

September 3, 2025

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting September 3, 2025 at City Hall.

Mayor McIntire called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the following council in attendance: Jeff Pittman, Terry Gregory, Melinda Hembrough, Gerald Evans, Jack Daniels, Bill Jacquot and City Clerk Teri Little.

Also, in attendance were Wanda Cody, City Treasurer; John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney; Carmen Ensinger, Scott County Times; John Simmons, Supt of Public Works; RJ Pasley, Karen Weller, Jennifer Day and Julie Fearneyhough.

Mayor McIntire led those attending the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer presented bills for approval.

MOTION: Melinda Hembrough moved and Jack Daniels seconded to pay the bills as presented. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the regular meeting minutes of August 6, 2025.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular August 6, 2025 meeting. Roll call resulted in 6 yeas. Motion carried.

Greg Hillis, Benton Engineering, was not present and had no updates to report on current or pending projects.

Karen Weller, Spanky & TK's Friends, was on hand to advise on her program for cats. She currently funds most all fees personally or by donations. She started trap, neuter, release (TNR) in Whitehall, Roodhouse and Manchester. Within 3 years they have TNR at least 300 cats. The cat problems stem from cats being dumped for one reason or another and also feral cats. She stated that the first step has been taken by recognizing there is an issue and a need. The issue is not a cat problem it is a people problem. Example is you may start feeding a couple stray cats and before you know it there are 24. By not having the 2 initial cats fixed they turn into multiple cats. The program to start, would need at least 3 cages to trap the cats and a few volunteers to assist. Most cats live in colonies just as homeless people do. Once the cats are fixed, she would like to see about 4 cat colonies set up in Winchester where volunteers would feed them once a day and monitor them for any sick or hurt cats. Cats that are fed and live in these colonies are less likely to roam and easier to trap. She is also able to rehome some to the St Louis area or for barn cats as well. Once the colonies are fixed the cat population will decline. The cost of fixing a cat can be anywhere from \$50.00 to \$70.00 at the APL or \$100.00 to \$150.00 at a vet office. The council will discuss funding and then will contact her.

Steve Doolin, Police Chief, presented monthly report.

Animal complaints – 4; Arrests – 4; Assist EMS – 11; Assist outside agency(Police) – 20; Assist fire department/fire – 1; Assist motorist – 3; Assist repo agency – 1; Attempt to locate – 5; Building alarm – 4; Clear roadway(obstruction) – 2; Domestic disturbance – 3; Fight – 2; Found property returned – 1; Harassment – 2; Investigations – 2; Property damage – 1; Pursuit – 1; Speak to an officer – 34; Suicidal subject/mental health – 5; Suspicious person – 1; Traffic accidents – 2; Traffic control – 2; Traffic stops/citations – 6; Traffic stops/verbal warnings – 33; Transient – 1; Trespassing – 1; Well-being checks – 5.

Chief Doolin advised that Officer Tim Murphy had resigned and took a job with South Jacksonville Police Department. South Jacksonville did pay for Murphys vest in amount of \$1358.00. He did voice that he would like to remain on the roster as part time if allowed.

Wanda Cody, Treasurer, presented monthly financial reports.

Should have preliminary audit soon.

Renewed the TIF CD at 4.3%

John Simmons, City Superintendent, presented monthly report.

Locate tickets – 20; Funeral – 1; Work orders – 14; Zoning permits – 2; Monthly odorant reading; Monthly sniff test; Monthly brush pick up, 2 days; Water leaks – 2; New gas services ran – 2; New water service to new gas station; Blake finished gas testing, goes to training in September; Work on dog kennels a few days; Ran water, put in hydrant for dog kennel; Monthly meter reads; Ran 2 new water services on S Main Street; Oil and chipping of streets; Clean up on North Main Street after oil and chipping; Met with the fence company over the pickleball and basket ball courts; Painted fire hydrants; Hired county for brush cutting on S Main, Mechanic and E Lewis Streets; Closed up the pool; Shut offs for late payers; Ordinance write ups for violations; Mowing several city places; Put up flags for Labor Day.

Advised that need to look into repairing and relocating storm sewer behind houses on S walnut St.

Would like to contract the sidewalk work for Peaks Insurance, the new gas station and add sidewalk from church on N Main to the 3-way stop.

Would like to add the water system to the GIS mapping that we have the gas system on. This will enable to locate faster and have access right in hand. It is one-time USDI fee \$2300.00 and then \$300.00 per year.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve to add water system to the GIS mapping system one-time USDI fee \$2300.00 and then \$300.00 yearly. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The paving is complete on the pickle ball and basketball courts. SloMo provided bid for striping both for \$800.00

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve SloMo for striping of basketball and pickle ball courts for \$800.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve purchase of 2 pickle ball nets for \$1036.95 each from Spartan Athletic. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Simmons would like to have a personnel committee meeting to discuss part time worker being put full time.

Jeff Pittman, Alderman, update on the dog kennels. They are needing additional materials in the amount of \$1205.59. Also, requesting some start-up money to be set aside for supplies such as food and cleaning supplies.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve addition fees for dog kennels \$1205.59. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Jeff Pittman moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve up to \$1000.00 for start-up supplies for dog kennels. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Rex McIntire, Mayor, advised after Officer Murphy leaving wants to look into ways to ensure, in the future, that we are not spending money on training just so they can go to work elsewhere. Attorney Coonrod will look into options for next meeting.

John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney, municipal court update,

Four cases were brought to the judge.

2 cases continued.

Jose Garcia, being a continued offender was fined \$500.00 and drafting a letter to address issue.

Mike Anslyn being a continued offender was fined \$500.00 and drafting a letter to address issue.

There are two new citations to be approved. Both located on High Street.

Heather Wardlow, for trash and weeds

Dennis Savage, for weeds, general condition and tall grass.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve citations for Heather Wardlow and Dennis Savage. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Ordinance 996 is addressing the city's franchise policy. In the past the city charged an application fee of \$2500.00 and \$1.00 per linear foot. With a new company requesting access to our easements to install fiber optic internet it was requested to revise the current ordinance. After looking over Waverly's new adopted ordinance and the IML model, the new ordinance will section off the city in 3 parts. This will enable to control when and where they work. The new application fee will be \$3000.00 per section and \$2.00 per linear feet. This will help deter some companies as we cannot allow too many lines being ran in the easements and still be able to make repairs on city utilities.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve Ordinance 996. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Ordinance 997 presented to amend the policy regarding construction and replacement of sidewalks within the city of Winchester. Basically the 50/50 process is still in place. The city would do the work and the property owner would pay for materials. Need to find a good place to start and do worst ones first. Would contract out the work if need be. Need to check as state should replace sidewalks on Cherry St. New school superintendent, Jeff Abel, in the past was able to secure grants from Safe Routes to School \$250,000 for Griggsville in the past. City has applied in the past for this and will get with him to see if he has anything to add.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve Ordinance 997. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

No Public Comments

MOTION: Melinda Hembrough moved and Jeff Pittman second to adjourn 10:50 pm. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.



Rex McIntire, Mayor



Teri Little, City Clerk