

April 1, 2026

## WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting April 1, 2026 at City Hall.

Mayor McIntire called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the following council in attendance: Jeff Pittman, Melinda Hembrough, Terry Gregory, 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; Stevie VanDeVelde, Winchester Civic Group.

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

Mayor McIntire wanted to recognize the passing of David Pfieffer, Blake Roderick and Brother Bill Smith.

Wanda Cody, City Treasurer presented bills for approval.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot 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 March 4, 2026.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular March 4, 2026 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Greg Hillis, Benton Engineering**, was not present and had advised the mayor that there were no updates on any current projects. The Mary Miller grant application was submitted.

**Stevie VanDeVelde, Winchester Civic Group**, April 4<sup>th</sup> will be having an Easter Egg hunt at 11am. On April 11<sup>th</sup> the Oddfellows will be having their Burgoo sales. This year adding a Chalk the Walk event for people to come up to square and draw in the park. The stores will be having sidewalk sales; library will be setting up a table for activities in the square.

Not had too much response to the table fundraiser but going to send to radio stations, papers and send letters to residents and businesses that had contributed to the mural to see if they would be willing to donate.

**Steve Doolin, Police Chief**, was absent from the meeting.

**Melinda Hembrough, Alderwoman**, presented a report from Police Chief Doolin on issues with the Chevy Tahoe having transmission issues. It is a 2011 Chevy Tahoe with 335,227 miles.

miles. Quotes to replace transmission is \$6,000.00 from Wellenreiter Automotive and \$6,200.00 from Marshalls. Also need to service the 4-wheel drive system.

Morrow Brothers in Greenfield has a 2021 Chevy Tahoe that has 71,000 miles and a 100,000-mile warranty and already has the police package included that is worth \$10,000 TO \$15,000. They are asking \$30,400. It was a trade in from Greenfield Police Dept. Has a clean report no issues. Steve had brought over for Mayor McIntire to look at. Mayor McIntire recommended to purchase.

**MOTION:** Melinda Hembrough moved and Jack Daniel seconded to approve the purchase of 2021 Chevy Tahoe from Morrow Brothers for no more than \$35,000.00 and authorize Mayor to seek funding from local bank. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**Wanda Cody, Treasurer,** presented monthly financial reports.

Cemetery CD moved from Petefish and Skiles Bank to UCB for 12 months at a rate of 3.6%.

Annual audit is set for June 23<sup>rd</sup> thru 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Teri Little, City Clerk,** called GFL Disposal to get quote for city wide clean up this year. In 2024 we used 11 dumpsters and paid \$575.00 each. Total was \$6,379.40. This year the cost will be \$700.00 a dumpster for 5 tons anything over that will \$85.00 per ton. This is total cost per dumpster, which includes all fees.

The council would like another bid so will contact J and J Disposal for a quote.

Currently we are paying over \$400.00 a month for rugs and shop towels thru Vestis. They come weekly. I have received a quote from them for a monthly stop instead of weekly and it is \$475.61. Received a quote from Cintas for every other week delivery at \$58.65 or monthly at \$87.75.

**MOTION:** Terry Gregory moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve changing to Cintas with quote of \$87.75 a month and terminating Vestis. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Amanda Howerton will be attending an administrative conference July 16-17, 2026.

**John Simmons, City Superintendent,** monthly report submitted

Work orders – 14; Funeral graves – 2; Locate tickets – 25; Gas leaks – 3; H.P. main patrol – 1 day; Monthly meter reading – 2 days; Monthly odorant reading; Monthly sniff test; Monthly brush pick up – 2 days; 2” gas main ext. USDI – 1 day; 2” gas service Daws USDI -1 day; Gas recertifications – 4 days; Gas evaluations – 4 days; New water service to Browns house; Several municipal violations issued; Zoning permits – 2.

Have some trees that need to be removed. Several trees on S Main at edge of town are dead and need removed. Danny Powell supplied bid for \$800.00 to cut down and remove all dead trees.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve the removal of dead trees on S Main St by Danny Powell for \$800.00 Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

There is another tree that is deemed dangerous at the library that needs removed. Danny Powell provided bid of \$1500.00 to cut down and remove tree. This is pending approval the Leiner family.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve the removal of tree at library by Danny Powell for \$1500.00 Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Still working on the sewer damage issue on High St due to the Frontier pole being set on top of the sewer main. Having hard time working with them on the issue. May have to turn it over to city attorney to send letter.

Picked up what was remaining from the broken Welcome to Winchester sign. Would like to get quotes for a new one. Will contact Lomelino Signs and Meyer Signs for quotes.

Would like to find a way to fix Commercial St. The drainage is bad and the road itself is not good.

Need to get bids for sidewalks at UCB, Peaks and new gas station. Also, from Christian Church to Cherry St. Rural Electric had offered to pay for the concrete for this portion in the past.

Will need to get bid packages for all jobs. Will get with Greg Hillis at Benton's for specs.

**Rex McIntire, Mayor,** wanted to request prayers for Rosemary Peterson, hospice, Duane Crockett, stage 4 cancer, and Derek Evans new baby as she is having health issues and been in the hospital.

There have been issues raised about the smoke from lagoons when brush is burned. This is something that has to be done occasionally as we do provide the service of brush pick up or drop off at lagoons and has to be burned off when pile gets too large. The only thing would be to stop the brush pick up but residents do not want that.

The library requests that 3 board members be re-appointed to the library board. They are Heather Wardlow, Shannon Killday and Sheryl Roberts.

The gas and sewer committees to discuss raising rates. Gas rates have not been raised since 2022. John Paul Coonrod presented Ordinance 1003. This is to raise the gas rates as below:

Minimum bill                \$4.00

Each 1000 cubic feet    \$10.73\*

\*Cost (current average \$6.73) plus \$4.00 service fee

This will be effective May 1, 2026 and will increase at a 3% rate annually.

**MOTION:** Melinda Hembrough moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve Ordinance 1003 gas rate increase. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The sewer rates will also be raised as below:

First 1000 gallons (minimum)    \$12.45 minimum

Next 3000 gallons \$ 7.26 p 1,000 gallons  
Next 3000 gallons \$ 5.00 p 1,000 gallons  
Next 7000 gallons \$4.37 p 1,000 gallons

This goes in effect May 1, 2026 and will increase at 3% annually.

**MOTION:** Bill Jacquot moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve Ordinance 1004 sewer rates. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney,** presented 9 municipal citations.

1. Cathy Dolen - E Cherry St for junk and trash at front door.
2. Debbie Elliott – Arch St for inoperable vehicles, trash and junk.
3. Darrell Thompson – 20 E Lewis St for trash, junk and debris.
4. Toby Hammond – 14 E Lewis St for trash, junk, weeds, rodents, inoperable vehicles and furniture.
5. David Anders – 201 E Cross St for junk, trash and debris.
6. Jeff Kemper – E Cross St for junk vehicle, 2 tanks, junk and debris behind building along alley.
7. Megan Hart – E Broadway – junk and trash.
8. Brandy Dunmire – W Cross St for junk, trash, rodent and debris. Abandon trailer.
9. Cheyanne Lipcamon – 229 N Walnut St for inoperable vehicles, junk, trash, debris.

**MOTION:** Terry Gregory moved and Gerald Evans seconded to approve 9 municipal citations. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1005 was submitted to revise the disconnection of service. To disconnect service the customer will need to supply written request to disconnect service. The city will discontinue service in a timely fashion by physically capping or removing service on the customers property.

**MOTION:** Melinda Hembrough moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to approve Ordinance 1005 revision of disconnection of service. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1006 will prohibit the sale of hemp derived cannabinoid products, Kratom and other dangerous substances. These items contain psychoactive substance found in the cannabis sativa plant that can be harmful, especially in children.

**MOTION:** Terry Gregory moved and Bill Jacquot seconded to approve Ordinance 1006 prohibiting the sale of hemp derived contraband products, Kratom and other dangerous substances. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

**No Public Comments.**

**MOTION:** Jeff Pittman moved and Jack Daniels second to adjourn 10:20 pm. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Rex McIntire, Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rex McIntire".

Teri Little, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Teri Little".