

Public Notice

Casey Regular City Council Meeting  
Casey Community Building  
September 4, 2025

The Casey City Council held a regular meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2025. Mayor Bruce Vorm; Councilmembers Rick Richter, Rick Blake, Bret Wedemeyer, Theresa Schiller and Leland Acker were present; also present were City Clerk Gwen Blass, and Public Works Director Jon Welker.

Mayor Vorm called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All rose to say the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Acker second by Richter to approve the agenda; All Ayes. Motion by Richter second by Acker to approve the consent agenda including the, 8/4/25 minutes, August bills, bank reconciliation, and utility billing reconciliation and liquor licenses for Bomb Shelter and Hometown Basics LLC; All Ayes.

August Claims		
Salaries	\$	16,615.35
IPERS		\$ 3,338.43
FICA	Federal Withholding	\$ 4,560.05
State of Iowa	State Withholding	\$ 408.70
Wellmark Health Ins.	Vision Ins.	\$ 25.56
Acker, Joan	Vstr Ctr Cleaning	\$ 20.00
AgriLand FS	Gas	\$ 1,169.92
Agsource Laboratories	Water/Swr Test	\$ 841.00
Alliant Energy	Utilities	\$ 5,200.33
Amazon	Books/DVD	\$ 118.11
Becker, Leah	Summer Prog Supplies	\$ 60.96
Calhoun-Burns & Assoc	Bridge Eng Fees	\$ 3,217.50
Canon Financial Service	Copier Lease	\$ 93.91
Casey Mutual Telephone	Phone	\$ 279.43
Guthrie Automotive	Veh Mnt	\$ 113.22
Guthrie Co REC	Utilities	\$ 554.89
Hydro Optimization & Automation	Eq Rpr	\$ 987.00
IA Dept of Ag & Land Steward	Lic Fees	\$ 75.00
IA DNR	Annl Permit Fee	\$ 210.00
Jacobsen's Inc	Well Rpr	\$ 52.62
Max Smith Construction	Wtr Proj	\$ 46,804.32
Midwest Office Tech	Copy Fees	\$ 48.91
Miller Plumbing & Heating	Lib A/C Rpr	\$ 211.95
Panora Auto Parts	Chainsaw Chains	\$ 67.98
Region 12 COG	Wtr Proj Legal Fees	\$ 2,801.00
Sheeder Fencing & Land Srv	Grapple	\$ 7,325.80
Sheldahl Plumbing & Htg	Well Rpr	\$ 165.57
Smith, Michael	Comm Bldg Cleaning	\$ 142.50
Southwest IA Pest Control	Pest Control	\$ 180.00
Sun Life Ins	Life Ins	\$ 93.30
The Adair News	Publications	\$ 209.19
Tires & Service	Tire Rpr	\$ 129.45
Treasurer, State of IA	WET Tax	\$ 658.04
Veenstra & Kimm Inc	Eng Fees	\$ 2,993.90
Visa	Tools/Boots/Software	\$ 613.90
Wedemeyer, Doug	Labor Tree Removal	\$ 500.00
Weeks, Meggen	Atty Fees	\$ 220.00
Wellmark Health Ins.	Hlth Ins	\$ 4,956.51

Totals by Fund	Revenue	Expenses
General Fund	\$ 4,386.57	\$ 11,409.15
Library	\$ 89.20	\$ 2,733.02
Road Use	\$ 3,802.14	\$ 5,120.45
Employee Benefits	\$	\$ 4,757.37
LOST – Streets	\$ 1,745.15	\$ 3,217.50
LOST – Parks	\$ 1,745.15	\$ 7,325.80
Capital Fund 302 Water Proj\$	32,096.49	\$ 52,599.22
Capital Fund 306 New Well	\$	\$ 987.00
Water	\$ 11,762.52	\$ 8,651.12
Sewer	\$ 9,169.85	\$ 9,263.67

Discussion held regarding several nuisance properties with City Attorney Meggen Weeks via telephone conference call. Title searches were done on 801 Ellsworth St. and 105 W 3rd St. Both properties have judgements against them. Property at 105 W 3rd St has not had an estate opened yet. City would need to hold on to the property for the remainder of the 5 year estate period before it would become marketable. 606 Wallace St nuisance violations and abatement letter were discussed. Council will turn this property over to litigation council attorney to proceed with abatement of property. 300 E Grant St was discussed with council moving forward with getting a title search on the property. Clerk will contact Region 12 COG about housing program availability.

Motion by Wedemeyer second by Schiller to approve Resolution #2025-12 approving the IA DOT 2025 City Street Finance Report; Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Wedemeyer, Richter, Acker, Blake, and Schiller.

Blass stated Service Club has set trunk or treat for Thursday, October 30th, due to school sports on Friday night. Council agreed to set October 30th for Halloween Trick or Treat night to coincide with trunk or treat night. Motion by Acker second by Wedemeyer to set October 30th for City Halloween trick or treat night and to close McPherson St for trunk or treat; All Ayes.

Blass provided a written clerks report. Blass reminded council members that nomination papers are due September 18th. Casey Women's Club requests permission to use the community building for their monthly meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. Motion by Blake second by Wedemeyer to allow Casey Women's Club to use the community building the 3rd Monday of each month; All Ayes. Bill Elgin asked if public works guys could haul the dead tree in the parking at the Methodist Church to burn pile if Kautzky takes it down. Motion by Acker second by Wedemeyer to have city public works help haul tree at Methodist Church to burn pile; All Ayes. IMFOA Conference is October 15 – 17 for clerk training. Motion by Schiller second by Wedemeyer for Clerk to attend IMFOA Conference; All Ayes. Jon Welker has submitted his resignation and Blass has submitted a Public Works Position Opening Ad in 7 local newspaper for 5 weeks.

Welker provided the public works report and thanked council for the opportunity of working for Casey and offered to help out with Sewer and Water until someone is hired. Welker will work with Tim and Jon Edgington to start applying oil to several streets, using the oil from the City of Adair. Water and Sewer operations are good.

Mayor Vorm inquired on state of sidewalks and whether property owners should be maintaining them. Council agreed they need attention but it is a low priority item. Vorm would like to put cold patch or chips/oil by the mail boxes that have erosion issues. Discussion held regarding E 4th St alley erosion and partial closure. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Schiller to put a gate at West end of E 4th St to close access from McPherson and a barricade West of driveway access on East end; All Ayes. Vorm will continue to have public works work on removing dead trees on city right of ways. Schiller would like a letter sent to property owners on Murphy St. to clean up brush and weeds along road.

No Public Forum.  
Motion by Acker second by Wedemeyer to adjourn at 8:25 pm; All Ayes.  
ATTEST: Bruce Vorm, Mayor; Gwen Blass, City Clerk

Casey Regular City Council Meeting  
Casey Community Building  
October 6, 2025

The Casey City Council held a regular meeting on Monday, October 6, 2025. Mayor Bruce Vorm; Councilmembers Rick Blake, Bret Wedemeyer, and Leland Acker were present; also present were City Clerk Gwen Blass, and Public Works Tim Knapp.

Mayor Vorm called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All rose to say the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Acker second by Wedemeyer to approve the agenda; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to approve the consent agenda including the, 9/4/25 minutes, September bills, bank reconciliation, and utility billing reconciliation and liquor licenses for Casey Service Club; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

September Claims		
Salaries	\$	11,245.55
IPERS		\$ 2,178.40
FICA	Federal Withholding	\$ 3,090.88
State of Iowa	State Withholding	\$ 275.95
Wellmark Health Ins.	Vision Ins.	\$ 25.56
IA Workforce Development	Unemployment	\$ 40.71
ACCO Unlimited Corp	Liquid Chlorine	\$ 304.80
AgriLand FS	Fuel	\$ 73.30
Agsource Laboratories	Water/Swr Test	\$ 711.25
Alliant Energy	Utilities	\$ 4,286.95
Amazon	Books/DVD	\$ 225.84
Blass, Gwen	Mileage	\$ 18.90
Canon Financial Service	Copier Lease	\$ 93.91
Casey Mutual Telephone	Phone	\$ 272.81
CWT Fire Assn	FY2026 Services	\$ 10,000.00
Des Moines Win Supply	Wtr Chemicals	\$ 212.32
Guthrie Automotive	Bldg Mnt	\$ 10.19
Guthrie Co Abstract	Abstract Fee	\$ 175.00
Guthrie Co REC	Utilities	\$ 321.68
IA DNR	Annl Wtr Use Fee	\$ 115.00
IA DOT	Salt	\$ 1,027.26
IMFOA	Reg Fees	\$ 150.00
Jacobsen's Inc	Wtr Line/Equip Rpr	\$ 380.25
Kanopy	Movies	\$ 4.00
Midwest Office Tech	Copy Fees	\$ 42.38
Municipal Supply	Water Meters	\$ 1,304.00
Schildberg Construction	Rock	\$ 193.04
Sheeder Fencing & Land Services	Grapple	\$ 609.55
Smith, Michael	Comm Bldg Cleaning	\$ 135.00
Sun Life Ins	Life Ins	\$ 66.44
The Adair News	Publications	\$ 154.34
Treasurer, State of IA	WET Tax	\$ 664.62
Utility Service Co	Standpipe Tank	\$ 2,308.67
Viking Automatic Sprinkler	Annl Monitoring Fee/Spklr Rpr	\$ 1,485.00
Visa	Software	\$ 13.90
Weeks, Meggen	Atty Fees	\$ 220.00
Wellmark Health Ins.	Hlth Ins	\$ 5,671.11

Totals by Fund	Revenue	Expenses
General Fund	\$ 12,173.77	\$ 19,981.83
Library	\$ 1,250.37	\$ 1,409.14
Road Use	\$ 5,116.16	\$ 3,085.89
Employee Benefits	\$ 4,586.70	\$ 4,485.67
LOST – Streets	\$ 2,015.76	
LOST – Parks	\$ 2,015.75	\$ 609.55
TIF	\$ 571.95	
Debt Service	\$ 292.05	

Capital Fund 301 City Hall	\$	\$ 945.00
Water	\$ 12,247.05	\$ 10,857.36
Sewer	\$ 9,621.63	\$ 6,734.12

Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to approve the FY25 Annual Urban Renewal Report; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to approve the FY25 Annual Financial Report; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller. Motion by Acker second by Blake to approve Resolution #2025-13 to hire Librarian and set compensation; Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Wedemeyer, Acker, and Blake, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Motion by Wedemeyer second by Acker to allow Casey Historical Society to replace Visitor Center door according to bid submitted for \$2385.76; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to approve Veenstra and Kimm pay estimate for Smith Construction retainage in the amount of \$25,565.13; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Motion by Blake second by Acker to approve the CDBG Water Main Improvement Project GAX #10 draw request for \$16,625.00; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to approve the SRF Loan Distribution Request Claim Draw #9 for the Water Main Improvement Project for \$12,664.13; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Employee performance evaluations were discussed. Council would like to see employee wages brought closer to the local average and feels both employees perform their duties well. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Acker to give a 7% raise to Tim Knapp and Gwen Blass effective October 6, 2025; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Public Works Director starting wage expectation were discussed. Council stated that wage would vary depending on what certifications the new employee has. Council would start at a base pay and add \$1.00 per hour for each certification received to keep wages close to the local average. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to have Public Works Director perspective starting pay range from \$27.00 to \$32.00 per hour; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Discussion held regarding Draman nuisance properties. Joey Draman informed council that he is working with a potential buyer for 606 Wallace St. Joey is also working with Guthrie County to start the Estate process for property at 105 W 3rd St to get it titled into his name. He is working on selling this property with the stipulation that the existing nuisance violations be removed by potential buyer in a timely manner. Joey also requested that the council remove the CDBG lien on the property to help get the property sold. Motion by Blake second by Wedemeyer to agree to forgive the CDBG lien with stipulation in purchase agreement that the buyer agrees to remove the house within 60 days of date of closing; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller. Council would like the clerk to verify this with Region 12 COG.

Jennifer Ackerson a Mi-Tech right of way agent presented two easement requests for the Alliant Energy underground line project in Casey. Easement #005 is a buried line located at parcel #0001132700 and Easement #016 is buried line and an electric box located at parcel #0001131001 on the West side of Water Plant building. Motion by Acker second by Wedemeyer to approve easements #005 and #016 with MiTech Co.; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller. Jennifer will get more details regarding the needs for the pot hole dump site.

Blass provided a written clerks report. Blass reminded council she will be gone Oct 15th thru 17th at the IMFOA meeting in Des Moines, discussed need for a budget amendment for Water Project retainage payment and Community Building sprinkler system, setting a date for the public works interviews, Guthrie County Youth Foundation dues, vacation request and presented the recently revised Guthrie County ordinance on animal control. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to approve Resolution #2025-14 setting the date for Budget Amendment Public Hearing for November 3, 2025; Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to set the date of October 13, 2025 for public works interviews starting at 5:00 pm; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to pay Guthrie County Youth Foundation dues; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller. Motion by Blake second by Wedemeyer to approve vacation of October 30th – 31st and November 25th – December 1st for Blass; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

Mayor Vorm and Tim Knapp updated council about water and sewer systems. Vorm inquired about the need to continue to put Fluoride into the Casey water system since it is hazardous and not required by State or Federal government. Council agreed they would like to continue to have Fluoride in the water system. Vorm and Blass informed council that IA DNR has approved the application to have Jon Welker perform public works Affidavit duties on a weekly basis for the City of Casey. Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to set pay of \$400 per month for the Public Works Affidavit until Casey no longer needs an Affidavit; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.

No Public Forum.  
Motion by Wedemeyer second by Blake to adjourn at 8:37 pm; Ayes – Blake, Acker and Wedemeyer, Absent – Richter and Schiller.  
ATTEST: Bruce Vorm, Mayor; Gwen Blass, City Clerk

Home Fire Prevention Tips

House fires can be devastating, but taking proactive steps can significantly reduce the risk.

Learn how to safeguard your home and loved ones with these fire prevention tips in honor of Fire Prevention Month.

Install and Maintain Smoke Alarms

Smoke alarms are your first line of defense in case of a fire. They provide early warning, giving you and your family time to evacuate. Ensure you have smoke alarms installed on every level of your home, including inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Test your smoke alarms monthly to make sure they're working properly and replace the batteries at least once a year. If your smoke alarms are more than 10 years old, consider replacing them to ensure optimal performance.

Create an Emergency Evacuation Plan

Sit down with your family and create a detailed plan that includes an exit strategy (or two) from every room in your home. Make sure everyone knows where to meet outside and practice your evacuation plan regularly.

Prevent Kitchen Fires

Cooking is the leading cause of house fires in the United States, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) with fire departments responding to more than 170,000 home cooking fires annually. Always stay in the kitchen while frying, grilling or broiling, and keep flammable items such as potholders, paper towels and wooden utensils away from the cooking area. Additionally, clean your stove and oven regularly to prevent grease buildup, which can catch fire, and keep a fire extinguisher within easy reach.

Keep Flammable Materials at Bay

Store gasoline, propane and other flammable liquids in approved containers and keep them in a well-ventilated area, away from heat sources and out of reach of children. Ensure your home is free of excessive clutter, especially in the basement, attic and garage, which can fuel a fire and make it harder to escape.

Maintain Electrical Safety

To help prevent electrical fires - electrical distribution or lighting equipment ranks third among

causes for home fires, according to the NFPA - regularly inspect your home's electrical system. Look for frayed wires, overloaded outlets and malfunctioning appliances. Avoid using extension cords as a permanent solution and never run them under rugs or furniture. Additionally, make sure to use light bulbs with the correct wattage for your fixtures.

Find more tips to help keep your home safe at eLivingtoday.com.

Pumpkin Crumble

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy"  
Servings: 8-12

- 1 can pumpkin
- 1 can evaporated milk
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tablespoon pumpkin spice
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 box cake mix (yellow, white or spice)
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans
- 3/4 cup chopped white chocolate chips
- 1 1/2 cups melted butter

Whipped Cream:  
1 cup heavy whipping cream  
2 tablespoons sugar

Heat oven to 350 F.

In bowl, mix pumpkin, evaporated milk, brown sugar, eggs, pumpkin spice and cinnamon. Pour into greased 9-by-11-inch baking dish.

In separate bowl, mix cake mix, pecans and white chocolate chips. Sprinkle over pumpkin mixture. Pour butter evenly over top. Do not mix or stir. Bake 1 hour.

To make whipped cream: Using hand mixer, whip heavy whipping cream and sugar until thick. Serve crumble with whipped cream.

Deadline . . .

Deadline for news and advertising is 4:00 p.m. on Friday.

More Collaboration Than Competition

Tami Schechinger, General Manager  
Harlan Publishing, LLC

One of the best-kept secrets about the rural newspaper industry is how much we lean on each other. From the outside, people might assume we're competitors, each one fighting for our own slice of the market. But the truth is, there's more room for collaboration than competition.

Just last week, when our press went down in the middle of production, fellow newspapers stepped up, offering their skills and support to help us get back on track. In what other industry do you see people from another "competing" business roll up their sleeves to make sure your deadlines are met?

The teamwork doesn't stop there. Our sportswriters regularly swap photos and coverage across districts to ensure every athlete gets recognized, even if one of us can't be in two gyms or stadiums at once. It's not about who gets the byline—it's about making sure small-town kids and their communities see their stories told.

That's what makes rural newspapers so special. They're built by people who understand that community matters more than competition, and that helping each other is the surest way to keep local journalism strong.

It's also why your support matters. When you subscribe, advertise, or simply pick up a copy each week, you're not just keeping one newspaper alive—you're helping sustain a network of community journalism that's stronger together. Local papers lift up our towns, and sometimes, they lift each other up too.

Upcoming Women in Ag Leadership Conference Inspires Resilience

Early bird registration is available through Nov. 10

AMES, Iowa – The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Women in Ag Leadership Conference is open to all. This year's theme, "Leading with Resilience," reflects the strength, perseverance and innovation of women who are shaping the future of agriculture.

Organized by an advisory committee of past attendees, the two-day event begins on Wednesday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and continues on Thursday, Dec. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We have planned an incredible lineup of speakers and workshops. Whether you are a farm producer or work in agriculture, whether you're young or old and whether you've been farming for five years or 50, we have something for everyone," said Luci Sheriff, advisory committee member.

Attending from Oregon, American Farmland Trust social science director and Women for the Land advisor Gabrielle McNally will open the conference. Her storytelling and shared wisdom aim to encourage women to lead with confidence.

Campus tours of Iowa State University will offer a glimpse into innovative research. Attendees can choose from a variety of topics, including greenhouses, drones, horses, forestry, winemaking, the ISU Creamery, the Ag 450 Farm or Jack Trice Stadium's turfgrass.

Next, the intensive workshop series will feature interactive mentoring, a women managing farmland panel, crisis incident management exercises and strategies for leading with excellence. A message from Brenda Clark Hamilton, founder of Fresh Coffee Professional Growth Programs, will conclude the first day.

On Thursday morning, keynote speaker Kiley Fleming, founder of outSIGHTin and executive director at Iowa Mediation Services, will deliver an uplifting message to inspire attendees to face challenges with strength and resilience.

The Women in Ag program will also recognize the 2025 Women Impacting Ag honorees: Tamara Deal, Darcy

Deadline . . .

Deadline for news and advertising is 4:00 p.m. on Friday.

Get in the holiday spirit with Studio 3 LIVE

Two special recording sessions featuring Michael Londra

JOHNSTON, Iowa (October 6, 2025) - Studio 3 LIVE, Iowa PBS's signature music series, invites you to get in the holiday spirit with an unforgettable Irish celebration. Join Michael Londra, acclaimed tenor and host of Ireland With Michael, as he shares beloved Irish favorites and traditional holiday songs you know and love. This Yuletide special blends enchanting melodies, stories of Irish Christmases, pipes and fiddles, and a special appearance by Riverdance's own Brandon Asazawa.

On Saturday, November 15, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., Iowa PBS will host two special recording sessions of An Irish Christmas With Michael Londra, which will be highlighted in this season of Studio 3 LIVE. Audience members will have the unique opportunity to be part of the live studio experience as these performances are filmed.

Tickets for general admission are \$40 each. To reserve tickets, visit iowapbs.org/events or call 800.779.7000.

Studio 3 LIVE: An Irish Christmas With Michael Londra will premiere on Iowa PBS on December 19 at 8:30 p.m., with an encore broadcast on December 28 at 8:30 p.m.

Moulsby, Natalie Paino and Loretta Reimers.

The afternoon panel will focus on advances in regenerative agriculture, featuring Keri Carstens, CEO for Jord Bio Science, and Lisa Schulte Moore, ISU Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture and Life Sciences and co-director of the Bioeconomy Institute.

Additionally, Thursday's breakout sessions will offer important insights and discussions on agricultural policy, financial security, team building, career mentoring, estate planning, farm safety, workplace challenges and farming's financial situation.

Capstone speaker Julie Kenney will share a powerful message of leadership and resilience. As CEO of the Agribusiness Association of Iowa and a 2024 Women Impacting Agriculture award recipient, Kenney exemplifies dedication to the industry and a commitment to empowering others.

Registration

Early bird registration is available through Nov. 10. Regular registration is \$160 for adults and \$70 for students. After Nov. 10, fees will increase by \$20. Scholarships may be requested. For more information, view the full event program.

Support from Farm Credit Services of America and other sponsors allows the Women in Ag Leadership Conference to remain accessible for all attendees. Farm businesses and organizations are encouraged to become attendance sponsors by registering four or more participants to join the experience.

About the Women in Ag program

The ISU Extension and Outreach Women in Ag program improves the quality of life in Iowa by providing research-based educational programs to expand agricultural enterprise, improve natural resource management and support the community of women in agriculture. Visit the Women in Ag program website to learn more.

For more information, contact Madeline Schultz at schultz@iastate.edu or Lisa Scarbrough at lscarb@iastate.edu.