the insurance agency and was told that it would be one claim for all buildings. The Mayor will contact our agent about starting a claim for the roofs.

WATER TROUGH

Kee had noticed some Amish in the grocery store and two of them had a cart each heaped with groceries. He talked to Jason Shepard about the horses not having anywhere to get water. Kee thought about putting a trough on the square, but Jason suggested that he could install a frost-free hydrant on his property (at his cost). Motion made a motion to give Shepard up to a \$50 water credit applied on an amount above the average usage. Motion carried with Cathcard and Barney voting no.

**SAFETY
POLICE CANINE**

The explorer has now been set up to carry Hazelwood's canine.

**PUBLIC WORKS
INSPECTION FOR WATER TOWER
QUOTE**

Mid-Co Diving, the company that has done the last several years, called to let the city know that we are due for an inspection. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to waive the bid process for the water tower inspection and clear well inspection.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the quote for inspection and cleaning the water tower and clear well for the Mayor to sign.

ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS AND

There are several fairly serious electrical issues going on at the water plant and the lake. Ryther has someone coming to check things out on the 11th. There is no signal at the lake, Atkin said he would try to get out there to try to get some kind of signal. There is also a problem with the flow meter. Ryther will check to see if this can be fixed.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments.

CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cathcard, to pay the claims and vouchers of \$178,869.18. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Atkin to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 8:33 pm.



Justin Weston, Mayor



Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved August 18, 2025