

CITY OF KEOTA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 19, 2026

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Keota City Hall

1. Call to Order

Mayor Ryan Carr called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor Carr, Heath McDonald, Chad Greiner, Keith Conrad, and John Mather.

Council Members Absent: Matt Greiner.

Staff Present: City Clerk Bruns, Public Works Director Harmsen, and Librarian Greiner.

Staff Absent: Assistant City Clerk Clarke.

Public Present: Janie Westendorf, Steve Morse

2. Consent Agenda

Amendments to the Agenda: None.

a. Approval of Agenda

Motion by John Mather, seconded by Heath McDonald, to approve the agenda.

b. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Motion by Keith Conrad, seconded by Heath McDonald, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

c. Approval of Bills

Motion by John Mather, seconded by Heath McDonald, to approve the bills.

3. Department Reports

a. Public Works

Public Works Director Harmsen provided the following updates:

- Tremmel has been in town twice. Five water shutoffs requiring replacement have been completed.
- A significant water leak near Clarahan's truck shed on the west side of town was repaired.

- Kevin is attending a water conference through Thursday to complete continuing education requirements.
- Staff have been working on winterization and late-season maintenance throughout town.
- A possible water leak has been identified on East White Avenue. Tremmel is expected to return this week to address the issue.
- Seasonal mowing and weed trimming are beginning to slow down.
- Alliant Energy notified the City that the streetlight bill is expected to increase by approximately \$600 per month.

Water Plant / ION / HR Green

The City has communicated with HR Green regarding the Wapello Rural Water option and provided the information needed to continue evaluating the possibility.

The water system is currently operating normally.

Lagoons

Iowa Rural Water has not yet been able to bring a boat on-site to repair the lagoon diffuser. The City will coordinate the repair as soon as possible.

The annual step-feed adjustment for the SAGR system is currently in progress.

b. Library

Librarian Greiner reported that library programs continue to go well, including coffee gatherings, chair yoga, quilting, and Fun Fridays.

The boiler was inspected last week and appears to be operating properly.

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 26, at 6:00 p.m.

The library's Halloween party will be held Thursday, October 29, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Keokuk County Health will be at the library on November 5 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. to provide information about available services.

c. Law Enforcement

The Council received an update regarding correspondence from Caleb Detweiler concerning a proposed 28E agreement with the Sigourney Police Department.

4. Resolutions and Ordinances

Resolution No. 2026-55: Cemetery Plot for Christopher Cheney

Motion by Keith Conrad, seconded by John Mather, to approve Resolution No. 2026-55, authorizing the cemetery plot for Christopher Cheney. Matt Greiner was absent.

Resolution No. 2026-56: Authorizing Sponsorship for the KCCEF Grant – Keota Historical Museum

Motion by Keith Conrad, seconded by Heath McDonald, to approve Resolution No. 2026-56, authorizing sponsorship for the KCCEF grant application for the Keota Historical Museum. Matt Greiner was absent.

5. New Business

a. Discussion/Possible Action – Melanie Bimson, WEDG: Water Project Grant Opportunities

Melanie Bimson discussed her role with WEDG and reviewed available funding opportunities related to the City's water system planning and potential water projects.

No action was taken.

b. Discussion/Possible Action – Bridget Greiner Payroll

The Council discussed payroll matters concerning Bridget Greiner.

Motion by John Mather, seconded by Heath McDonald, regarding the payroll matter. Chad Greiner abstained from the discussion and/or vote.

c. Discussion – 28E Agreement with the Sigourney Police Department

The Council discussed the proposed 28E agreement with the Sigourney Police Department. Chad Greiner, Keith Conrad, and Mayor Ryan Carr will meet with Adam Clark to discuss the agreement further.

6. Council Comments

Chad Greiner: Commended staff for their work and noted that nuisance letters have resulted in improvements at several properties. He stated that progress is being made and expressed interest in meeting with Adam Clark to discuss the proposed 28E agreement.

Heath McDonald: Reminded the Council that code enforcement training is scheduled for Thursday, October 22, at 6:00 p.m. in Sigourney. He also reported a dog-related incident that occurred Saturday in which a dog described as vicious chased a child riding a bicycle and bit the child's pant leg. The situation will be addressed.

John Mather: Noted that several properties are beginning to show improvement.

Keith Conrad: Discussed safety concerns and recommended documenting questions for Adam Clark regarding code enforcement. He provided an update on the Broadway Avenue buildings that had been inspected by an engineer. He also discussed the audit and stated that a work session is needed to review the audit information.

Conrad further updated the Council on the sale of a City-owned lot to the Hardt family. An issue with the abstract has delayed the closing, and the closing date has been extended.

7. Public Forum

Steve Morrison asked whether nuisance letters had been sent to properties on Lincoln Street. The Council confirmed that letters had been sent to several properties but did not disclose specific names or addresses.

8. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Carr provided an update on Keota's sports teams.

Mayor Carr also read a letter from local business owner Lori Hammes concerning the sidewalk on Broadway Avenue.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Keith Conrad, seconded by John Mather, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at **7:51 p.m.**

Mayor Ryan Carr

Hunter Bruns, City Clerk