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Winterset City Council March 3, 2026

The City Council of the City of Winterset, Iowa met on March 3, 2026 in accordance with the above Notice and Call of Public meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7 P.M. by Mayor Pro Tem Fairholm and recited the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENT: Michael Cook, Christopher Fairholm, Michael Eller, Mike Fletcher, Mary Ann Orr

ABSENT: Mayor Leners

Mayor Pro Tem asked for a motion to adopt the presented agenda. There being no further additions or deletions to the agenda and no further discussion, Council Member Cook made a motion, seconded by Council Member Eller. On roll call vote, all Council Members present voted Aye.

Public Comment – Individuals wishing to speak shall sign up prior to the meeting. When called upon please stand and give your address for the record. Each person may speak for up to three minutes. Please professionally and tactfully express your specific concerns and not disrespect individuals.

The Mayor Pro Tem noted that no one had signed up for public comment at this time.

Consent Agenda

The Mayor Pro Tem stated that the minutes of the February 16, 2026 City Council meeting were previously distributed to the Council Members for their review. There being no further discussion; a motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by Council Member Orr and seconded by Council Member Fletcher to approve the minutes as submitted. On roll call vote, all Council Members voted Aye.

Claims

The claims submitted are in the amount of \$48,525.21

The Mayor Pro Tem called for a report on the claims. Council Member Eller stated that he reviewed the claims and moved to approve the following list of claims. Council Member Cook seconded the motion. On roll call vote, all Council Members voted Aye.

Reports from City Boards and Departments

Street Superintendent Ryan Flaherty provided written report to council highlighting collaboration with Parks and Recreation expanding and improving parking at Giffin field with dirt and rock. Other information provided included snow costs for this year with comparable amounts and differing amounts. Further discussion about sod repair was held.

Library Director Dave Hargrove reported hosting tax prep assistance program. Preparing for construction of small group meeting spaces. Preparing a Library Early Out (LEO) program for Fall 2026. Just completed state library accreditation process; Winterset has an outstanding library!

Park & Recreation Director Sky Smothers provided updates on the design and review, grant applications have been submitted. Park improvements include Giffin Field parking lot, playground equipment clean up, tree trimming,

new lighting at city park, and new pedestals at camping sites. Assistance from WMU Electric and Street Department was noted and appreciated. Recreation programs included COED volleyball, youth basketball, baseball clinic, basketball camp, youth tee ball, and completed programs include father-daughter dance, mother-son nerf war. Pool passes are on sale and staffing is full. Easter egg hunt is on April 4, 2026 at 11 a.m. Friends of the Parks and Recreation have met and surpassed their fundraising goal for Carver Park allowing improvements to amenities and ensuring the mural is painted. Further efforts include the flower fund and increasing the plants for the coming year from years past.

Fire Chief Jayson McDonald was unable to attend but did provide report via Administrator Barden including calls for service (29) and 21 of those being grass fires. Further noting a new member, Zach Rinkert was welcomed to the ranks.

Police Chief Ryan Pittman provided written report and highlighted community involvement, training completed, 20 parking citations during snow event, and pending hiring an officer.

City Administrators Report was provided to council and included the efforts of city staff and appreciation. Remarketing of obligatory meeting attendance, assistance to citizens, business owners, and elected persons on a variety of items, and completing required reports and correspondence.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing on the proposed amendment to the Winterset Urban Renewal Area

A motion was made by Council Member Orr to enter into public hearing; the motion was seconded by Council Member Cook There being no further discussion; on roll call vote, all Council Members present voted Aye.

Whereupon the Mayor Pro Tem declared that the motion carried.

Public Hearing was entered at 7:19 p.m.

Notice of Publication was on file; no written protests were received.

A citizen from 54 E Washington expressed discontent with the pending amendment and concerns related to property tax rates, inflation, and cost being too high.

A motion was made by Council Member Eller to exit public hearing; the motion was seconded by Council Member Fletcher. There being no further discussion; on roll call vote, all Council Members present voted aye.

Whereupon the Mayor Pro Tem declared that the motion carried.

Public Hearing was exited at 7:21 p.m.

Resolutions and Actions

A motion was made by Council Member Eller to approve Resolution No. 2026-10 a Resolution to Approve Urban Renewal Plan Amendment for the Winterset Urban Renewal Area seconded by Council Member Cook. At which time Administrator Barden reminded council of previous URA amendments to add the city property to the URA. This action would amend the Urban Renewal Area Plan for previously explained area and grant the authority to utilize Tax Increment Funds under Chapter 403 of the Iowa Code for incurrence of debt obligation and reimbursement. Further discussion related to the city council committing \$16M of

TIF funds to the project and charged the fundraising committee to produce the \$4M balance or reduce the project costs. There being no further discussion; On roll call vote, all Council Members voted Aye.

A motion was made by Council Member Eller to approve Resolution No. 2026-11 a Resolution setting the date for a public hearing and additional action on proposal to enter into a General Obligation Urban Renewal Loan Agreement and to borrow money thereunder seconded by Council Member Fletcher. There being no further discussion; On roll call vote, all Council Members voted Aye.

A motion was made by Council Member Eller to approve Resolution No. 2026-12 a Resolution for setting the date of public hearing for the proposed property tax levy 2026-2027 budget seconded by Council Member Orr. There being no further discussion; On roll call vote, all Council Members voted Aye.

A motion was made by Council Member Fletcher to approve Resolution No. 2026-13 A Resolution Approving The Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement Between The City Of Winterset, Iowa And Teamsters Local 238 seconded by Council Member Eller. There being no further discussion; On roll call vote, all Council Members voted Aye.

A motion was made by Council Member Orr to approve Resolution No. 2026-14 A Resolution Awarding The Request For Proposals (RFP) For Professional Audit Services To Denman CPA LLP seconded by Council Member Fletcher. There being no further discussion; On roll call vote, all Council Members voted Aye.

Closed Session

Per Iowa Code § 21.5(1)(c), government bodies may hold closed sessions to discuss strategy with legal counsel regarding active or imminent litigation if open discussion would disadvantage the body's position.

A motion was made by Council Member Orr to enter closed session seconded by Council Member Eller. There being no further discussion; on roll call vote, all Council Members present voted Aye.

Whereupon the Mayor Pro Tem declared that the motion carried and entered closed session at 7:34 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Cook to exit the closed session, seconded by Council Member Eller. There being no further discussion; on roll call vote, all Council Members present voted Aye.

Whereupon the Mayor Pro Tem declared that the motion carried and exited closed session at 7:58 p.m.

Council Considerations, Discussions, and Work Session

No discussion was held

The Adjournment

There being no further business, Council Member Cook then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Council Member Fletcher. All Council Members voted Aye.

Whereupon the Mayor Pro Tem declared that the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

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POLICE:	GENERAL	contract	40.00	AIRPORT:		Warren Water District, reading fees	25.00
Galls LLC, uniforms	152.95	Orkin, pest control	1,112.72	Winterset Airport Authority, appropriation	5,055.83	Winterset Municipal Utilities, utilities	1,494.90
Madison County Sheriff, dispatch services	7,500.00	Unplugged Wireless LLC, base radio	350.52	INTERNAL SERVICE FUND			
Winterset Municipal Utilities, utilities	101.80	Verizon Wireless, cellular service	611.68	ADMINISTRATION:		ROADWAY MAINTENANCE:	
FIRE:		Winterset Municipal Utilities, utilities	273.71	Ahlers & Cooney PC, professional services	814.50	Bomgaars Supply, supplies	66.87
Brittains Standard Parts, repairs	62.55	ADMINISTRATION:		D&D Pest Control, pest control	45.00	Winterset Municipal Utilities, utilities	1,595.89
Card Services, supplies	392.91	Iowa League of Cities, conference	310.00	First Citizens Bank & Trust Co, copier lease	1,218.23	SEWER UTILITY FUND	
CenturyLink, phone service	309.85	Office of Auditor of State, filing fees	1,250.00	GreatAmerica Financial Services, server lease	317.93	SANITARY SEWER:	
Country Cycle, repairs	338.90	SICOG, membership	9,367.75	Mediacom, phone/internet service	564.99	Allender Butzke Engineers Inc, WWTF	
Mediacom, phone/internet service	579.56	Winterset Madisonian, publications	351.08	MMIT Business Solutions Group, monthly contract	36.49	Improvements	790.04
MMIT Business Solutions Group, monthly		ECON. DEVELOPMENT:		Quadient Finance USA Inc, postage	600.00	Utility Equipment Co, Repairs	205.24
		Madison County Alliance Group, appropriation	4,697.92	Quill Corporation, office supplies	285.22	Winterset Municipal Utilities, utilities	7,505.18



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