

June 9, 2025

The West Bend City Council met in regular session at City Hall on Monday, June 9, 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 and Linda Thilges. Council Members Grant Gearhart and Brooke Winkelhorst were absent. Also present for the meeting was Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, Tod Faris.

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 Linda Thilges, seconded by Joe Montag to approve the minutes of the previous meeting; the May 2025 Treasurer's Report with a beginning balance of \$2,631,658.27, receipts of \$455,887.64, disbursements of \$782,502.57 and an ending balance of \$2,305,043.34; the May 2025 Budget Report and to order the following bills paid:

ACCO	PROBES, LEAF SKIMMER, POLE, CHEMICALS	1,466.05
UMB BANK	PRINCIPAL, INTEREST-ELECTRIC	68,175.00
BENNETT RECYCLING	GARBAGE & RECYCLING COLLECTION	17,676.60
CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	BOOKS-LIBRARY	46.74
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	TOWELS, BAGS, CLEANER	399.00
CENTURY LINK	LONG DISTANCE SERVICE	63.55
CITY OF WEST BEND	TRANSFERS, CAFÉ PLAN	145,923.80
CLAYTON ENERGY CORP	RESERVATION, SERVICE, PURCHASED GAS	7,705.93
COMMUNITY LUMBER	BUILDING MATERIALS, SUPPLIES, ROTO ROOT	7,094.86
CORNWELL	FY24 AUDIT, ATTACHMENT H	8,059.00
VISUAL EDGE IT	COPIER CLICKS/MAINTENANCE	227.71
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	VALVE, GEAR, COUPLINGS, SAFETY GLASSES	1,890.00
DGR ENGINEERING	RATE UPDATES, MAP UPDATES	2,875.50
DORSEY AND WHITNEY	LEGAL SERVICES-WELL PROJECT	3,585.00
SPENCER OFFICE SUPPLIES	AIR DUSTERS, PENS	43.86
ECOLAB	PEST CONTROL	110.33
EGGERS ELECTRIC	CAN LIGHTS, ELECTRICAL WORK	3,901.84
ELECTRONIC SPECIALTIES	LOCK PROGRAMMING/REPAIR	216.70

FIRST NATIONAL BANK	GRANT SUPPLIES, BOOKS-LIBRARY	272.04
HALLETT MATERIALS	COLD MIX	598.50
HEIMAN FIRE EQUIPMENT	COATS, PANTS, HELMETS	8,868.58
IA DNR	CERTIFICATIONS	300.00
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	35.10
IPERS	IPERS REGULAR	7,948.20
IRBY ELECTRICAL DIST	ELECTRIC SUPPLIES	8,694.56
KAMPEN FOODS	CLEANING SUPPLIES-LIBRARY	7.59
SEWELL, LISA	FLOWERS, BULLETIN BOARD	127.37
NEW COOPERATIVE INC	FUEL, CHEMICALS, POWER PLANT DIESEL	36,474.24
MICROMARKETING	AUDIOBOOKS-LIBRARY	44.99
MID AMERICAN ENERGY CO	CASH REQUEST-JUNE	30,000.00
MIDAMERICA BOOKS	DCAT GRANT BOOKS-LIBRARY	95.80
NIMECA	PURCHASED POWER	95,927.87
NW COMMUNICATIONS	LABOR, TELEPHONE, INTERNET	2,128.17
PENWORTHY COMPANY	ECNCI GRANT BOOKS-LIBRARY	160.95
TREASURER-STATE OF IOWA	SALES & EXCISE TAX, WITHHOLDING	8,248.47
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE SERVICE	602.22
VERMEER SALES & SERVICE	SERVICE, PARTS	2,320.42
WELLMARK BCBS	HEALTH INSURANCE, ANNUAL EOB FEES	21,942.10
WEST BEND CHAMBER	TEAM SPONSORSHIP	130.00
WEST BEND FORD	SERVICE, PARTS	207.71
WEST BEND RED POWER	MOWER BLADE	69.00
WEST BEND JOURNAL	PUBLICATIONS-MAY	409.02
WEST BEND UTILITIES	UTILITIES, REBATE	6,552.09
WBM COMMUNITY SCHOOL	LEASE AGREEMENT PAYMENT	1.00
WEST IOWA BANK	CD'S, PRINCIPAL, INTEREST, TRANSFER, FEE	420,403.20
OLSON, CRAIG	ROOM RENTAL, AIRPORT FEES	618.13
WS #4 DISBURSEMENT	CASH RECONCILIATION-MAY	11,813.66
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	10,871.08
RAW CUSTOMS	TIRE REPAIR	46.00
VAN WERT INC	METER	184.56
I & S GROUP INC	ENGINEERING, ZONING MAP	3,661.05
CHEMQUEST INC	MONITORING/TESTING	695.00
VERIZON	DATA CARD-POLICE	40.01
KC NIELSEN	SERVICE, LABOR, PARTS-TRACTOR	888.29
BAHLER MECHANICAL	NEW DUCT, LABOR-CITY HALL	1,178.40
HUGHES PHARMACY SERVICES	MEDICAL SUPPLIES-POOL	28.95
PEFA INC	PURCHASED GAS	6,113.20
SCHUVER, JEREMY	HEAT GUN, NIPPLES	90.28
NORTHERN TESTING SERVICES	BREAKER MAINTENANCE	20,235.00

FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL	WATER, WASTEWATER & POOL TESTS	481.00
BLACKSTONE PUBLISHING	AUDIOBOOKS-LIBRARY	147.01
TRANSPARENT LANGUAGE	LANGUAGE DATABASE-LIBRARY	567.00
BRUHN, AMANDA	LIFEGUARD CERTIFICATIONS	235.00
PINNACLE MARKETING GROUP	WEST BEND WEBSITE	158.00
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT	PARTS-STREET SWEEPER	1,129.70
CONSOLIDATED ELECTRICAL	SERVICE-GENERATOR	950.00
LIBERTY NATIONAL INS	EMPLOYEE INSURANCE PREMIUMS	227.00
ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS	CAFE PLAN BILLING	542.00
AUREON	SERVICE CALL, OFFICE, ANTIVIRUS, BACKUP	288.73
DUITSMAN, NANCY	FLOAT & TEXTURE WALLS	4,536.00
D&J TREE SERVICE LLC	TREE REMOVAL	5,200.00
AVESIS	VISION INSURANCE	155.78
DELTA DENTAL	DENTAL INSURANCE	436.48
POLICE LEGAL SCIENCES	LEGAL UPDATE-LESSON PACKAGE	162.00
PAYROLL CHECKS	TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS	40,824.68
	CLAIMS TOTAL	1,034,534.65
	GENERAL FUND	98,153.37
	ROAD USE TAX FUND	50,598.50
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND	20.00
	LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND	75,381.80
	TAX INCREMENT FINANCING FUND	70,000.00
	DEBT SERVICE FUND	75,381.80
	WATER FUND	13,558.89
	SEWER FUND	55,963.67
	ELECTRIC FUND	367,912.44
	KOPAEG FUND	23,618.24
	GAS FUND	185,637.91
	LANDFILL/GARBAGE FUND	18,308.03

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

FIRST READING OF 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 first 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, Linda Thilges; "Nays" – None. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING PROPOSAL FOR 2025 STREET MAINTENANCE PROJECTS:

Moved by Joe Montag, seconded by Chris Newton to adopt Resolution #2025-24, a Resolution Accepting Proposal For 2025 Street Maintenance Projects. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Linda Tilges; “Nays” – None. Resolution duly adopted.

RESOLUTION APPROVING PROPOSAL FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2024 FORD F450 SUPER DUTY PICKUP:

Moved by Joe Montag, seconded by Linda Tilges to adopt Resolution #2025-25, a Resolution Approving Proposal For The Purchase Of A 2024 F450 Super Duty Pickup. Roll call of vote, “Ayes” – Joe Montag, Chris Newton, Linda Tilges; “Nays” – None. Resolution duly adopted.

CUSTOM KONCRETE ESTIMATE – BUILDING APPROACH:

Moved by Chris Newton, seconded by Joe Montag to approve the estimate submitted by Custom Koncrete, in the amount of \$5,805.00, for the construction of a 12’ approach at the entrance to the City owned building located at 200 2nd Avenue NE. Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

CIGARETTE PERMIT APPLICATIONS – CASEY’S GENERAL STORE, KAMPEN FOODS, WEST BEND CENEX:

Moved by Joe Montag, seconded by Linda Tilges to approve the applications submitted by Casey’s General Store, Kampen Foods and New Coop-West Bend (West Bend Cenex) for the renewal of Cigarette Permits, effective July 1, 2025. Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

RENEWAL OF CLASS B RETAIL ALCOHOL LICENSE – KAMPEN FOODS:

Moved by Chris Newton, seconded by Joe Montag to approve the application submitted by Kampen Foods for the renewal of a Class B Retail Alcohol License, effective June 25, 2025. Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

SHADE TREE REBATE:

Gerald Olson is planning to plant a shade tree in his yard to replace a diseased tree that was removed by the City. He would like to know if the payment for the rebate for the shade tree could be paid to him directly instead of it being applied to his utility account. He is requesting this because the utility bills at his residential property are usually less than \$20.00 a month so it would take a long time for the rebate credit to get used. The consensus of the City Council was to deny Gerald Olson’s request. Payments for rebates will continue to be credited to utility customers’ accounts.

POLICE REPORT:

Police Chief, Anthony Laubenthal submitted his monthly report to the City Council. Last month MART was held in Emmetsburg. Anthony did not attend. This month will be held in Estherville. The team will be participating in firearms qualification and training. Anthony has re-certified in ILEECF and CPR. The calls for the month were reviewed. The Police Chief continues to do routine patrols, take calls, and perform security checks. There were multiple building permits and miscellaneous measurements completed in May.

ELECTRIC OPERATIONS REPORT:

Electric Operations Manager, Craig Olson prepared the Electric Operations Report for the month of May. The work that has been performed in West Bend, Graettinger and Pocahontas was listed in the report. The labor/equipment spreadsheet shows that West Bend is still owed \$48,236.50 from Pocahontas and Graettinger together. KOPAEG met prior to the City Council Meeting. There were concerns raised about electric employee wage increases not being the same in each community. Pocahontas will be giving their employees a 5% increase with the start of the new fiscal year. West Bend and Graettinger had budgeted 3%. The consensus of the City Council is to provide permanent employees with a 5% increase instead of the 3% that was budgeted.

APPOINTMENT OF WEST BEND PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION MEMBER:

Moved by Linda Thilges, seconded by Chris Newton to appoint Deb Lauck to serve a 5-year term on the West Bend Planning and Zoning Commission, effective July 1, 2025. Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF WEST BEND BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEMBER:

Moved by Chris Newton, seconded by Joe Montag to appoint Jeri McIntosh to serve a 5-year term on the West Bend Board of Adjustment, effective July 1, 2025. Roll call of vote, all present voting in the affirmative. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF WEST BEND PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER:

Mayor Kimberly Johnson appointed Isabel Grimm to serve a 6-year term on the West Bend Public Library Board pending the approval of the Kossuth County Board of Supervisors. If approved, the term for the appointment will begin on July 1, 2025.

KOSSUTH/PALO ALTO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR UPDATE:

Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Director, Tod Faris attended the City Council Meeting to introduce himself to the City Council and give them an update on the different programs associated with being a member of Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development.

Tod has been making business visits in both counties and will be creating a document for distribution once the information he is gathering has been compiled.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES:

Council Member Linda Thilges has attended a Palo Alto County Economic Development Board Meeting. She plans to go to the next Northwest Iowa Housing Authority Meeting.

COUNCIL REPORT:

The NIMECA financial statements and the WS#4 cash request for the month of June were included in the Council Report.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Mayor informed the City Council that she will not be running for a second term. The West Bend Fire Department has requested a dumpster be placed at the fire station on a permanent basis. The carts are not large enough for those that rent the facility for events.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Linda Thilges, seconded by Joe Montag to adjourn the meeting to Monday, June 23, 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