

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

Yates Center City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 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 (arrived at 7:01), Cathcard, Cavender and Kee with one vacant position. Shaffer was absent. Other city officials present included: City Attorney Jacob Manbeck, Police Chief Michael Strode, Police Officer JD Hazelwood, Street Superintendent Rod Ryther, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Brent Torrens, and City Clerk Janet Thompson.

AGENDA APPROVED

Kee added Update on Water Plant, Use of Backhoe under Public Works and JD's 90-day probation under Safety. Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Cathcard to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES APPROVED

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Barney, to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

BROOK BENNINGFIELD

Mr. Benningfield is from Gridley and has worked a few years with Bonnie, the Animal Control officer with the City of Burlington, to help train the dogs simple commands as far as sit, stay, come, etc. When the council decides to open the shelter back up, we can contact Bonnie and all work together.

CRAIG KNIGHT

He has purchased the former O'Brien property from Dan Hardy. He would like to see if he could acquire Lot 1 and also vacate the road in between Lot 1 and his property. Council will discuss this October 6.

CITY ATTORNEY

Manbeck had nothing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

ANIMAL SHELTER LICENSE RENEWAL

The Clerk presented an email about the renewal of the Animal Shelter License renewal. It was the consensus of the council not to renew the license until it is up to State standards and then apply at that time.

SAFETY

DISCUSS 14-401 & 14-501

This was tabled until next meeting.

JD HAZELWOOD-90-DAY PROBATION

Motion made by Cathcard, seconded by Atkin to approve at .50 cent raise for his 90-day probation.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING REPAIRS

The west side of the roof has some type of leak. Cathcard suggested we have an insurance inspector come and look at all the roofs of buildings the city owns. Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Stewart that once the insurance adjuster has looked at the roofs, we start to get quotes.

PUBLIC WORKS

STORM DRAIN ON S. STATE

The culvert for the storm drain is starting to collapse under ground. Chellis to Park on State will have to be closed for at least a week. Traffic will need to go on Main to get to the school.

UPDATE ON WATER PLANT

Torrens brought council an update: He has sent out 5 bid requests for the water plant and only received one back. Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Stewart to waive the bid process. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Atkin, seconded by Cavender to approve the CDL bid of \$36,501.72 to re-wire the water plant. Motion carried unanimously.

Torrens has a bid to rebuild a pump only for \$2,500 plus \$1,500 per day, which it would take at least 2 days, so that is \$5,500. The price for a new pump AND motor is \$6,450 not including labor plus a one-year warranty. Council would like for Torrens to put bids out, City Clerk can help, to be returned by October 3 at 5 pm. Bids will be opened October 6 at the council meeting.

Torrens is looking into KRWA funding for Water and Sewer projects.

Sewer Lift Station at East Mary is now working.

USE OF BACKHOE BY COUNTY

The County's backhoe is broke down so they asked permission to use the City's. They will take care of maintenance while using it. They hope to have their backhoe replaced by year-end.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

The Mayor had no comments.

CLAIMS AND VOUCHERS

Motion was made by Kee, seconded by Atkin, to pay the claims and vouchers of \$130,684.06. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Atkin, seconded by Cavender to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Council adjourned at 7:47 pm.



Justin Weston, Mayor

Janet J. Thompson, City Clerk

Approved October 6, 2025