

August 5, 2026

WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Winchester City Council held their monthly meeting August 5, 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, River County News; AJ McAdams; Erika McAdams; Don Campbell; Jeanette Wallace, Winchester Librarian; Katelyn Coultier, Children Library Director; Bryan Taylor, Fire Chief; Sam Ford, Assistant Chief; Collin VanDeVelde, Fire Captain.

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

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 Special meeting minutes of June 24, 2026.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the special meeting June 24, 2026 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the regular meeting minutes of July 1, 2026.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular July 1, 2026 meeting. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and Jeff Pittman Abstain. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire asked for any corrections for the special meeting minutes of July 29, 2026.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Terry Gregory seconded to approve and dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular July 29, 2026 meeting. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Bryan Taylor, Fire Chief, advised that they have been diligently working on grants and a raffle fundraiser. The department did have a visit from OSHA and have things to get fixed and corrected. The violations that were given were corrected in 2 weeks.

Advised that they do a white glove test on turnout gear. They need to be cleaned in a special washer and dryer. At this time, they are just being scrubbed by hand. Illinois Fire Marshall grant

was applied for but did not get due to prior years paperwork not being completed. This has been corrected and can re-applying in January which is a benefit as it goes from \$20,000.00 to \$40,000.00. Will add 12-14 more tanks for air packs that have to be replaced when apply for grant.

Have another grant applied for that cannot mention at this time as has not been granted at this time. Should know by mid-August. This is for tanks for the air packs. The grant will cover 7 tanks. As of July 2026, all the tanks we have are expired per OSHA inspections and they made note of it. Need a total of 26. Asking the city to cover cost of 7. This grant will cover another 7 and make a total of 14 which will make legal and will request the additional 12-14 tanks with the IL Fire Marshall grant in January.

IDNR grant applied for matching 50/50 grant \$10,000.00 and won it. This was applied for a new pump for the tanker. The one being used is not good and not designed for firefighter use. The new pump \$5,298.06. The rest of the grant was applied for bunker gear. Have had 7 new firemen in the past 2 years. They use hand me downs until they get out of their first-year probation. With not fitted for them can be a violation if anything happens to them. City normally pays for equipment but this grant allows to take some of the burden off of them. Total for gear is \$18,662.00. This includes 5 coats and boots, 6 pair of pants. This will make 19 firemen compliant and 2 currently on probation. Total for all gear and pump is \$23,960.06; the city part would be \$14,061.05 and the grant paid \$9,899.01.

Currently rescue equipment is housed on the EMS rescue truck and they have to wait for them to come to accident or go retrieve the tools. The raffle they are having will cover the purchase of 2 rescue tools and a grant from Firehouse Subs will cover the cost of the other 2 needed. This will allow the fire department to carry their own new, battery-operated equipment and also charge for the use of these to insurance companies.

Currently the department has 2 engines that are 30 years old. For interior firefighting legally have to have 2 certified pump engines to enter. Have issues with pump on one engine and having issues keeping the second engine running. During a fire in Alsey the second engine broke down in the middle of the road on the way to the fire and had to be towed. This leaves the city to rely on area fire departments for assistance. They have RDM repair from Waverly to go over smaller engine and has estimate of repairs \$3960.32.

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve 3-part agreement for fire department. 1. \$3980.32 engine repair 2. Air tanks \$10,000.00 3. Pump and gear \$14,061.05. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Would like to get with committee to go over the fire contracts and go over fee.

Jeanette Wallace, Head Librarian, advised that the 0-5 age program is blowing up and greatly attended. Adding something new for adults, it's a seed library there will be seeds you can grab, plant and then return seeds from what you grow.

Working on new grant that will be used to pay for Katelyn's position.

The touch a truck event was well attended with over 180 attending. Great turn out for the first ever event.

Things that are being set up for this fall.

Fall book bingo – September

Halloween Boo Boxes - October

25 boxes for blind date w/ book and goodies.

There is a lot of wood and trash w/mold in basement that needs to be removed.

There are also old books that may have to go as well.

Requested getting windows cleaned. Will check with Coad window cleaning to see how much it would be to do them quarterly.

Asking for new signs for the library to maybe stop the persons from across the street from parking in the library patron area during library hours and events.

Asking about having trash pick up at the library. It was decided that Teri Little will donate trash can and the city guys will pick up during the week to add to the 4-yard dumpster at city hall.

Katelyn Coultier, Children Library Director, wanted to greet the council and introduce herself. She passed around a binder that she has of all the events and story times she has done. When they had the foam party there were 200 attendees.

We are having a pool party on August 12th to end the summer. Would like to see if the city would mind cutting the cost of the pool rental or maybe waive the fee for the party.

MOTION: Jack Daniels moved and Terry Gregory seconded to forgo cost of pool party the library. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

The Scott County Health Department has donated an AED machine to library

She advised she also just accepted a position with the health department as a lactation consultant.

She has created an amazon wish list for the community to make donations to the library and has had a very good turn out on this.

When she was first hired, she sent letters to many companies and several individuals and received quite a few donations to help build the 0-5 age group activities.

Teri Little, Clerk, wanted to see if it was possible to get a Sam's card for the city. Been trying to find ways to save money for the city. There are several items we can get cheaper thru Sam's even if it saves a little money better than nothing.

Called and verified thru J and J Sanitation a 4-yard dumpster would be \$250.00 a month and can be dumped every Tuesday and Friday. We are currently paying over \$500.00 a month with GFL Sanitation. This will save almost \$3000.00 a year.

MOTION: Melinda Hembrough moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve J and J Disposal to provide trash service for the city 4-yard dumpster at \$250.00 per month. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Wanda Cody had inquired about the official commission cards that we had received several years ago. We only have 6 left. Contacted the company and they wanted \$79.00 for 100 cards or \$45.00 for half package. Will contact and ask if can get maybe 25.

Wanda Cody, Treasurer, presented monthly financial reports.

Should have audit results for September meeting.

Closed the water construction account for \$98.84 and deposited into general fund.

Will have 2 CDs coming due for the Milliken and TIF accounts. Will try and have rates for September meeting

First installment taxes received was \$190,935.99

Jeff Pittman, Alderman, received a call that city dog kennel was reported for not having license. Inspection was done and pictures taken. Advised still in process of building a dog run for exercise. Need to set up fans for hot days and add something for shade. City was advised that we are better without a license and it is not required for what the city uses this for. Very seldom is there a dog there for more than a day.

There are currently no dogs or bills for any dogs.

Terry Gregory, Alderman, advised the copy of Memorandum of Understanding that is received from the union to adjust Article 1 and Section 3 pertaining to the part of the union contract describing the job description for John Simmons position. He will remain in the union and all current expectations will be the same. City clerk, Teri Little, will supply the signed copy to Jason Rhodes.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to accept the memorandum of understanding for union contract article 1 section 3. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

John Simmons, City Superintendent, monthly report submitted

Work orders – 19; Locate tickets – 18; Funerals, graves – 1; Monthly brush pickup, 2-3 days; Monthly sniff test; Monthly odorant readings; Monthly meter reading; Water leaks – 1; Gas leak calls – 1; Painting curbs and parking lines; Put up flags for July 4th; Clean-up, barricades for car show; Installed all new trash cans on square and Monument Park; Poured 11 x 11 pads in Douglas Park for new tables and seeded; Extended concrete cookout spots at Monument Park to put new tables and trashcans, added a spot of concrete for handicap table; Contacted Ameren to replace old steel pole lights, finished concrete after waiting 2 weeks on Ameren; Replaced sidewalk for Fred and Stephanie Boston, they will pay concrete bill; Worked with Doyle Plumbing to relocate and install new vault and meter set at the grade school, 3 – 4 days; Mowing

city property's a few days; Shredding wells, water plant and some hay ground; Lots of cold patching; Empty water shed.

Need to go ahead and order the pool pump that was previously approved as the old one was ok to get thru this year but will not be good for next summer.

Received estimates on 2003 cab and chassis Silverado 3500 from Marshall Chevrolet. There were 2 one for aftermarket part prices \$6665.39 and new GM parts \$8732.67,

MOTION: Bill Jacquot moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve estimate and repair of \$6665.39 for 2003 Chev cab & chassis Silverado 3500. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Poured concrete pads in cookout areas and replaced old trash cans.

Moved the wooden handicapped table and added concrete to make easy access.

100% of the new gas station work is complete for the city part.

Had Doyle Plumbing come in to assist in moving the water pit at the elementary school. There was also a water leak by high school and neighbor stated that when fixed clogged their lines. Doyle replaced 2 water lines to the water heater and did not charge for labor.

Need to replace the sidewalk on the side of UCB bank from drive thru past ATM. Rural Electric would still like to have sidewalk from church alley to Cherry St. They will pay for concrete.

Received bill from Jeff McIntire for contract work on sidewalks and other concrete work for \$11,353.00.

MOTION: Jack Daniels moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to approve bill from Jeff McIntire for concrete/sidewalk work for \$11,535.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Rex McIntire, Mayor, city received the annual investment letter for the Morgan-Scott CEO program. This is a wonderful program. The annual fee is \$1000.00.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Melinda Hembrough seconded to approve yearly enrollment for Morgan-Scott CEO program for \$1000.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

With school starting also received the West Central Cougar advertisement package. Previous years did the entire package for \$700.00 for returning sponsors. Council asked about the gym advertising and it was stated that there are screens at Bluffs and the Meredosia gym. The gym has come down and all footings gone. The grading is complete of the spot. The new all-purpose room will get under way soon. They have removed 2 large trees and started ground work.

MOTION: Jack Daniels moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to Cougar Booster advertising package for 2023-2027 year for \$700.00. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Mayor McIntire appointed Dr Robert Seufert as new library board member at their recommendation.

John Paul Coonrod, City Attorney, has received bid to buy the property on East Cherry St. Jeff Pittman had given a bid to purchase for \$5000.00. The property had been published for bids in the past and no valued bids were received. This enables the city to sell as surplus property.

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Bill Jacquot second to approve the sale of E Cherry St lot for \$5000.00 to Jeff Pittan. Roll call resulted in 5 yeas and Jeff Pittman Abstaining. Motion carried.

No municipal court this month or findings at this time.

City has received 2 zoning variance applications. First one is for FS Expansion wanting to build a chemical pad. Requesting to change from C1 to B2 to allow Ag Building

MOTION: Terry Gregory moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve passing application on to zoning committee to allow change to from C1 to B2 to amend and allow Ag Building. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

Second request is for 601 N Main St. Resident is wanting to be able to have 1 horse. Zoning request is for special use animal husbandry.

MOTION: Jeff Pittman moved and Jack Daniels seconded to approve passing application on to zoning committee to allow zoning change for special use, animal husbandry. Roll call resulted in 4 yeas and 2 no. Motion carried.

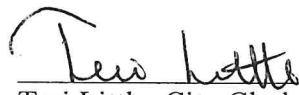
MOTION: Jack Daniels moved and Jeff Pittman seconded to move to closed session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

MOTION: Jeff Pittman moved and Jack Daniels seconded to move to open session. Roll call resulted in all yeas. Motion carried.

AJ McAdams was appointed as the new City of Winchester police Chief. Mayor Rex McIntire swore him in at the end of the meeting after closed session.

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


Rex McIntire, Mayor


Teri Little, City Clerk