

Keota City Council Meeting

June 15, 2026 – 7:00 pm

Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

Council Members Present: H. McDonald, C. Greiner, J. Mather, K. Conrad (arrived at 7:02 p.m.)

Council Members Absent: M. Greiner

Staff Present: Clerk Hunter Bruns, Public Works Director Micah Harmsen, Librarian Toni Greiner

Public Present: Diana Mather, Lori Hammes, Janie Westendorf, Josh (ION)

2. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Agenda

Motion by McDonald, seconded by Mather. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion by C. Greiner, seconded by Mather. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Bills

Motion by Conrad, seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works Report

Public Works Director Harmsen reported that Keota Fun Days was a success and thanked the countless volunteers who helped make the event run smoothly.

On June 5, the sewer line at City Hall became backed up. Tremmel Plumbing unplugged the line and utilized a camera to locate the issue. A broken joint was discovered in the sewer line. Public Works plans to excavate and repair the line near the City Hall intersection on June 17.

The Wilson Park Shelter project is complete except for interior painting. New picnic tables were moved into the shelter last week.

Due to recent rainfall, Public Works has been busy mowing, weed eating, and spraying throughout the community.

Approximately 95% of the City's storm drains were cleaned and opened last week.

The city dump remains busy due to recent storm damage debris. Operations at the pool continue to run smoothly, and the splash pad was opened on June 3.

Tremmel Plumbing was in town on June 10 to repair a water shutoff at a residence scheduled for closing.

ION Report

Water Plant

ION reported that during the recent sanitary survey, discussions were held regarding the high flows and multiple daily regenerations of the water softener and how those conditions have impacted some chlorine readings.

To further evaluate the issue, representatives from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) met on-site on June 9, 2026, to review system operations and chlorine monitoring data. While the City is consistently meeting required chlorine residual levels the vast majority of the time, chlorine readings occasionally decrease during softener regeneration cycles, resulting in brief periods when readings may not meet required levels.

The DNR encouraged increased monitoring efforts. As a result, additional chlorine testing will be conducted at multiple locations throughout the day to better understand system performance and identify any trends related to the regeneration process.

Lagoons

ION reported no issues with the lagoon system. Operations continue to run smoothly.

Library Report

Librarian Greiner reported that approximately 20 children per day are attending the Summer Reading Program.

The next Summer Reading Program event, "**Bubbles**," will be held Monday. Last week's program featured reptiles, including snakes and lizards, and was well attended.

Bridget Greiner participated in the Keota Fun Days Parade with a library float.

The next Library Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

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4. RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Resolution No. 2026-41

Approving Purchase of Cameras for Public Water Hookups

Motion by Mather, seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2026-42

Cemetery Plot Transfer to Cathy Loman

Motion by Conrad, seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2026-43

Area 15 Regional Planning Commission Agreement

Motion by C. Greiner, seconded by Conrad. Motion carried.

Voting on Resolutions: All ayes. M. Greiner absent.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bridget Greiner Payroll Approval

Motion by Conrad, seconded by Mather, to approve payroll for Bridget Greiner.

Voting:

- Ayes: McDonald, Conrad, Mather
- Abstain: C. Greiner

Motion carried.

B. Water Bill Late Fee Charge

Mather moved to change the water bill late fee to a flat rate of **\$15.00**, effective July 1, 2026. Seconded by Conrad.

Motion carried.

C. Sewer Regulation Discussion

Conrad moved to place sewer regulations on the July 6, 2026, agenda for discussion and to hold a work session at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular meeting. Seconded by Mather.

Motion carried.

D. Mia Conrad Payroll Approval

Motion by Mather, seconded by McDonald, to approve payroll for Mia Conrad.

Voting:

- Ayes: McDonald, Mather, C. Greiner
- Abstain: Conrad

Motion carried.

E. Ava and Marlee Greiner Payroll Approval

Motion by Conrad, seconded by McDonald, to approve payroll for Ava Greiner and Marlee Greiner.

Voting:

- Ayes: McDonald, Conrad, Mather
- Absent: M. Greiner

Motion carried.

F. Business Water Billing Rate

Mather moved to charge businesses the same water rate as residential customers at **\$0.01 per gallon** of water usage.

Seconded by Conrad.

Motion carried.

6. COUNCIL COMMENTS

C. Greiner

Greiner thanked everyone who helped make Keota Fun Days a success. He also stated that he would work on locating a leak detector to assist with identifying water system issues.

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K. Conrad

Conrad stated that sewer regulations are also an issue, not just water rates. He suggested the City obtain a utility rate study to ensure the City is not losing money and emphasized the need to take a comprehensive look at both water and sewer operations.

J. Mather

Mather thanked everyone involved in Keota Fun Days. He also reported speaking with Fire Chief Ryan Sieren, who will provide information regarding the Fire Department's water usage.

7. PUBLIC FORUM

Lori Hammes

Hammes thanked the City Council, City staff, and volunteers for their work during Keota Fun Days and expressed appreciation for Public Works Director Micah Harmsen and his efforts.

Hammes inquired about sidewalk repairs and possible grant opportunities near Fiddle Dee Dee. She also discussed the downtown revitalization presentation held in Keota on June 3 and shared that one of her key takeaways was that residential housing should not face Broadway Avenue in the downtown business district. She emphasized the importance of maintaining storefront businesses with public operating hours and noted her familiarity with Community Catalyst grants, offering assistance to future applicants.

Hammes encouraged the community to repurpose older buildings into active businesses and expressed interest in establishing a Hometown Pride Committee in Keota.

Diana Mather

Mather expressed concerns regarding the lack of law enforcement presence in Keota and requested the topic be placed on a future agenda for discussion. She stated that on Saturday evening she witnessed two children nearly being struck by a vehicle and noted concerns about drivers running stop signs at high rates of speed.

Mather also requested consideration of installing a trash receptacle at the small park near the library and stated that she regularly picks up litter when she sees it.

8. MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Carr thanked Micah Harmsen for his work during Keota Fun Days and thanked all volunteers, participants, and community members who contributed to the event's success.

Mayor Carr remarked that **"it takes a community to be a community."**

He also expressed interest in discussing the possibility of forming a Hometown Pride Committee with Lori Hammes.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Conrad, seconded by McDonald, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Ryan Carr, Mayor

Attest:

Hunter Bruns, City Clerk

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Payroll 6.15.26

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Aller, Jessalyn | 343.69 |
| ALTENHOFEN, CHERYL | 66.61 |
| Baker, Blake | 159.76 |
| Bruns, Hunter S | 1,612.26 |
| Cave, Hadley M | 241.42 |
| Clarke, Kristen | 931.48 |
| Conger, Emily R | 417.27 |
| Detweiler, Lexus | 323.13 |
| Dodd, Drew L | 313.60 |
| Dubishar, Holly | 1,335.75 |
| Galindo, Allie M | 219.70 |
| Galindo, Aubrey | 73.14 |
| Galindo, Ayden | 355.55 |
| Greiner, Aidan | 296.49 |
| GREINER, ASHLEY | 78.83 |
| Greiner, Jack L | 578.88 |
| GREINER, TONIA | 1,329.24 |
| HARMSSEN, MICAH | 1,883.30 |
| Heisdorffer, Halle A | 149.17 |
| Kerr, Tesla | 311.59 |
| Libe, Jacob A | 378.34 |
| Lyle, Elyse M. | 388.55 |
| Lyle, Olivia S. | 585.68 |
| Peterson, Maddox J | 445.10 |
| Phillips, Myra | 70.65 |
| Redlinger, Dacin | 302.46 |
| Redlinger, Jaylah M. | 246.24 |
| Sieren, Gavin | 556.97 |
| SLAUBAUGH, KEVIN L. | 1,890.10 |
| Sprouse, Grayson | 293.84 |
| Total | 17,587.27 |

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|---------------------|--------|
| Conrad, Mia A | 279.02 |
| Greiner, Bridget M. | 309.82 |
| Greiner, Ava K. | 51.45 |
| Greiner, Marlee F. | 251.37 |

Bills Pd 6.15.26

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| All American Pest Control | 06/15/26 | \$70.00 |
| ANDY ROMOSER | 06/15/26 | \$11,360.07 |
| AREA 15 REGIONAL PLANNING COMM | 06/15/26 | \$493.35 |
| ATWOOD ELEC. | 06/15/26 | \$37.09 |
| BRETT ROMOSER | 06/15/26 | \$3,255.70 |
| CARGILL, INC. | 06/15/26 | \$6,550.74 |
| Cloudburst 9 | 06/15/26 | \$293.93 |
| FRENCH-RENEKER-ASSC. | 06/15/26 | \$899.75 |
| Iowa Newspaper Association | 06/15/26 | \$134.18 |
| IOWA RURAL WATER ASSN. | 06/15/26 | \$260.00 |
| LIBERTYVILLE SAVINGS BANK | 06/15/26 | \$12,510.00 |
| Malley Hardware & Variety | 06/15/26 | \$427.19 |
| MENARDS | 06/15/26 | \$167.28 |
| NATE TRIER | 06/15/26 | \$2,100.00 |
| Pool World, LLC | 06/15/26 | \$2,442.78 |
| R & S Plumbing | 06/15/26 | \$1,038.78 |
| REDLINGER REPAIR | 06/15/26 | \$205.00 |
| RIVER PRODUCTS COMPANY | 06/15/26 | \$132.08 |
| SEMCO LANDFILL | 06/15/26 | \$5,896.80 |
| SINCLAIR TRACTOR - SIGOURNEY | 06/15/26 | \$48.64 |
| STATE HYGIENIC LAB | 06/15/26 | \$15.50 |
| Sweet Doe Company LLC | 06/15/26 | \$288.00 |
| TOWN & COUNTRY WHOLESALE CO | 06/15/26 | \$904.40 |
| UNITED STATES POST OFFICE | 06/15/26 | \$156.00 |
| US CELLULAR | 06/15/26 | \$220.65 |
| US FIRST | 06/15/26 | \$87.32 |
| WAPELLO RURAL WATER ASSOCIATIO | 06/15/26 | \$110.53 |
| YOTTYS INC | 06/15/26 | \$300.00 |
| Total Checks | | \$50,405.76 |

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