City of Van Meter, Iowa

City Council Minutes – October 13, 2025

1) The Van Meter City Council met for a regular council meeting on Monday, October 13, 2025, at the United Methodist Church located at 100 Hazel Street, Van Meter, IA 50261. Mayor Herman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The following council members were present upon roll call: Joel Akers, Travis Brott, Quin Pelz and Penny Westfall. Absent: Blake Grolmus. Staff present: City Attorney S. Luke Craven, City Engineer Randy Johnson, Police Chief Mike Brown, Public Works Director Drew McCombs, Library Director Jonatha Basye, Parks and Recreation Director Sam Chia, Justin Nickel, Bolton and Menk, City Clerk Travis Cooke and City Administrator Liz Faust. Citizens present were Steve Meyer, Kathy Bradshaw, Clint Carpenter, William Ludwig, and Paul Scieszinski.
2) Mayor Herman led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3) Introductions were made.
4) Mayor Herman read a Civility Statement setting expectations of respect for the meeting.
5) Brott moved, supported by Akers, to approve the agenda with Item #18 moved to a future meeting. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Pelz – YES; Westfall – YES; Grolmus- A. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
6) Citizen Hearing: Steve Meyer, 2514 Brookview- spoke in support of Paul Scieszinski. Kathy Bradshaw, West Des Moines, spoke in opposition to the city's rental inspection program and the inspector. William Ludwig, West Des Moines, spoke in support of Paul Scieszinski. Paul Scieszinski, 414 Wilson St. spoke in opposition to the city's rental inspection program and the inspector.
7) Mayor Herman asked for a motion to adopt the consent agenda which included the following:
    - **a.** Minutes of September 8, 2025, City Council Regular Business Meeting
    - **b.** Minutes of September 22, 2025, City Council Workshop
    - **c.** Minutes of September 4, 2025 Park Board Meeting
    - **d.** Minutes of October 2, 2025 Board of Adjustment Meeting
    - **e.** September Claims List

Vendor	Reference	Amount
ALLIANCE CONSTRUCTION GROUP	PAY EST #4 - ARLINGTON	285,603.63
US POSTMASTER	SEPT OCT NOV UB POSTAGE	750
ACCO	CHLORINE	448
ADAM BOECK	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	330
AGSOURCE COOPERATIVE SERVICES	DRINKING WATER TESTING	220.5
AINSLEY WATSON	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	225
ANDREW DEA	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	155
AT&T MOBILITY	PD CELL PHONES	277.56
AVEY WATSON	SOCCER REF	30
AYLA LANSMAN	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	130
BANNER FIRE EQUIPMENT	LEATHER GLOVES	133.02
BLANK PARK ZOO	MEMBERSHIP	250
BOLTON & MENK INC	VM/RICHLAND RD TRAIL PROJECT	38,761.00
BRAELEE KUNKEL	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	50
BRAYDEN FENNESSEY	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	105
CALVIN VERDI	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	100
CIT SEWER SOLUTIONS	ARLINGTON STORM DRAIN CLEANING	2,970.00
CONTINENTAL RESEARCH CORP	LOCATE SUPPLY	1,117.25
DALLAS CO SECONDARY ROADS	CLASS D ROCK	3,312.08
DANE BERNHARDT	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	30
EMERSYN BAHR	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	110
FENIX USA LLC	MONTHLY HOSTING CHARGE WA	328.75
FIRE SAFETY USA	HANDLELOK MOUNTING BRACKET	373.55
GABE SCOTT	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	40
GCMOA	GCMOA ANNUAL DUES	38
GRAYSON WIGANT	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	245
HADLEY BENGE	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	35
HENDRIX MOYER	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	50
HUDSON SODERHOLM	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	195
IMFOA	TRAVIS COOKE - BENEFITTED MEM.	50
INDUSTRIAL CHEM LABS	LIFT STATION DEGREASER	651.39
IOWA CONCRETE CUTTING INC	DIESEL SLAB SAW	500
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RES	ANNUAL WATER USE FEE RENEWAL CY26	115
IOWA DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	FY 26 QRTLY INV 07/25-09/25	300
IOWA ONE CALL	61X LOCATE REQUESTS SW	111.3
JACK JACOBS	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	10
JACK KRIEGER	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	105
JMT TRUCKING	STREET MAINT	1,890.24
KAEGAN WIGANT	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	115
KATE OLIVER	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	80
KEENAN LUNDY	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	70
LANDON ELLIOTT	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	10
LANDON LUKAN	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	25
LANE OBERMEIER	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	80
LAYTON FANNON	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	50

LEVI LUKAN	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	35
LIBERTY READY MIX	VIRGINIA ST MANHOLE	703.75
MEMPHIS VIS	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	30
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY RECPLEX	SOCCER FIELD RENTAL	779
NATE SCHRECK	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	175
NIC WIGANT	SOCCER REF	150
SELECTIVE INSURANCE CO THE SE	CONCESSION STAND INSURANCE RENEWAL	1,761.00
TEAG SCHWEITZBERGER	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	40
TEAM SERVICES INC	601 MAIN SOIL BORINGS	5,590.00
THORPE WATER DEV CO	WELL PUMP REPAIR	895
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	WATER TREATMENT PLANT DESIGN	35,793.50
WILL NIXON	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	120
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS	SMALL AGENCY CONFERENCE	215
ADT SECURITY SERVICES	ALARM MONITORING SERVICE PLAN	172.62
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	CLERK MONITORS KEYBOARD MOUSE	1,868.75
BASE	CAFETERIA MONTHLY - NOVEMBER	30
BLAKE SKINNER	SOCCER REF FALL 25	105
BOBCAT WILDLIFE & PEST	P&R MOLE TREATMENT FALL 25	505
BOLTON & MENK INC	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT	216
CADEN YUSKA	FLAG FOOTBALL OFFICIAL	30
CIT SEWER SOLUTIONS	ARLINGTON AVE INSPECTION	2,970.00
COMPASS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	REGULAR ENVELOPES	1,003.47
CULLIGAN	CH & PW WATER	100.81
GABE JONES	FLAG FOOTBALL OFFICIAL	90
GRIMES ASPHALT	F90 HMA PATCH	16,250.00
HEARTLAND BUSINSES SYSTEM	MONTHLY BILLING	5,358.88
IMFOA	IMFOA FALL CONFERENCE	225
INTOXIMETERS INC	DRYGAS 108L/223PPM (.082)C	135
IOWA CODE ENFORCEMENT	SEPTEMBER SERVICE FEE	600
J & M DISPLAYS	FIREWORKS	3,500.00
JMT TRUCKING	STREET MAINT	856.36
LAURA KUNKEL	CLEANING 8/17, 8/31, 9/14	75
LEXIPOL LLC	ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY	2,069.10
LIBERTY READY MIX	VIRGINIA ST MANHOLE	445
LOWE'S	RICHLAND RD SUPLIES	3,627.03
MAINLINE CONSTRUCTION	RICHLAND CULV REP PAY EST #2	3,649.77
MATHESON TRI GAS INC	OXYGEN	42.4
MEDIACOM	CITY HALL INTERNET FOR JUNE	416.95
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	SEPTEMBER GAS/ELECTRIC	3,321.39
NOAH JONES	FLAG FOOTBALL OFFICIAL	90
PEEK SALES & SERVICE	MOWER SERVICE	1,288.62
PENELOPE MARTIN	FALL 25 SOCCER REF	40
SIMMERING-CORY INC	ANNUAL WEB HOSTING	450
STIVERS FORD	2017 FORD EXPLORER TIRES	780
THORPE WATER DEV CO	MONTHLY AFFIDAVIT CHARGE	800
TOYNE INC	PUMPER TRUCK	330,423.00
UNITED UTILITIES & EXCAVATION	WATER MAIN P1 PAY EST #5	33,173.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	VMCSD ADDITION BI3 SITE PLAN	46,063.80
VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONE CHARGES - SW	657.79
WASTE CONNECTIONS	GARBAGE CONTRACT	13,275.51
WELLS FARGO CC	SEPTEMBER CREDIT CARD	1,670.12
WHITFIELD & EDDY PLC	GENERAL MATTERS SEPTEMBER	12,596.35
WASTE SOLUTIONS OF IA	KYBOS - MEMORIAL PARK	2,190.00
ELAN FINANCIAL - EBANK CC	AUGUST CC CHARGES	173.9
GATEHOUSE MEDIA IA HOLDINGS	MINUTES	240.4
GATEHOUSE MEDIA IA HOLDINGS	BOA NOTICE OF HEARING	40.72
THE HARTFORD	EMPL LIFE DISABILITY INS	406.66
WELLMARK	OCTOBER HEALTH INS	11,493.05
WEX BANK	AUGUST FUEL	1,904.28
FORTE	WEB PROCESSING FEES	572.36
FORTE	POS PROCESSING FEES	23.47
GATEHOUSE MEDIA IA HOLDINGS	LEGAL PUBLICATIONS	44.56

EARLHAM SAVINGS BANK	EBANK EFT ACH FEES	25
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OPERATING SUPPLIES	1,121.81
GATEHOUSE MEDIA IA HOLDINGS	STORMWATER DISCHARGE NOTICE	33.04
DELTA DENTAL	OCTOBER DENTAL & VISION	762.32
CLIAMS TOTAL		894,866.81

9/10-10/10 Payroll 62,347.74

SEPTEMBER 2025 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Fund	Received	Disbursed
GENERAL	82,727.61	119,430.37
PARK OPERATIONS		304.14
ROAD USE TAX	22,836.11	
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	8,193.60	187.41
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	36,077.72	
TIF - GENERAL	19,284.36	
DEBT SERVICE	10,820.30	
ARLINGTON ROAD RESURFACE		292,036.53
MASTER TRAILS PROJECT		33.04
601 MUNICIPAL BUILDING		35,674.50
WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT P1		100,007.02
WATER TREATMENT FACILITY		14,504.20
GRAND RIDGE ESTATES PARK		8,350.00
RICHLAND RD CULVERT		63,037.39
2025 MASTER PARKS PLAN		12,314.00
WATER	45,002.35	17,057.02
SEWER	32,676.46	13,325.09
TOTAL	**257,618.51**	**676,260.71**

f. September Financial Reports Including IPAIT
g. September Building Permit Report

Akers moved, supported by Brott, to approve the consent agenda. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**

8) Brott moved, supported by Akers, to approve Resolution #2025-110 Approving Final Payment and Certificate of Completion for the Richland Road Culvert Replacement Project. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
9) Akers moved, supported by Pelz, to approve Resolution #2025-111 Approving Change Order Request #5 for the Arlington Avenue Street Project. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
10) City Engineer Randy Johnson summarized the change order history with the Arlington Ave Street project that extended the completion date of the project from July 31, 2025, to August 27, 2025. The project was completed on September 13, 2025. The city is seeking $4,250 in liquidated damages for the additional days. Clint Carpenter of Alliance Construction discussed weather and work from outside entities that delayed the project and countered with $1,250 in liquidated damages. Akers and Brott acknowledged the issues. Council came to a consensus to move forward with $1250 in damages to be approved at a later meeting. Akers moved, supported by Brott to table Item #10 to a future meeting. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - NO. **YES (3) NO (1) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
11) Brott moved, supported by Akers to Approve Resolution #2025-112 A Resolution Approving Agreement Amendment for Construction Inspection and Staking Services with Bolton & Menk, Inc. for the Richland Road Trail Project. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
12) Akers moved, supported by Westphall to Approve Resolution #2025-113 A Resolution Approving the Agreement with Veenstra & Kimm, Inc. for Construction Staking Services for the Richland Road Trail Project. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
13) Akers moved, supported by Pelz, to approve Resolution #2025-114 – A Resolution Accepting Permanent and Temporary Easements. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
14) Brott moved, supported by Akers to approve Resolution #2025-115 – A Resolution Approving the Assignment of Development Agreement. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
15) Pelz moved, supported by Akers to approve Resolution #2025-116 A Resolution Approving Surplus Property Disposal Policy. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
16) Pelz moved, supported by Akers to approve Resolution #2025-117 – A Resolution Appointing a Replacement Representative Travis Cooke to the Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
17) Brott moved, supported by Akers to approve Resolution #2025-118 Approving FY 25 Balance Transfers for Audit. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
18) Pelz moved, supported by Akers to approve tax abatement for 36440 Shadow Trail. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)**
19) Staff Reports: Presented as written in the packet.
20) Akers moved, supported by Brott, to adjourn the meeting. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus-A; Pelz – YES; Westfall - YES. **YES (4) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (1)** The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Joe Herman, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Travis Cooke, City Clerk