

# City Council Meeting Minutes

12/22/25

**Attendees:** Mayor Brady Gragg, Dan Ravenscraft, Trent Clark, Kathryn Coleman & Jeff Artman

**Absent:** Grant Bowlin

Others In Attendance: Andrew Hanna, Anne Morrow, Mason McCready, Tim Eldredge, Thelma Edris, Cherry Stucky, Thomas Wine, and Scott Silknitter

**7:02pm:** Mayor Gragg calls the meeting to order.

## Acceptance Agenda:

- ***Ravenscraft motions to approve the agenda for December 2025. Second by Artman. All Ayes, carried. 7:02pm***

- ***Clark motions to approve the November meeting minutes as written. Artman seconds, all Ayes, motion carried. 7:03pm***

## Open to Public:

**Thelma “Jeep” Edris** - Congratulations to those who ran and were elected to the governing body. Expressed gratitude and appreciation who have served and are now moving on (Mayor Gragg and Councilman Artman). Provided cake to make up for all the nasty stuff she’d done and said to them over the years. :)

**Mason McCready** - Congrats to Scott and Tim. Question: More information concerning all the cattle truck or trucking activity coming through town throughout the night.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

### 1.) Oaths of Office - 7:06pm

- The city clerk provided the Oath of Office to Mayor-elect, Timothy Eldridge; Who was sworn into office and will officially take office beginning January 1, 2026. Certificate signed and sent to the County Clerk.
- The city clerk provided the Oath of Office to Council Member-elect, Scott Silknitter; Who was sworn into the governing body and will officially take his seat beginning January 1, 2026. Certificate signed and sent to the County Clerk.
- The city clerk provided the Oath of Office to Council Member-re-elect, Trent Clark; Who was sworn into the governing body and will officially continue his role beginning January 1, 2026. Certificate signed and sent to the County Clerk.

-- A box of goodies from Cabin Pie Company was provided by the city for those present to partake in celebration of these new and continued city leaders.

### 2.) Cemetery Code Review – Cherry Stucky, 7:12pm

For the last three years the Cemetery Board has been working on the cemetery codes. This is the full code with the changes. Kansas has made some changes over the years and so we have removed or adjusted some of our codes accordingly as well as adjusted some of the language or wording. We have re-numbered our codes to reflect what currently is being done to create a better flow and understanding moving forward. We have maintained the “Sexton” role but have changed the responsibilities assigned to that role to better reflect how everything has been for the past 30+ years. All records are kept at the city not by the sexton. The Cemetery Board is now meeting once a month. We have also updated the Rules & Regulations in a consumer-friendly way and will be posted on the website page for the Cemetery. These codes need to be officially adopted by the city.

- Questions on progress to digitize - GPS locate all the grave sites.
- Some of the changes were more fundamental to how things currently function.

An official ordinance to accept these will be created to accept for the January meeting.

## **Financial Report – Treasurer Report, 7:22pm**

Ullum provided handouts. - They mayor read aloud the Treasurers Report.

The governing body reviews the provided Reports.

***Coleman motions to approve the Financial Report as presented for the December Council Meeting, second by Artman. All Ayes, Carried: 7:25pm***

Governing Body reviews the Maintenance and Office Credit/Debit Card Receipts. No questions.

## **PERSONNEL REPORTS**

### **Deputy's Report – Not Present**

### **Mayor's Report – Brady Gragg, 7:26pm**

- Farwell Speech: "Dear friends, neighbors, and fellow residents of Whitewater, Good evening. It's been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your mayor. Whitewater is a special place – a close-knit community along the Whitewater River, with deep roots since our incorporation in 1890. We've preserved our small-town charm while building a safe, welcoming home for all. Together, we've maintained essential services, improved infrastructure, and celebrated our traditions. These accomplishments belong to you: our dedicated City Council, staff, and every resident who steps up. Serving you has taught me invaluable lessons in leadership, listening, and community spirit. I've treasured the conversations, challenges, and shared moments. Now, it's time to pass the torch. I'm confident Whitewater's future is bright with new leadership. I'll remain a proud resident, ready to support as needed. Thank you to the council and staff for your partnership, to my family for their unwavering support, and to all of you for your trust. This isn't goodbye – it's see you around town. God bless you, and God bless Whitewater, Kansas. Thank you."
- Loyd Group Engagement Letter – to contract with them for the 2025 Audit.
- ***Motion by Ravenscraft to contract with the Loyd Group for the 2025 Audit; second by Coleman. All Ayes, Mayor signed, city clerk attested by signing. 7:29pm.***

### **Animal Control Report – 7:30pm**

- *see handout*
- Registered for Training in 2026.
- Adoption notices for an animal. Has been adopted.
- Elm Street dog situation.
- Confirmation that we will pay his mileage for his trips out for the training.

### **Clerk's Report – Anne Morrow, 7:31pm**

- *see handout*
- The \$81 ticket payment was returned due to insufficient funds I will continue to pursue payment.
- On-site Audit is scheduled for May 12th.
- Fire Station Lease has been completed.

### **Maintenance Report – Andrew Hanna, 7:32pm**

- *see handout.*
- Staying busy with Christmas decorations, leaf removal and hauling off scrap metal.
- Maple Street sewer issues. Cleaning was difficult for Mayer. It will continue to be a point of interest moving forward.
- Working on someone's water discharge to get it to stop flowing into city streets.
- Both Andrew & Brandon did more training to remain certified.

-- Clark – commented on the road leaf cleanups looking good.

## **Continued & Unfinished Business**

### **Code Review – New Charter Ordinance review, 7:35pm**

- The new charter ordinance provided by Ranson City Codes. Samples provided by request of the city council. Any changes need to be given so the Official Charter Ordinances can be written and passed in 2026. These changes basically allow us to do what we have already been doing, but as a city, we never legally passed anything to show how things are/should be done. This will bring us into compliance to continue to function as we have been correctly.

-- Council seems happy with how they look and would like to have these drafted for the January meeting in 2026.

## **Agenda Items for January 26, 2026**

- Cemetery Code Update Ordinance
- Charter Ordinances
- Vote on Council President (by council members)
- Boards and Committee appointments

***Artman motions for the December city council meeting to be adjourned. Second by Ravenscraft. All Ayes, motion passed: 8:18pm***

**Meeting Adjourned – 8:18pm**