

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, December 15, 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, Shaffer, Cavender and Kee with one vacant position. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Jacob Manbeck, Police Chief Michael Strode, Police Officer Martin Schomaker, Street Superintendent Rod Ryther, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Brent Torrens and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

AGENDA APPROVED

Kee added Brian Karmann and Casey Diver after approval of minutes; Executive Session-Trade Secrets under Administrative and Wilson 9 RWD 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 Atkin, to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2025 meeting. Motion carried with Shaffer abstaining.

WIESLER & GORDON-CAMPING

Wiesler has surgery early next month and would like to be able to recover for 2 or 3 weeks before driving. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney to allow them to stay until February 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

KEVIN STUBER-GRANTS

He came in to ask if the City would be interested in partnering with the county for a grant writer. The City has already discussed a grant writer, so after the first of the year, the two will get together to discuss it more.

BRIAN KARMANN-WATER

About every 6 months he has an unusually high water bill. There are no leaks in or around the house. This is an Air B&B. Torrens will go put a tester on the meter to see if something is wrong with the meter. If the meter is malfunctioning, we will make an adjustment.

CASEY DIVER

He asked about a letter that was mailed about the city was out of compliance on drinking water and wondered why follow up testing was not done. Torrens let him know this stemmed from a stuck valve and as far a follow up test, this is done daily.

CITY ATTORNEY

Manbeck had nothing.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS
ADMINISTRATIVE
EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR NON-
ELECTED PERSONNEL**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin 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 7:15 pm to reconvene at 7:25 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:20 pm.

COLA FOR EMPLOYEES

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to give employees what the auditors built in for 2026. (City Clerk checked budget and 5% was built in for 2026.)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-
FINANCIAL/TRADE SECRETS**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to enter into a 10-minute executive session, in the Council Room, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, and Kevin Stuber for financial or trade secrets for the purpose of discussing with the city attorney matters of a confidential character. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 7:21 pm to reconvene at 7:31 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:31 pm.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney to go back into executive session for another 10 minutes in the Council Room with the same parties. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 7:32 pm to reconvene at 7:42 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:42 pm.

APPROVE CMB FOR G & W FOODS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cathcard to approve the CMB license for G & W Foods. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CMB FOR CASEY'S

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the CMB license for Casey's. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CMB FOR PETE'S

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the CMB license for Pete's. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE CMB FOR PIZZA HUT

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to approve the CMB license for Pizza Hut. Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPT FIXED ASSET RESOLUTION

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to adopt the Fixed Asset resolution for 2026. This will be #366. Motion carried unanimously.

SALES TAX TRANSFERS BEFORE Y/E

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to allow the City Clerk to make Sales Tax transfers before year-end if check is received from the County by year-end. Motion carried unanimously.

SAFETY

FIRE STATION ROOF

Council chose to table this discussion until the next meeting. More questions need to be asked, but they may fix the roof and then add insulation at a later time.

HVAC AT SUBSTATION/FD

After a short discussion, it was decided to put this out for bids. They will be required to be at City Hall by 5 pm Friday, January 2, 2026.

ENCUMBRANCES FOR 2026-FIRE

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$8,000 from commodities to salaries. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Cavender to transfer \$3,000 from commodities to contractual. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Shaffer to transfer \$22,500 from commodities to Capital Outlay. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$22,500 for a Breathing Air compressor. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$10,000 for a Gear Extractor. Motion carried unanimously.

ENCUMBRANCES FOR 2026-PD

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Shaffer to encumber from Capital Outlay \$4,700 for Body Armor for officers. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS
WATER RATE INCREASE**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to approve Ordinance 1188 to increase the water rates for Residential by 4% effective with the January 1, 2026 bill. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to approve Ordinance 1189 to increase the water rates for Commercial by 4% effective with the January 1, 2026 bill. Motion carried unanimously

SEWER RATE INCREASE

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approved Ordinance 1190 to increase the sewer rates by 4% effective with the January 1, 2026 bill. Motion carried unanimously.

ENCUMBRANCES FOR 2026-WATER

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$50,000 from Capital Outlay to commodities. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$25,000 from Capital Outlay to contractual. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$56,000 from Capital Outlay to Personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$40,000 from Capital Outlay to Water Reserve. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$10,000 from Upgrades to commodities. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$129,100 from upgrades to Water Reserve. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Water Tower Improvements \$60,000 for a dive team to come and clean and inspect the Water Tower. Motion carried unanimously.

The following motions are contingent on auditor approval:

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Water Tower Repairs \$76,000 for the law suit filed against the city. Motion carried unanimously

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Shaffer to encumber from Dam repairs \$12,675 for repairs mandated by our inspection in 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

ENCUMBRANCES FOR 2026-SEWER

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$7,000 from Capital Outlay to commodities. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$39,000 from Capital Outlay to contractual. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$149,500 for new Lift Station and Installation. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$117,685 for a Sewer Auger System and Installation. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$3,750.00 for Sewer Bi-Product removal. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$66,000 for a purchase and installation of new UV System. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$16,500.00 for Football Field Lift Station. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber from Capital Outlay \$5,661.05 for a purchase of a Sludge Pump and Divider Box. Motion carried unanimously.

STREETS

Ryther presented 3 different documents that the Mayor will need to sign for Wilson & Company. One is stating fees for various consultations they handle, one for Task Orders for upcoming projects and one specific to the Nursing Home and easement they will get from the State.

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to have the Mayor sign all 3 documents. Motion carried unanimously.

ENCUMBRANCES FOR 2026-STREET

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$50,000 from Oil Purchases to Personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$12,000 from Commodities to Personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to encumber \$9,000 from Contractual for Equipment Repair. Motion carried unanimously.

Ryther would like to pre-pay for rock from Harshman out of commodities. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to allow the City Clerk to pay Harshman \$10,000 for pre-payment for 2026. Check will be cut 12/22/2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$12,000 from commodities to Equipment Reserve. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Kee to transfer \$24,000 from Capital Outlay to Equipment Reserve. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR NON-ELECTED PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to enter into a 10-minute executive session, in the Council Room, with the Council, Mayor, City Attorney, and Street Superintendent present to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 9:26 pm to reconvene at 9:36 pm. Meeting called back into order at 9:30 pm.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS
ENCUMBRANCES FOR 2026**

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Barney to encumber \$1,000 from Contractual for a security door at Delay Stadium. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Barney to encumber \$4,500 from contractual for Tuck Pointing at Delay.

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Barney to encumber \$4,870.81 for breaker box and maintenance at the pool. Motion carried unanimously.

ENCUMBRANCES FOR 2026-AIRPORT

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Barney to transfer \$2,000 from commodities to contractual. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Barney to transfer \$3,000 from commodities to Capital Outlay. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Cathcard to encumber \$8,000 from Capital Outlay for runway apron and rehabilitation. Motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

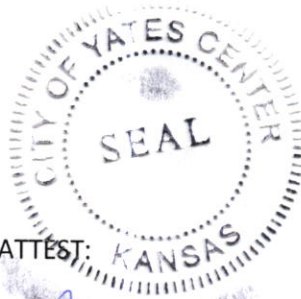
The Mayor announced that the County has offered to pay for half of the rock used for the training location, which is very much appreciated.

CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

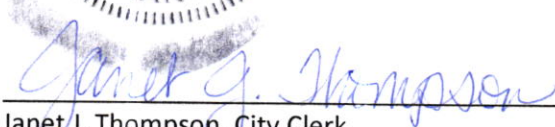
Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to pay the claims and vouchers of \$107,375.60. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Cathcard to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 9:53 pm.




Justin Weston, Mayor

ATTEST:

Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved January 5, 2026