

## **REGULAR SESSION**

June 11, 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, Wenstrand-Larson. Absent: none. City Clerk Catherine Moore and City Attorney Sorensen were also present.

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

Members of the public present: None

Discussion on the JEO contract to provide technical assistance with the NPEDS permit. It was agreed that there still needs to be more clarification on the contract for how the billing for hourly is worded and must be more clear.

Acceptance of monthly Page County Sheriff's report May 1, 2025 – May 31, 2025. Motion by Wenstrand-Larson, second by Gresham. Ayes: All

Acceptance of delinquent utilities report. Motion by Eshelman, second by Wenstrand-Larson. Ayes: All.

Approval of ECC request for permission to make improvements to the derby track. The council did not approval they are requesting more detail on what work is to be done.

Approval of ECC "Back to School Bash" request. Motion by Wenstrand-Larson, second by Gresham.

Approval of ECC request for street closings for Labor day. The council would like letters sent to those directly affected but approved. Motion by Eshelman, second by Franks.

Discussion on Parking Ordinance 69.05, It was discussed if it needs to be more clearly defined and what classifies "moving" a vehicle. The time of 72 hours was also discussed and if it should be less and how this would affect the citizens who live and park downtown with no other parking. This was tabled for later review after the pending court case.

Approval of hiring Pierre Taylor as Public Works/ Water Superintendent. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 22: Library Funds Transfer. Motion by Wenstrand-Larson, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 23: Purchase of 709 Burlington. Subject to clear title Motion by Eshelman, second by Wenstrand-Larson. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 24: Wage Resolution. Motion by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 25: Purchase of 812 North Avenue. Motion by Wenstrand-Larson, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval Resolution 2025 – 26: Transfer of funds opera house internal loan. Motion by Franks, second by Wenstrand-Larson. Ayes: All.

Approval of Garrison's Pub N Grub LLC liquor license renewal. Motion by Eshelman, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Approval of short term occupancy request for park Labor Day weekend for Lucky Wine Slushy's. Motion by Wenstrand-Larson, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

No public comments on agenda items.

Approval of consent agenda. Minutes: May 14, 2025, June 4, 2025, June 9, 2025, June 10, 2025; Treasurer's Report May 31, 2025; Abstract of Claims May 15, 2025 – June 11, 2025. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Sorensen updated the council on nuisance properties and court cases. Trash by metal an action was filed, the party pled guilty and paid court cost and a fine. Another case of dumping non approved items, the party pled guilty and paid court costs and a fine. Parking compliant the court was closed and moved the case to another day.

Council updates: Eshelman had been asked by a citizen if we interview every candidate that applies for a position. It was said that no the council reviews all applications in closed session and decides which ones the feel are the best fit and interviews based on that.

City Clerk asked if there was a city policy on large whole house propane tanks in town as this question arose from a citizen. It was discussed that they are not allowed in city limits over the small size used for grilling and such.

Good News:

- Jeff – Enjoyed time with grandkids at zoo! But almost had to take a loan out to pay for it!
- Betty – Woke up this morning! Great-granddaughter rolled over for the first time!
- Cathy – Made it through my first month!
- Dennis – Grandkid turned 16!
- Nicole – Has a one-year-old! And kept a human alive for a year!
- Patti – Fresh strawberries from her garden!
- Mahlon – Enjoying smothering thistles
- Calvin – Cooper is a chick magnet! Loving taking him for rides and watching his ears flop!

Adjournment at 8:11 PM. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

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Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

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City Clerk, Catherine Moore