WAUKEE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
October 12, 2026

A. Call to Order – The work session meeting of the Waukee City Council was called to order by Mayor Clarke at 5:31 p.m. at Waukee City Hall, 230 W. Hickman Rd. and electronically via Zoom.

B. Roll Call – The following members were present: Mayor Courtney Clarke; Council Members Kala Anderson, Chris Crone, Rob Grove, Lori Lyon, Anna Bergman Pierce. Absent: None.

Also in attendance: City Administrator Brad Deets, Assistant City Administrator Nick Osborne, Director Finance Rachel Downing, Director Community Development Andy Kass, Director Economic Development Jennifer Brown, Director Parks & Recreation Matt Jermier, Public Works Director/City Engineer Rudy Koester, Director Information Technology Son Le, Director Human Resources Michelle Lindsay, Director Marketing & Communications Heather Behrens (electronically), Police Chief Chad McCluskey, City Clerk Rebecca D. Schuett.

C. Agenda Approval – Council Member Crone moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Council Member Grove. Results of vote: Ayes: Anderson, Crone, Grove, Lyon, Pierce. Nays: None. Motion carried 5 – 0.

D. Work Session:

1) **Presentation: Catch Des Moines** – Catch Des Moines President and CEO Trina Flack presented the organization's mission and vision, economic impact on tourism, funding and budget, target audiences and regions, sales strategy, marketing, upcoming events and steps for membership. Also in attendance was Catch Des Moines Vice President of Finance and Administration Shannon Winters.
2) **Strategic Plan: Affordable Housing Phase II funding gap discussion** – City Administrator Deets reviewed property tax changes and how they impact affordable housing development and LMI funding. Assistant City Administrator Osborne discussed the recent unsuccessful application for workforce housing tax credits for the Bluestem Village project, shared feedback from the Iowa Finance Authority on why the application wasn't approved, and options moving forward.
3) **Strategic Plan: Outdoor Music Venue Plan presentation** – Director Parks & Recreation Jermier provided an update on discussions with the Waukee Towne Center marketing team on possible uses and programming for the amphitheater and surrounding area.
4) **Strategic Plan: Security and Safety Across Parks, Trails and Underpasses Plan** – Director Information Technology Le reviewed phased deployment, complete infrastructure estimates, budget and next steps for underpass security improvements.
5) **Public improvement project construction updates** – Public Works Director/City Engineer Koester provided an update on various projects under construction.
6) **FY2028 budget directives and calendar** – City Administrator Deets proposed budget directives for council review; Director Finance Downing presented the budget calendar.

E. Council Liaison Reports – Report made by Mayor Clarke.

F. Comments

Council Member Lyon moved to adjourn; seconded by Council Member Grove. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried 5 – 0.
Meeting Adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

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Courtney Clarke, Mayor

Attest:

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Rebecca D. Schuett, City Clerk