

REGULAR SESSION

April 9, 2025

The Essex City Council met in regular session in the Essex Community Room at 7:00 PM. Mayor Kinney called the meeting to order and roll call was taken showing the following members of the Council present or absent. Present: Ballinger, Eshelman, Franks, Gresham. Absent: Wenstrand-Larson. City Clerk Ohnmacht and City Attorney Sorensen were also present.

The agenda was approved. Motion by Eshelman, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

There were no members of the public present.

Public hearing: proposed budget fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. There were no written or oral comments or objections. Hearing was closed.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 17: Adopting budget for fiscal year 2025 – 2026. Motion by Ballinger, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Second reading of utility rates. Motion to approve by Franks, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of monthly Page County Sheriff's report March 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025. Motion by Eshelman, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Acceptance of delinquent utilities report. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval of two account write offs (Simpson/Cannon). Attorney Sorensen will deal with the other two. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

JEO Engineering Agreement for lagoon compliance was tabled. The council would like a JEO representative to be present at the May meeting.

Approval of library hiring Christina Vega. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval of USDA Water Utility Loan Resolution. Motion by Ballinger, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 15 Destruction of certain city records. Motion by Eshelman, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 16 Authorizing Appointment of Officer to Enforce City Ordinance or Regulation and Authority to Issue a Civil Citation to a person who commits a municipal infraction. Motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All. A public hearing will be held in May.

Approval of Bank Iowa interim load proposal for water project. Motion by Ballinger, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Community Clean up day will be April 23, 2025. The students will be going around the community picking up garbage and doing spring cleaning. Casey's awarded the city a grant for donuts and the city will provide water for the cleanup teams.

The Essex Education Foundation has ordered banners for the class of 2025. They will be hung on Iowa Avenue.

Approval of Falk's Ice Cream sign request. The city will share in the cost of a sign. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

No public comments on agenda items.

Approval of the consent agenda. Minutes: March 12, 2025, March 20, 2025, March 20, 2025; Treasurer's Report March 31, 2025; Abstract of Claims March 13, 2025 – April 9, 2025. Motion by Ballinger, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the council on nuisance properties.

Council updates: City employees and council members did opera house landscaping.

City Clerk Ohnmacht updated the council on the State Historical Preservation Office requirements for memorializing the existing water tower.

Good News:

- Dennis – sold his tractor.
- Patti – getting ready to go on vacation.
- Mahlon – things are good.
- Mary – going on vacation.
- Betty – beautiful day today and starting to feel better.
- Jeff – eligible for 401K now through work.
- Calvin – granddaughter just celebrated her third birthday.

Adjournment at 8:26 PM. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Mary A. Ohnmacht