City of Windsor Heights Regular Business Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 20, 2026 - 6:00 PM
WINDSOR HEIGHTS COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 1133 66th ST

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**

   Mayor Mike Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Members Present: Susan Skeries, Joseph Jones, Fletcher Barry, Lauren Campbell, Threase Harms. Staff present: City Administrator Adam Plagge, City Attorney Erin Clanton, Finance Director Rachelle Swisher, Police Chief Pete Roth, Fire Chief Jim Mease, Public Works Director Andy Larson, Deputy City Clerk Nate Leuthold.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

   Motion by Threase Harms to approve. Seconded by Joseph Jones. Motion passed 5-0.

3. **Public Hearing:**

   A. Public Hearing on FY27 Budget Adoption

      i Consider Resolution No. 2026-33 A Resolution Approving Funding Requests for Urbandale And Windsor Heights Chamber

      Motion by Threase Harms to open the Public Hearing. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Motion passed 4-0, with Fletcher Barry abstaining. Adam Plagge presented the report from the Chamber. No Public Comment. Motion by Threase Harms to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Joseph Jones. Motion passed 4-0, with Fletcher Barry abstaining. Motion by Threase Harms to approve. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Motion passed 5-0.

      ii Consider Resolution No.2026-27 - A Resolution Approving FY27 Outside Organization Funding Requests

      Motion by Susan Skeries to open the Public Hearing. Seconded by Joseph Jones. Motion passed 5-0. Rachelle Swisher spoke regarding a potential change to the resolution. Discussion centered on regionalism and the perceived benefits of participating in the Greater Des Moines Partnership. No Public Comment. Motion by Threase Harms to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Motion passed 5-0.
      5-0. Motion by Threase Harms to amend the resolution to remove the payment to Greater Des Mones Partnership (payment to be reconsidered after their presentation on November 2nd, 2026) and approve the other payments. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Motion passed 5-0.

      iii Approve Resolution No. 2026-28 - A Resolution Approving and Adopting the Annual City of Windsor Heights Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

      Motion by Threase Harms to open the public hearing. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Motion passed 5-0. Rachelle Swisher spoke regarding changes to levy rates (with a net of $0.04 increase from last year). The Windsor Heights levy rate will be 14.30351 per $1,000 of taxable valuation. There are budget reductions in part-time/seasonal staffing, contracted services, software subscriptions/services, and adjustments to employee benefits. A resident of Windsor Woods condos raised concerns about rising taxes. Adam Plagge invited her to City Hall to discuss her exact situation in person. Motion by Threase Harms to close the public hearing. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Motion passed 5-0. Threase Harms spoke in favor of continuing to tighten the belt on the budget. Motion by Threase Harms to approve. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Motion passed 5-0.

4. **Public Forum:** This is time set aside for comments from the public on topics of City business other than those listed on the agenda. No action may be taken. Please come to the podium, state your name and address for the record and keep your comments to no more than 5 minutes.

Mayor Mike Jones opened the Public Forum at 6:33 PM. No Public Comment.

5. **Consent Agenda:** Any item on the Consent Agenda may be removed for separate consideration.

   Motion by Threase Harms to approve. Seconded by Joseph Jones. Motion passed 5-0.

   A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on 4.6.26

   B. Approve Minutes of the Special Council Meeting on 4.6.26

   C. Approve Financial Reports

   D. Approve Liquor License -Thirsty Pigs - 6900 School Street

   E. Approve Arbor Day And Earth Day Proclamation

   F. Approve Resolution No. 2026-29- A Resolution Approving FY27 Non-Union Salary Ranges

   G. Approve Resolution 2026-30 - A Resolution Declaring Fire Department Canine Ember and Certain of Her Accessories as Surplus Property and Authorizing the Sale Thereof to Handler Jeff Price

   H. Approve Walnut Creek Water Access Pay Request 2

   I. Approve Wilshire Storm Pay Request 4

6. **Action Items:**

   A. Consideration of Resolution 2026-31 - A Resolution Approving A Collective Bargaining Agreement With IAFF Local 5274
      Motion by Threase Harms to approve. Seconded by Susan Skeries. Adam Plagge presented the staff report. Motion passed 5-0.

   B. Consideration of Resolution 2026-32 - A Resolution Approving A Collective Bargaining Agreement With Teamsters Local 238
      Motion by Threase Harms to approve. Seconded by Joseph Jones. Adam Plagge presented the staff report. Motion passed 5-0.

   C. Discuss Police Services Supplemental 28E Agreement
      Motion by Threase Harms to approve. Seconded by Joseph Jones. Susan Skeries spoke regarding holding a Work Session to delve deeper into the agreement. Chief Roth gave a brief overview of the agreement and what it is trying to accomplish. Council directed staff to schedule a May 4th Work Session Meeting to discuss this further after the regular City Council Meeting. Threase Harms withdrew her motion due to this being a discussion item. Joseph Jones withdrew his second due to this being a discussion item.

   D. Discuss FY27 Employee Health Related Benefits
      Adam Plagge presented the staff report and proposed that the resolution for benefits be presented to Council at the May 4th meeting. The changes to benefits include a slight increase to

employee contributions to health insurance, establishing dental and vision employee contribution rates, and establishing a 50/50 cost share of short-term disability insurance. Threase Harms spoke regarding the history of the City's benefits and salaries, and how salaries have increased over the years while benefits have always been robust. She stressed the importance of having a plan to reduce the budget deficit by increasing employee cost-sharing. Susan Skeries agreed that having a plan was important. Lauren Campbell spoke agreeing that changes to benefits need to happen, but recommended being mindful of employee retention. Threase Harms agreed to fact-find and bring ideas to the next Council meeting.

7. **Reports:**

A. Mayor, Council Reports and Committee Updates, and Administration Reports

Threase Harms: The recent MAC meeting was a conversation with Central Iowa Water Works regarding their water conservation initiative. Conversation focused on the concentration of nitrates in the area's water supply and the general water deficit. Threase requested a watering and water conservation blurb in the next City newsletter. The House and Senate are considering property tax reform bills this week, with the public hearing on 4/21.

Lauren Campbell: Attended Dart 4/7, Special events on 4/17, and the Earth Day celebration is this Saturday, 4/25!

Fletcher Barry: Met with ICON and City Staff regarding signage; attended Wake Up Windsor Heights at Pederson Painting; invited everyone to attend the next Wake Up Windsor Heights at the Public Works building on May 14th; attended the ICON board meeting; will be completing the Iowa League of Cities' training program this week.

Joseph Jones: Conducted DART interviews earlier this week; second round tomorrow, followed by additional commission and executive meetings.

Susan Skeries: Attended Wake Up Windsor Heights at Pederson Painting; attended a Women in Government meeting where Threase and other lobbyists presented; attended Chamber bash for upcoming Earth Day Event; attended the Metro Waste Board meeting; the Special Events Committee met on 4/17; the Earth Day event is this Saturday, and the Fire Fighters Association's Easter Egg Hunt begins that same day at noon! Movie in the Park May 1st is The Princess Diaries, Touch a Truck is on 5/22. She will attend Catch Des Moines meeting on Wednesday; Will attend a Women Fighting Hunger event at the Food Bank on 5/1. Thanks to the staff for help with getting events posted and visible and food truck permitting.

i Storm Water Fund Investment Strategy Report

Rachelle Swisher presented the staff report. Staff found that CD rates were lower than our current checking rate, so our funds will remain as-is. Staff continues to monitor rates to ensure the City is getting the best return on investment possible.

ii Colby Park ICON Water Access Signage Report

Adam Plagge presented the staff report regarding the three different ICON sign options and funding.

iii Mayor's Report April 15th, 2026

Mayor Jones advised that his full report is available in the agenda packet.

8. **Adjourn**

Motion by Susan Skeries to adjourn at 7:39 PM. Seconded by Threase Harms. Motion passed 5-0.