

Town of Winifred, Incorporated
Minutes
July 8, 2025
Town Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. at Community Center

The meeting of the Winifred Town Council was called to order by Mayor Shirley Dyer, July 8, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call was called., Mayor Shirley Dyer, Council Person Rick Baker, Council Person Kristin Carlstrom, Council Person Cody Isom was absent, Council Person Zachary Sharp, Town Clerk Cheri Kjersem, Treasurer Krista Ness. Guest present were Kurt Thomson , Joe Lencioni, Bill Lee, Gloria Isom, Daryl Smith, Ralph Rogers, Travis Willson, and Lonnie Arthur.

Agenda was motioned for approval by Rick Baker; Zach Sharp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Minutes from the council meeting on June 10, 2025, were presented. Rick Baker motioned for approval; Zach Sharp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The monthly bills were presented. Kristin Carlstrom made a motion to accept the bills; Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bills approved were claim number 2777/Aqua Tech, 2781/Fergus Electric, 2782/Republic Services, 2783/Energy Labs, 2785/Town of Winifred, 2786/Triangle, 2789/Northwest Energy, 2791/Stahly Engineering, 2792/Winifred Grocery, 2793/Rick Baker, 2794/Brenda Baker, 2795/Ehlert Bros, 2796/Liberty PCS, 2797/Pete Boettcher, 2798/Quill, 2799/Local Government Center, 2800/Local Government Center/ 2801/MT League of Cities & Towns, 2802/MMCTFOA, 2803/Hill County Electric, 2804/QTpod, 2805/Thompson Pools, 2806/Frontline Ag, 2807/CHS, 2808/Carr Construction

The Bank Reconciliation was not complete yet.

Financial reports for the Pool, Library, Museum, Airport, and Cemetery were reviewed. Rick Baker motioned to approve the reports; Zach Sharp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Investments: STIP and Ameriprise have not been received, due to the early meeting date. Central Montana Foundation sent out check distributions from the funds set up by Norman Asbjornson. The checks are 2% of the fair market value of the fund's assets set up by Norm.

In June the Library received \$8,484.78. The Museum received \$8,482.76. The general fund received \$33,934.04

Correspondence was read.

Citizen Comment Opportunity: None

Unfinished Business:

Sewer: There is a pre-construction meeting with Western Mutual tomorrow morning.

Lonnie Arthur asked the council if he needs to raise some sewer manholes on Larry Arthur's property while he is doing some dirt work; does he have permission to do so. He would get Century Construction to bring out the rings for raising them. The council said that would be fine

There was discussion about a landowner who is using the sewer hook-up on his property but will not actually hook up to water and sewer and pay the town utility fees. He hauls water to the property and is using the sewer that way. The council and Mayor agree to send a letter to the landowner to comply like everyone else in town does.

Streets: Kurt said there are still curb stops being installed and lowering of some water mains. Century Construction will work south to north on the street project. There are some complaints and discussion with landowners whose property is affected by the street project with tree removal and street width.

Ralph Rogers, Joe Lencioni, and Daryl Smith had questions concerning the part of 3rd Ave North, which is abandoned, and the land Norm Asbjornson owns. Question being, can Century Construction put dirt on 3rd and fill it in. Discussion with Kurt Thomson, and the council checking maps. The answer is yes 3rd can be filled but not Reyleck. Reyleck is not abandoned.

Bill Lee had questions concerning the well-established trees in front of their property and wanting to save those trees. The discussion on the trying to save as many trees as possible is how the council and mayor feel. Kurt Thomson discussed that metal grates could be placed around the mature trees to save them. He said to make sure people are ok with walking off the sidewalk to go around the trees, with the biggest concern being ADA requirement. The council agrees to save the trees.

Stockyards: Norm Asbjornson purchased a tractor from the Larry Udelhoven estate and donated it to the airport. Norm has been having several conversations with different people about the use of the tractor. Norm had told Candy Zion that the tractor could be used at the Stockyards to pull the black widow piece of equipment. Candy also asked if the town could mow along the highway by the Stockyards.

After discussion, it was decided the Airport board needs to decide the usage rate for the tractor. Ralph said, if it is being used by the town, usage if free, but outside property would be different.

The council and mayor discussed the biggest question being, what is the town's involvement with the Stockyards. Mayor Dyer will contact Casey Philp, Stockyard president, and discuss things.

Pool: The town received the first payment from the HB 355 on the work done on the pool last year. Jeremy Carr has completed the second part of the concrete work, we will get the second request for payment from HB 355.

The pool has more problems that keep coming up. The heater is not working correctly, both circuit boards are bad, which is \$2,800.00 to replace. The chimney also needs replacement which will be another cost. Central Montana Propane will replace the boards and do the chimney work.

The leaks were not in the skimmer as previously thought. The side walls of the pool have big cracks. The fixing of the pool will be very costly.

Shirley and Kristin discussed some fund-raising ideals, starting with a family fun night some time in August. Triangle Telephone does some help with fund raising, like paying the swim pool fees for the day of the event. Shirley and Kristin will keep looking into the fund raiser event.

Bulk Water: We will table bulk water for now; it will be a costly fix. The town will need to get some bids and decide how to move forward on this.

Old Hydrants/obsolete property: The town has received no bids for the old hydrants. Kristin Carlstrom made a motion, in the event of no bids, Lonnie Arthur can haul them off if he wants. Zach Sharp seconded the motion. Motion passed.

New Business:

FY 24-25 Budget Resolutions: Kristin Carlstrom and Krista Ness prepared budget amendments to Resolution #2-2025, #3-2025, #4-2025. And a new Resolution #8-2025

Resolution #2-2025: The Town of Winifred received \$76,360.04 in unanticipated revenues for the general budget. The Town of Winifred hereby resolves to increase the general fund revenue line account #1000-365004 by the amount of \$76,360.04. Zach Sharp made a motion to amend the Resolution #2-2025, Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Resolution #3-2025; The Town of Winifred received \$29,089.76 in unanticipated revenues for the library fund. The Town of Winifred hereby resolves to increase the library fund revenue line #2220-365004 by the amount of \$29,089.76, Zach Sharp made a motion to amend Resolution #3-2025, Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Resolution #4-2025; The Town of Winifred received \$26,087.76 in unanticipated revenues for the museum fund. Whereas the Town of Winifred resolves to increase the museum fund line account #2360-365004 by the amount of \$26,087.76. Zach Sharp made a motion to amend Resolution #4-2025, Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Resolution #8-2025, The Town of Winifred received the amount of \$42,292.82 in unanticipated expenses for the airport fund. Whereas the amount of \$42,292.82 was unanticipated expenses in the original 2024-25 fiscal year budget. Whereas the Town of Winifred hereby resolves to increase the airport fund expense line account #2170-430300-300 by the amount of \$42,292.82. Zach Sharp made a motion to accept the Resolution #8-2025, Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed

Resolution 9-2025: Resolution to authorize signers on the STIP investment pool. Kristin Carlstrom will remain on STIP and Krista Ness and Shirley Dyer will be added as signers. Zach motioned to accept Resolution 9-2025, Rick Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Cemetery: Dale Smith had discussed with Mayor Dyer, and the clerk some idea's he had on the cemetery. He thought placing some more corner posts and adding solar lanterns on top would look nice. The council agreed to the idea. We asked Dale to put together a bid for the cost. The cemetery has funds from the Moore Sisters to be used at the cemetery.

Miscellaneous:

Mayor Dyer asked if the council would be interested in bidding on a walk behind floor scrubber that is for bid in obsolete property at the school. It would work well for the community center. The council agreed to bid up to \$1,500.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor Shirley Dyer_____

Clerk Cheri Kjersem_____