

REGULAR SESSION

August 12, 2026

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, Naico. Absent: none. City Clerk Catherine Moore was also present.

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

Members of the public present: Kathy Silvestre, Tess Nelson, Colt Nelson, Mary Ohnmacht, Tom Ross.

Public Comments: Ross asked about Hooker Road and weeds at the Lagoon, was advised they are working on it. Got behind with staff turnover and water project but are getting caught up. Door knockers have been utilized. Ohnmacht reminded everyone that cities have very limited financial resources and soon to be less with property tax reform.

Acceptance of monthly Page County Sheriff's report July 1, 2026 – July 31, 2026. Motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All

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

Approval of account write off, account #207001F IAO \$2012.53. Motion by Ballinger, second by Naico. Ayes: All.

Discussed Westrum leak detection report and proposed contract for future years' service. Motion to approve 3-year contract IAO \$1,200 per year motion by Franks, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Approval of Pay app 1 Gerard tank & Steel \$101,850.00. Motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval of Mary Ohnmacht as interim chair EYS. Motion by Eshelman, second by Franks. Ayes: All. Went back as conflict of interest. Franks abstained from voting and there then was a motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval of Seth Ward as EYS board member. Motion by Franks, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Approval of Short-term occupancy request for ECC Derby track Labor Day weekend. Motion by Eshelman, second by Naico. Ayes: All.

Approval of ECC liquor license Labor Day weekend pending dramshop approval. Motion by Franks, second by Eshelman. Ayes: All.

Approval of Short-term occupancy request for WineTime LLC, DBA Lucky Wife Wine Slushies at Anderson Park Labor Day weekend. Motion by Ballinger, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Approval of WineTime LLC, DBA Lucky Wife Wine Slushies Labor Day weekend pending dramshop approval. Motion by Franks, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval of ECC request for multiple street closings for Labor Day weekend. Motion by Ballinger, second by Naico. Ayes: All.

Approval of REAP grant application submittal. Motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Approval 2026 Outstanding Obligations Report. Motion by Franks, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Approval of Street Finance Report 2025/2026. Motion by Naico, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Approval 2026 Annual Financial Report. Motion by Franks, second by Naico. Ayes: All.

Approval of Resolution 2026 – 20 Investment policy. Motion by Ballinger, second by Franks. Ayes: All.

Approval of Resolution 2026 – 21 public records requests. Motion by Ballinger, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Public comments on agenda items, Silvestre asked why accounts are written off and not gone after. It was explained that the property is now owned by the city but that we will follow up with attorney on if there are any other ways.

Approval of consent agenda. Minutes: July 8, 2026; Treasurer's Report July 31, 2026; Abstract of Claims July 9, 2026 – August 12, 2026. Motion by Naico, second by Gresham. Ayes: All.

Attorney updates will now be a letter sent each month unless there is a pressing need for our attorney to attend the meeting. Attorney updated on the legal status of each nuisance property and cases she is currently working on, all matters are in the attorney's hands and will proceed as previously advised. Council agreed enough chances have been given and to continue moving forward on all cases.

Eshelman stated they had been looking at past minutes and would like to research and have added to next month's agenda possibly getting an attachment for the mower to trim weeds. Also, the tree dump needs trimmed and pushed up. Naico read a letter he had received from a concerned citizen about the park and town conditions.

Mayor updates are also a report that is sent each month going over things completed. Was happy with council helping mow, spraying, and trimming, and picking up branches as everyone needs to come together as we always do the month before Labor Day.

City clerk Moore updated council that the IRS mileage has gone up to .76 as of July 1, 2026, and per resolution 2012-03 we follow that, so it has been raised. Also, that the AFR, outstanding obligations report and street finance report are all completed and submitted and not due for quite a while

Items for next month's agenda, attachment for mower for trimming, Legal opinion on account write offs, bandstand at Anderson Park.

Good News:

- Jeff – Puppy potty trained
- Betty – Woke up today
- Dennis – New shed done
- Kevin– Moved granddaughter to college and other granddaughter had successful spine surgery
- Patti – Almost made it through the week

Adjournment at 8:34PM. Motion by Eshelman, second by Ballinger. Ayes: All.

Mayor, Calvin L. Kinney

ATTEST:

City Clerk, Catherine Moore