

City of Van Meter, Iowa

City Council Workshop Minutes – February 24, 2025

1) The Van Meter City Council met for a workshop on Monday, February 24, 2025, at the Van Meter United Methodist Church located at 100 Hazel Street, Van Meter, IA 50261. Mayor Herman called the meeting to order at 6:15pm. The following council members were present upon roll call: Joel Akers, Travis Brott, Blake Grolmus, Quin Plez and Penny Westfall.

Staff present: Library Director Jonatha Basye, Police Chief Michael Brown, Parks & Recreation Director Sam Chia, City Engineer Randy Johnson, City Clerk Jessica Drake and City Administrator Liz Faust.

Public Present: Dallas County Board of Supervisors – Supervisor Julia Helm, Mike Seiler.

2) Brott moved, supported by Grolmus, to approve the agenda. On roll call, the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus – YES; Pelz – YES; Westfall – YES. **YES (5) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (0)**

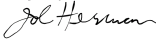
3) Supervisor Helm introduced herself and provided the Council with an overview of her background. She expressed her interest in understanding the current state of the City and learning about the City’s future plans.

4) Council and Staff engaged in a discussion regarding the current state of the City’s Future Land Use Map and known updates based on recent zoning changes. Discussion also took place regarding an upcoming Planning & Zoning training offered by the Iowa State Extension office. Staff also discussed potential zoning change proposals.

5) Parks and Rec Director Chia and City Clerk Drake provided a recap of the discussion with Bolton & Menk regarding a proposed Master Parks Plan. Discussion also took place relating Trindle Park and the desire of Council to reengage the Dallas County Conservation Board to discuss future opportunities for combined efforts relating to Trindle Park. There was also a short discussion regarding ICON. Staff will provide more information upon formal receipt of the Master Parks Plan proposal from Bolton & Menk.

6) Council and Staff engaged in a discussion regarding needed updates to the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Staff proposes completion of the Parks plan in FY26 (depending on cost) and completion of the Comprehensive Plan including an updated Future Land Use Map in FY27 so that the Parks plan can be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan. There are a number of action items currently listed in the comprehensive plan that do need amended and Staff & Council reviewed the items. Staff will prepare an amendment to adopt by resolution at the April 2025 business meeting.

7) Brott moved, supported by Grolmus, to adjourn. On roll call the votes were as follows Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus – YES; Pelz – YES; Westfall – YES. **YES (5) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (0)** Mayor Herman adjourned the meeting at 7:28pm.

Signed by: 

2/25/2025

Joe Herman, Mayor

DocuSigned by: 

2/25/2025

City Clerk, Jessica Drake