

City of Walnut
City Council Meeting Minutes
June 2nd, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

Mayor: Brian Kirkpatrick City Attorney: Timothy L. Fielder

Council Members: Jonathan Westhoff, Melissa Smith, Loren Morse, Bobbie Norris, Cory Scott

Clerk: Saralyn Boyd

Treasurer: Samantha Guy

Superintendent: Craig Kirkpatrick

Call to Order

Mayor Brian Kirkpatrick called the meeting to order with Council Members Melissa Smith, Cory Scott, Jonathan Westhoff, and Loren Morse in attendance. Also in attendance were City Clerk Saralyn Boyd, City Treasurer Samantha Guy, and City Attorney Timothy Fielder. Council Member Bobbie Norris and City Superintendent Craig Kirkpatrick were absent.

Approval of Agenda

Melissa Smith made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Loren Morse seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Minutes

Cory Scott motioned for approval of the minutes from the previous regular meeting. Loren Morse seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Approval of Bills

Loren Morse made a motion to approve the bills. Melissa Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Clerk's Report

The account balance as of June 2nd was \$173,090.03. The savings account balance as of June 2nd was \$63,646.01. As for delinquent utility accounts for May, all were collected.

Saralyn noted that the last tractor loan payment was made in May. She also noted that due to some unforeseen expenses with the water tower project including a valve and the high water bill, she moved additional funds from savings to checking to keep the account at its regular amount.

Treasurer's Report

City Treasurer, Samantha Guy, reported all was accurate for the reports for May. She noted they heard back on the Mike Fox Memorial Park grant and they received approximately \$7,800 for the project of the \$10,000 they requested. They are planning to get the concrete work scheduled as soon as possible to hopefully get everything moving to be finished before Labor Day. She also noted that a new Heartland Grant had been released earlier that day and she would be looking into applying for additional funds through that grant as well.

Old Business

The City Fire Department ISO Rating was discussed as the city is continuing to get calls from

insurance providers and residents about the increase. Jamie Scott noted that she is still waiting to hear back from them on what they need to do the review. Don Smith was present and noted there were increases in insurance rates from 20-50% across the area the Fire Department covers due to the ISO rating. Don recommended asking the St. Paul Fire Department for help if needed.

Saralyn noted the Consumer Confidence Reports as well as the RTCR Drinking Water Violation Notice had been sent out to all water customers. Consumer Confidence Reports have to be sent out each year and posted on the website. The RTCR Violation was due to postal service issues not getting enough samples to KDHE on time in the month of April. This has since been resolved by use of a courier service in Chanute.

The Water Tower project has been completed and checks have been issued to Viking. The Resolution 2025-1 regarding the loan and payments was published in the Erie Record.

Candidates for the November election needed to be filed by June 2nd at noon. Loren Morse is on the ballot for Council Position #3.

Payton Norris was interested in the city lots located behind the His & Hers Bar. There are 3 lots in total the city owns and one lot owned by Richard McCabe in the middle. The council agreed to offer him the lots at \$100 a lot for \$300 total.

New Business

Saralyn noted that we will be presenting the list for Mowing Violations at the July meeting as well as having the preparations for the 2026 Budget.

Maintenance Report

Brian Kirkpatrick noted to the council that the valve at the Water Station went out and was causing the water to not shut off. They had to order a \$1300 part to get it back in working order. At the time of the meeting, they were still waiting on the part so the water station was out of order.

The Maintenance crew have three new meters to install once the weather cooperates.

They also noted that they had ordered culverts and would get started on replacing them as well once the weather cooperates.

Librarian's Report

Librarian Jamie Scott noted that she ordered four belt swings and was informed that day that the baby swing at the library park was broken. She wasn't sure if it was something that could be fixed and asked the maintenance personnel to take a look at it when they had time.

Councilmember Concerns

There were no council member concerns.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Call for Adjournment

Melissa Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Loren Morse seconded the motion. All were in favor.