

City Council Meeting October 1, 2025

The Wymore City Council met in open and public session on October 1, 2025, in the Council Chambers. Mayor Collin Meints called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Present were Council persons Max Allen, Sue Sapp, Curt Oblinger, and Neil Van Boening. City Attorney Andy Carothers was also in attendance. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting in three places: Wymore Post Office, Arbor State Pharmacy, and the City Office. It was also posted in the Fairbury Journal News. Notice was given to the Mayor and Council, and their acknowledgement of receipt is attached. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the public.

Motion by Max, seconded by Curt, to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to approve Claims and Payroll except check numbers 30393, 30398, 30401 & 30423. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Sue, seconded by Neil to approve check 30393. Motion carried 3-0 with Max abstaining.

Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to approve check 30398. Motion carried 3-0 with Neil abstaining.

Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to approve check 30401 & 30423. Motion carried 3-0 with Curt abstaining.

Dilapidated Buildings were discussed. Attorney Andrew Carothers reported that the Gambles building is completely down, and the hole filled in. The final report is due to the state by November 1st. Tim asked the council if they wanted grass seed planted there, and they indicated yes. Andy will add the cost of the grass seed to the final cost of the project for the grant. Andy also reported that the inspection warrant paper work has been completed on 3 houses. He stated none of the property owners replied to the letter. He also sent another letter to a different property, and they have a week to respond.

Public Comment: Lisa Munstermann was present and asked about the New Hope Agency that has been talked about on social media. City Clerk Janet Riensche reported the Agency recently applied for a Special Use Permit and then withdrew the application. They had also been on this agenda but called and removed themselves. This will be placed on the next agenda, along with a tractor pull location in Wymore requested by Max.

Business: Debra Powell (daughter to Roger Powell) and Sharon Powell her cousin were in attendance to discuss the high water bill at Roger's house. He recently passed away and while he was in care facilities someone turned on an outdoor faucet and left it on. They would like the city to work with Debra until she can get this bill paid. They have shut the water off inside. Janet suggested if they are not going to have the water on, they have the city turn it off to save the base fees. Debra agreed she would like it turned off. Attorney Carothers suggested they come in and talk to the city when they have things worked out.

Patrick Caslin was in attendance to request the City wave the tap fee to get water hooked up at 200 W E Street. Stating it should never have been capped off. The Council and Attorney Carothers explained the owner at the time it was capped off had requested it. The property was purchased as is and it is not the City's responsibility for the expense of putting in new water and sewer services.

Attorney Carothers presented the Thomas Foundation Grant Application for the new fence at the Wymore Cemetery. Motion by Max, seconded by Neil to authorize Mayor Meints to sign the grant application for the cemetery fence. Motion carried 4-0.

Attorney Carothers reported there was nothing in the NPPD contract that he would disagree to. Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to approve Mayor Meints sign the Nebraska Public Power District contract. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Department Update: Neil reported that the Police Department Committee is still gathering information on executive search firms. Mark reported the camera contract has been canceled as the company found the in-car cameras that were sent back. He will be moving the rest of the equipment back to the police department. He also reported a state inspector contacted him. All departments must be inspected if they are going to be taking juveniles into the facility. He assured the inspector any juveniles will be taken to Gage County Sheriff's department until the department is finished.

Attorney Carothers presented Ordinance 687. There was discussion about the wages of the part time library staff, Utility Superintendent, and pool employees. The Utility Superintendent wages will be placed on the next

agenda. Motion by Max, second by Sue to wave the three readings of Ordinance 687. Motion carried 4-0. Motion by Max, second by Neil to Approve Ordinance 687 an ordinance to establish compensation for the officers and employees of the city. Motion carried 4-0.

Max reported the EMS was awarded a grant from the Cattleman's Ball. However, EMS Chief Shawna Argo could not be in attendance. Motion by Max, seconded by Curt to table this item until the next meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Utility Superintendent Tim Sedlacek reported the building of the house at 719 N 7th St is on budget so far but asked the council to decide whether to put a concrete pad on the back or a composite deck. The deck will add an additional 10,000.00 to the cost. After discussion about the other aspects of the house, Max made a motion to change the specifications on 719 N 7th St from a patio to a deck. Motion carried 4-0.

Tim Sedlacek reported the Christmas decorations that were damaged in the fire were mostly replacement part, since the decorations were on display at the time. Those were mostly antique and cannot be replaced. Tim would like to purchase a tree to put up by the Rail Road Museum. He has been in contact with John Mullarkey, and the insurance company is okay with that if we don't go over the salvage amount. Tim presented a proposal from Creative Displays for a 14ft or 18ft tree with and without ornament package, with a separate tree topper. Neil made a motion to purchase the 18ft tree with ornament package and tree topper. Neil then rescinded the motion for further discussion. After further discussion Neil made a new motion, seconded by Sue to purchase the 18 ft tree, with ornament package and tree topper. Motion carried 4-0.

Tim Sedlacek presented two bids for the replacement of seven distribution poles. One was \$25,350.00 and the other \$65,738.41. Tim recommended the one from W Energy Solutions out of Abilene, Ks for \$25,350.00. They will be able to do the replacement in a much shorter time period than the city crew could, with minimal power outages. Motion by Max, seconded by Neil to accept the WES bid for \$25,350.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Andy presented a proposal from Municipal Code Services but would like to clarify with them about adding our Zoning Regulations. Motion by Max, seconded by Sue to table recodification to the next meeting. Motion carried 4-0.

Andy reported that he has received the quit claim deed for 422 N 7th St from Harry Lovell. Motion by Sue to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Collin Meints, Mayor

Janet Riensche, City Clerk