

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 1, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, December 1, 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, and Kee with one vacant position. Shaffer and Cavender were absent. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Jacob Manbeck, Police Officer Martin Schomaker, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Brent Torrens and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

AGENDA APPROVED

Kee added Banners along Hwy 54 and 75 and Rutledge and Water and Sewer increase under Administration; Water Tower under Public Works. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED

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

SARAH STONE-CAMPING

She is hoping to have the windows and pipes all replaced within the next month so she can get moved in. She requested an extra month at the campground. After checking availability, motion was made by Kee, seconded by Stewart to allow her to stay until January 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

MIKE WATSON-CAMPING

He came in requesting extra time at the campground. He is staying at the armory location. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Stewart to allow him to stay until February 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY ATTORNEY

Manbeck had nothing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

CHRISTMAS FOR EMPLOYEES

Last year the employees were given an extra day during the Christmas holiday. They worked the 24th, which was a Tuesday, then had Wednesday-Friday off (25th-27th). This was in lieu of the food basket they had been given the last several years. This year would be Wednesday-Friday again, but the 24th-26th. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to allow the employees the extra day of Friday, December 26. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY HALL ROOF

Cathcard and Weston looked at the roof and Cathcard thought that all screws could be replaced with bigger screws so it will seal. Power washing the roof with some mildew cleaner and put some butyl tape to stabilize. It could possibly be painted if the power wash doesn't clean it up. It also does need new gutters (need to get a seamless crew to install).

WATER & SEWER RATES

After a short discussion about adjusting the rates to qualify for grants in the future, motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cathcard to increase both rates by 4% starting with the January bill. Motion carried unanimously.

BANNERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Pat Atkin used the memorial contributions received to purchase banners and hardware for the 2 highways. The street crew will put these banners up. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney to have the street crew install the 48 banners and also thank Pat for generosity for the banners. Motion carried unanimously.

SAFETY

FIRE STATION ROOF

Council chose to table this discussion until the next meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS

SEWER PLANT BI-PRODUCTS

This will need to be disposed of at Burlington for around \$3,750.00. In order to allow a farmer to use it, state would have to get involved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Barney to enter into a 10-minute executive session, in the Council Room, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, Water Superintendent and Street Superintendent present to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 7:34 pm to reconvene at 7:44 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:44 pm.

WATER TOWER

Clearance light is not functioning. Atkin has a tower climber that is local (Laisen Stitt) and will to change it for \$500. We need to find out what kind of bulb the tower needs.

PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS

CONCRETE PILE BEHIND SOUTH OWL DAM

The concrete cannot be used for rip rap because it would not be cost effective to have crews get all the rebar out. The mayor has a place on his farm to stop erosion, but if someone else needs or wants it, they are welcome to it. The street crew will haul to his farm and dump.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Uveon has offered to purchase the old UV lights system for \$10,000 once the new system and lights are installed. He also reminded council they need to get the encumbrances together for the next meeting. One last thing, the Festival of Lights, Yates Center's Christmas Parade, is Saturday, December 13 and encouraged everyone to attend.

CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to pay the claims and vouchers of \$122,880.88. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Barney to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:57 pm.



ATTEST:

Justin Weston, Mayor

Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved December 15, 2025