

**June 23, 2025**

The West Bend City Council met in regular session at City Hall on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Kimberly Johnson presiding.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Roll call of the City Council was answered by Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Tilges and Brooke Winkelhorst. Council Member Brooke Winkelhorst attended the meeting by telephone. Also present for the meeting were ISG Engineers, Amanda Goodenow and Guadalupe Munoz Rocha and Gas/Public Works Foreman, Trevor Bruhn.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Moved by Chris Newton, seconded by Joe Montag to approve the agenda of the meeting. Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Moved by Grant Gearhart, seconded by Linda Tilges to approve the minutes of the previous meeting and to order the following bills paid:

ACCO	CHLORINATING SOLUTION	1,332.60
UMB BANK	BOND FEES-ELECTRIC NOTES	300.00
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	INVERTED PAINT, GLOVES	446.00
CENTURY LINK	LONG DISTANCE SERVICE	64.15
CITY OF WEST BEND	METER DEPOSIT RETURN	621.00
CLAYTON ENERGY CORP	PURCHASED GAS	5,538.19
VISUAL EDGE IT	COPIER CLICKS/MAINTENANCE	114.79
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	SAFETY GLASSES, PLUG	45.94
DGR ENGINEERING	ELECTRIC SYSTEM STUDY, MAP, RATE UPDATES	12,976.00
EGGERS ELECTRIC	THERMOSTAT, FUSES, CONNECTORS	201.97
ELECTRONIC SPECIALTIES	FCC REGULATORY FILING FEE	85.00
ENERGY ECONOMICS	ANODES	837.67
IRBY ELECTRICAL DIST	3 HOLE BOXES LARGE DOME, HOOKS	1,396.35
NATIONAL CHILD SAFETY	DONATION-EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS	285.00
NIMECA	PURCHASED POWER	101,887.81
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA	STATE SALES TAX, WATER EXCISE TAX	6,896.00
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	6,032.64
AXON ENTERPRISE INC	TASER/CARTRIDGE KIT, TASER BUNDLE	4,560.00
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL	POOL/WATER/WASTEWATER TESTS	199.25
ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS	CAFE PLAN BILLING	311.00
BERGMAN PLUMBING INC	BACKFLOW PREVENTER TESTS	426.00
UTILITY SAFETY AND DESIGN	ODORIZER SYSTEM	42,619.60

PAYROLL CHECKS	TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS	23,622.82
	CLAIMS TOTAL	210,799.78
	GENERAL FUND	16,617.68
	METER DEPOSIT FUND	350.00
	WATER FUND	2,091.82
	SEWER FUND	1,442.81
	ELECTRIC FUND	129,426.88
	KOPAEG FUND	4,791.28
	GAS FUND	55,423.60
	LANDFILL/GARBAGE FUND	655.71

Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

**SECOND READING OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST BEND, IOWA, BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC RATES:**

Moved by Chris Newton, seconded by Joe Montag to approve the second reading of the proposed ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST BEND, IOWA, BY AMENDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC RATES. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Thilges, Brooke Winkelhorst; “Nays” – None. Motion carried.

**FIRST READING OF THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST BEND, IOWA, BY AMENDING SECTION 99.01, SUBSECTION 1, PERTAINING TO SEWER SERVICE CHARGES:**

Moved by Brooke Winkelhorst, seconded by Joe Montag to approve the first reading of the proposed ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST BEND, IOWA, BY AMENDING SECTION 99.01, SUBSECTION 1, PERTAINING TO SEWER SERVICE CHARGES. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Thilges, Brooke Winkelhorst; “Nays” – None. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING WAGE INCREASES FOR CITY OF WEST BEND EMPLOYEES:**

Moved by Joe Montag, seconded by Linda Thilges to adopt Resolution #2025-26, a Resolution Approving Wage Increases For City Of West Bend Employees. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Thilges, Brooke Winkelhorst; “Nays” – None. Resolution duly adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT TO PROPOSAL AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2025 STREET MAINTENANCE PROJECTS:**

Moved by Chris Newton, seconded by Joe Montag to adopt Resolution #2025-27, a Resolution Approving Amendment To Proposal And Acceptance Of 2025 Street Maintenance Projects. Roll

call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Thilges, Brooke Winkelhorst; “Nays” – None. Resolution duly adopted.

**RESOLUTION APPROVING ESTIMATE FOR SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE WITH UV LINING:**

Moved by Joe Montag, seconded by Linda Thilges to adopt Resolution #2025-28, a Resolution Approving Estimate For Sanitary Sewer System Maintenance With UV Lining. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Thilges, Brooke Winkelhorst; “Nays” – None. Resolution duly adopted.

**FACILITY PLAN – WASTEWATER TREATMENT IMPROVEMENTS:**

ISG Engineers, Amanda Goodenow and Guadalupe Munoz Rocha attended the City Council Meeting to present the Facility Plan for Water Treatment Improvements. The plan includes the characteristics of the existing system and proposed alternatives for wastewater treatment. An analysis of the flows and loadings into the City’s wastewater treatment plant was compiled and evaluated. Two different treatment processes for West Bend are being considered. The first process outlined in the plan is a NitrOx system. This process is composed of aeration and suspended media, which is contained in concrete tanks with insulated covers. The second process described in the plan is a SAGR system. This alternative method would also convert the present system to a continuous aeration lagoon system where the biomass of ammonia-oxidizing bacteria attaches to and grows on rock surfaces. Either of the process types sited in the plan would assist the City in meeting the new NPDES permit limits. Employees were leaning toward the NitrOx system. They may visit some facilities in neighboring communities in order to make a final decision. Potential funding sources were outlined in the plan. The State Revolving Loan Fund for Planning and Design and the SRF Clean Water Fund will be utilized. Applications for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the Wastewater and Drinking Water Treatment Financial Assistance Program (WTFAP) will be pursued as well. The preliminary opinion of the probable costs for the improvements ranges from \$7,159,000.00 to \$7,374,000.00. Rate increases and cash flow updates have been ongoing for the past few years in preparation of the project. Council Member Brooke Winkelhorst left the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Moved by Joe Montag, seconded by Chris Newton to approve the Facility Plan for Wastewater Treatment System Improvements as presented and authorize the Mayor to sign an application for a State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) Planning and Design Loan for fees associated with the proposed wastewater improvements. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Thilges; “Nays” – None. Motion carried.

**PAYMENT OF INVOICE – KOPAEG (FY26 FUNDING):**

Moved by Joe Montag, seconded by Linda Thilges to approve payment to the City of West Bend, in the amount of \$75,350.00, for KOPAEG funding for the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” - Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Grant Gearhart, Linda Thilges; “Nays” – None. Motion carried.

**SALE OF 2006 FORD F150 PICKUP TRUCK:**

The City Council discussed the sale of the 2006 Ford F150 Pickup Truck. An ad has been created offering the vehicle for sale that requires a \$2,000 minimum bid. This is the amount that West Bend Ford was willing to give for the pickup as a trade-in. The consensus of the City Council is to proceed with placing the ad in the newspaper for the sale of the pickup notifying the public that bids will be accepted until noon on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The bids will then be opened at the City Council meeting that evening. Employees will plan to park the vehicle at the fire station along Highway 15 advertising its sale there as well.

**GAS/PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS REPORT:**

Gas/Public Works Foreman, Trevor Bruhn prepared the Gas/Public Works Operations Report for the City Council to review. Employees have read meters, taken water samples for water, sewer and pool testing, opened the pool and splash pad for the season, assisted with the demolition of the ceiling and painting at City Hall, prepared monthly reports, mowed, ordered street signs, filled the new gas odorant system and repaired gas valves and mains.

**COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES:**

Council Member Joe Montag discussed some area Bitcoin Projects.

**COUNCIL REPORT:**

The City Council gave the Mayor suggestions for her monthly article. Minutes from the previous two West Bend Public Library Board Meetings were included in the Council packets. The Kossuth/Palo Alto County Wide Breakfast is planned to take place on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. at St. Michael's Parish Center in Whittemore. RSVP's will be submitted for Kim Johnson, Linda Thilges and Brooke Winkelhorst. Northern Natural Gas has filed a rate case for pipeline fees to compensate for significant capital improvements that they have made. ISG has prepared an updated report showing the progress that is being made on the different projects that they are working on for the City.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

A Pickleball Court Meeting with the City, WBM Community School, West Bend Chamber and local residents is being planned.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Linda Thilges, seconded by Joe Montag to adjourn the meeting to Monday, July 14, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

/s/ Lisa Sewell  
City Clerk

/s/ Kimberly Johnson  
Mayor