

**YATES CENTER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
JULY 21, 2025**

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 21, 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 Chief Michael Strode, Assistant Police Chief Vinny Baker, and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

**AGENDA APPROVED**

Kee removed an Executive Session-Non-elected Personnel and added Discussion in reference to City Attorney, Appoint a City Attorney and Approve Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent under Admin and added Executive Session-Non-Elected Personnel and Weeds on Square under Public Works. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES APPROVED**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender, to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY ATTORNEY**

Duncan was absent, and this would have been his last meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
CITY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION**

Chief Strode and Assistant Chief Baker would like to nominate Daniel Smith (Chanute) for City Attorney. He had previously partnered with Brian Duncan and had represented the city in some trials, so he does know the city. Kee stated he had talked with Wilkes & Dunn (Yates Center) and also Jake Manbeck (Iola). After much discussion, the council decided on a candidate. A message was texted to the candidate to ask if they would be interested in the City Attorney position. Appointment will be tabled until a response is received.

**APPROVE RNR INTENT**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent. Motion carried unanimously. City Clerk will send the notice to the county.

**PUBLIC WORKS  
EXECUTIVE SESSION-NON-  
ELECTED PERSONNEL**

Motion was made by Stewart, seconded by Cathcard to enter into a 10-minute executive session, in the Council room, with the Council, Mayor and City Clerk present to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion carried unanimously and council entered into executive session at 7:30 pm to reconvene at 7:40 pm. Meeting called back into order at 7:40 pm.

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
APPOINT CITY ATTORNEY**

Mayor Weston would like to appoint Jake Manbeck as City Attorney. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender to approve the Mayor's appointment of Jake Manbeck as City Attorney. Motion carried with Atkin abstaining.

**PUBLIC WORKS  
WEEDS ON SQUARE**

Atkin noticed the grass and weeds coming up through the bricks on the streets around the square and also in the cracks of the sidewalks. Barney stated that the part-time mower could take care of that, but Rod would need to be notified that this needs done.

**PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS  
OPT-BACK TO SCHOOL BASH**

Julie Strode, representing OPT, was present to ask permission for use of the pool on August 9 from 5-7 pm then Lincoln Park and the pavilion for a movie and hot dogs. Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Cavender to allow OPT use of the pool from 5-7 and use of Lincoln Park from 5-midnight. Motion carried unanimously.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

The Mayor would like for council members to look over the proposed budget and the Dam Inspection from South Owl lake.

**CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS**

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cavender, to pay the claims and vouchers of \$111,475.19. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Cathcard, seconded by Cavender to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 8:00 pm.



Justin Weston, Mayor

ATTEST:

Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved August 4, 2025