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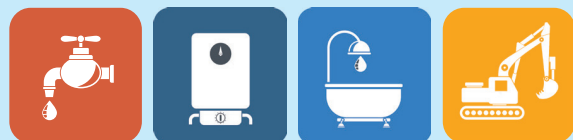
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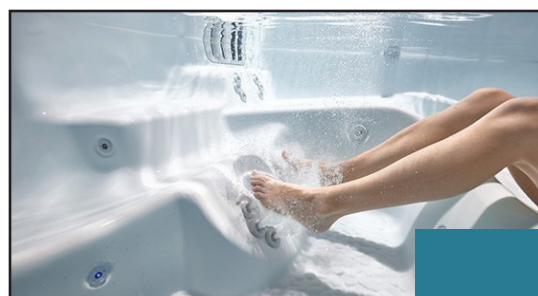


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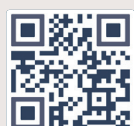
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Public Notice
City of Waverly City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2025 ~ 7:00 p.m.

A.Regular meeting of the Waverly City Council was held on October 20, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Anderson presided. Council members present: Birgen, Drenkow, Jones, Kangas, Meyers (Participated via telephone, and Wolff. Absent: Rathe

A.Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order.

B.Mayor Anderson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C.Moved by Kangas, seconded by Birgen to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

D.Moved by Wolff, seconded by Jones to approve the October 6, 2025 regular meeting minutes.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

E. Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation.

1.Council recognized Douglas Benschoter for his service from July 20, 2020 – March 28, 2025 on the Waverly Planning and Zoning Commission.

F.Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda

•Matthew Schneider expressed concerns to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) three lanes – four lanes conversion of Bremer Avenue. He criticized aspects of the complete streets and traffic studies as “Mickey Mouse funny business” though he clarified his fondness for Mickey Mouse – just not in traffic planning.

G.Consent Calendar

1.Pay Request number 4 from Woodruff Construction, LLC for the Waverly Aquatic Center for \$353,349.77.

2.Pay Request from Bolton & Menk, Inc. for General Engineering Services for the amount of \$6,675.00.

3.Pay Request from Bolton & Menk for the Waverly/Power Plant Revision & Repair for \$20,311.50.

4.Cash Disbursements for August, 2025.

5.Class C Retail Alcohol License for Prairie Links Golf and Event Center.

Moved by Drenkow, seconded by Jones to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

H.Regular Business.

1. Moved by Jones, seconded by Birgen to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance 1172, an Ordinance Providing for the Rezoning of properties owned by MDM Partnership at the former Willow Lawn Mall and surrounding areas from S-1 (Shopping Center District) to C-2 (Commercial District) and amending the Waverly Zoning Map as Provided by this Ordinance.

•Councilmember Drenkow expressed uncertainty about the need for rezoning but supported moving forward.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

2.Moved by Drenkow, seconded by Wolff to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 1173, an Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Waverly, Iowa, Providing for Rezoning of Parcel ID 0903283003 owned by the City of Waverly and formerly known as Washington-Irving Elementary School from R-2 (Residential District) to R-3 (Residential District) and amending the Waverly Zoning Map as Provided by this Ordinance and setting November 3, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall as the date, time, and place for a Public Hearing.

•This action enables the redevelopment concepts for the previously discussed property.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

3. Moved by Wolff, seconded by Kangas to approve Resolution 25-137, a Resolution approving the State of Iowa Fiscal Year 2025 Street Financial Report for the City of Waverly, Iowa.

•Failure to approve and submit this report would prevent the City of

Public Notice
City of Waverly City Council
Study Session Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2025, ~ 7:00 p.m.

A. Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order. A Study Session meeting of the Waverly City Council was held on October 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Anderson presided. Council members present: Birgen, Drenkow, Jones, Kangas, Meyers, Rathe, and Wolff. Absent: None.

B.Mayor Anderson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C.Moved by Kangas, seconded by Meyers to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion passed. Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

D.Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda.

•Ann Platte expressed criticism of council members’ response to public dissent. Ms. Platte defended the public’s right to express anger over council decisions. She criticized those that participated in the protest of President Trump and argued that volunteering is not a substitute for expressing political dissent. Platte accused council members of intolerance toward differing viewpoints. She called for more openness to questions and alternative perspectives.

•Don Barr commented on his opposition to fines for right turns on red. Mr. Barr shared personal experience of receiving a \$100 fine for a right turn on red. He argued that right turns are legal unless explicitly prohibited. Barr questioned the legality and fairness of the city’s traffic enforcement system. He expressed disappointment in the council’s approval of the program, and he requested action and planned to attend the next meeting on November 3rd.

E.Study Session Calendar

1.Golf Commission Annual Update to Council.

•Waverly Golf Commission Chair Jerry Hankner presented to council. Mr. Hankner began by sharing the commission’s mission statement, “To provide scenic golf and social experiences of exceptional value, embracing our historic past and our progressive future, in the Greater Cedar Valley”. He noted the members of the commission: Jerry Hankner, Angie Hubbard, Dave Lindner, Ron Reusche, Sally Thorson, and Council Liaison Brent Jones. Golf Course staff include Leisure Services Director Garret Riordan, Leisure Services Coordinator Ashly Lichty, Grounds Maintenance Specialist Lead Chris Miller, Ground Maintenance Specialist Patrick Rinkleff, 14 Seasonal Part-time Staff, and Golf Pro Jordan David. Hankner listed some of the accomplishments completed in FY 2024-2025, which included 14 new trees being planted, vinyl fence completed near holes 10 and 18, the bridge staining began, reconstruction of the pond at hole 2, and 24 dead/diseased trees were removed and the area was revitalized. The Pro Shop was moved to the upper clubhouse level. There were multiple tournaments and fundraisers held including the 91st Waverly Invitational, Junior Golf Camp, Junior Golf Fundraiser, Veterans Appreciation Outing, Hosted 3A District Golf Meet – Waverly-Shell Rock High School team won this meet and later won state title, and the Waverly Municipal Golf Course was selected “Best Golf Course” as part of the Courier’s 2024 Best of the Best feature. There were a record 30,840 rounds played, growth in the daily fee revenue, 385 season passes were sold with a record in college and super senior categories, and for the first time, based on available records, the course experienced a \$70,000.00 net profit with no subsidy necessary. Golf Pro Jordan David clarified that the Invitational Tournament format is that returning players get priority. The course does remain open with round numbers comparable to last year and revenue is slightly ahead due to more daily fee rounds. There was positive feedback for the Junior Golf Programs, noting their success and expressing pride in the program. Discussions are ongoing for the clubhouse remodel and there will be something brought to council on November 17th meeting.

Council shared praise of Jordan David and Chris Miller for their ex-

cellent work and dedication to the golf course and community. Councilmember Kangas shared that his son visited other courses and recognized the superior maintenance and condition of Waverly’s course.

2.Discussion of City of Waverly Municipal Code Chapter 69.7 regarding Dangerous Animals (snakes).

•The current City Code prohibits all venomous and constricting snakes, which may unintentionally ban all snake species. The Iowa State Code prohibits all venomous snakes (e.g., cobras, mambas) and specific constrictors (e.g., reticulated pythons, anacondas African rock pythons). The suggestion was made to align the Waverly City Code with the Iowa State Code to avoid unnecessary restrictions. Dr. Michael Bechtel, Associate Professor of Science Education at Wartburg College clarified differences between venomous and poisonous animals. He explained that not all snakes are dangerous; many are safe and commonly kept as pets. Bechtel shared insights on reptile husbandry, disease risks (minimal with proper hygiene), and the exotic pet market. Dr. noted that escaped snakes are rare but acknowledged a real incident in Oskaloosa involving a Burmese python. He emphasized that the species involved in such incidents are already banned under state law. Reptiles pose low disease risk; salmonella is more likely from food than from reptiles. Concerns were raised about escaped snakes harming children or pets. Dr. Bechtel confirmed that such risks are limited to large, already-banned species. The exotic pet market is active, with some snakes valued at tens of thousands of dollars. Dr. Bechtel offered to show council members his snakes and reptiles. He regularly conducts educational presentations at lowa libraries, including hands-on experiences for children. Bechtel endorsed aligning Waverly’s code with Iowa State Code. He advocated for allowing non-dangerous constrictors like ball pythons and emphasized that venomous species should remain banned. The benefits of reptile ownership include that they are low maintenance, generally docile, hypoallergenic and do not produce dander, suitable for families, and are increasingly popular among households seeking alternatives to dogs and cats, and reptiles require minimal care and are ideal for travel-friendly lifestyles. For those who have concerns about abandonment: he acknowledged that irresponsible pet ownership exists across species and shared a personal story of livestock loss due to abandoned dogs. He also noted that snakes cannot survive Iowa winters and abandoned reptiles typically die quickly. Native snake, such as garter snakes, exhibit behaviors of seeking warmth near basements and these snakes help control pests like insects and rodents. Fears of snakes are common but often based on misunderstanding. Dr. Bechtel emphasized that finding a snake indoors is often beneficial, not dangerous. He often assists local residents with snake identification and removal and he clarified that most reported “rattlesnakes” are mis-identified harmless species. He educates residents on safe handling and ecological benefits of snakes. Bechtel emphasized the docile nature of common pet snakes like ball pythons and corn snakes. He added that ball pythons curl into a ball when scared, making them ideal pets. Dr. Bechtel advocated for allowing non-dangerous constrictors while maintaining the ban on venomous species. He emphasized that the three large constrictors banned by Iowa (reticulated python, Burmese python, anaconda) are appropriately restricted due to safety concerns. He also shared insights into the exotic pet market, including high-value genetic lines (e.g., Darth Vader ball python sold for \$35,000). Garter snakes, once common, now sell for up to \$2,000 due to selective breeding. Council clarified that the proposed ordinance revision would not permit venomous snakes, only non-dangerous constrictors. Council members shared personal anecdotes and expressed support for a more balanced and informed approach to reptile regulation. Council discussed liability concerns if a pet snake harms another animal or person. Existing code provisions already cover such incidents under “dangerous animal” definitions. Police Chief Richard Pursell suggested the inclusion of enclosure requirements in the ordinance to prevent free-roaming reptiles and to avoid size-based restrictions due to en-

Waverly from accessing approximately \$1.4 million in Road Use Tax (RUT) funds. The Council expressed gratitude to Finance Director Val-orie Northrup for preparing the report.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

4. Moved by Kangas, seconded by Jones to approve Resolution 25-138, A Resolution Accepting Certification Filed by the Finance Director to the Bremer County Auditor Detailing the Amount of New Loans, Advances and Indebtedness which Qualify for Payment from Tax Increment Revenues of the Waverly Unified Urban Renewal Plan and the West Waverly Urban Renewal Plan.

•The report must also be filed to access TIF funds.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

4a.Moved by Jones, seconded by Drenkow to approve Fiscal Year 2025 Urban Renewal Report.

• This report ensures full transparency and keeps the City of Waverly compliant with state requirements.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

5.Moved by Drenkow, seconded by Wolff to approve Resolution 25-139, a Resolution approving the Annual Harvesting of Canadian Geese within the Waverly City Limits during the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) designated dates of September 20, 2025 – October 5, 2025, October 11, 2025 – December 2, 2025, and December 13, 2025 – January 10, 2026.

•In future years, staff will simply inform the Council of current year’s dates.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

I. Reports from Boards and Commissions

1.Waverly Municipal Housing Commission Minutes; August 19, 2025; Received into record.

2.Waverly Historic Preservation Commission Minutes; August 28, 2025; Received into record.

3.Monthly Financial Reports; August 31, 2025; Received into record.

4.Bremer-Waverly Law Enforcement Board Minutes; September 9, 2025; Received into record.

5.Waverly Municipal Airport Commission Minutes; September 11, 2025; Received into record.

6.Monthly Financial Reports; September 30, 2025; Received into record.

J.Staff Updates

•Public Services Director Justin McGlaun announced that curbside yard waste collection is underway and advised residents to place yard waste at the curb on their regular collection day.

•Leisure Services Director Garret Riordan announced a candlelight walk on November 1 from 5:00–7:00 p.m., with setup starting at 4:00 p.m. at the trailhead behind Kwik Star East near the Parks Division building. Volunteers are welcome. Riordan also plans to provide a brief update on swimming pool construction at the October 27th City Council meeting.

K.City Council Comments

•Council expressed appreciation for the Bremer Avenue bridge concrete work and thanked IDOT for progress. Members noted the peaceful No Kings Day protest and shared a desire for civil discourse, lamenting the absence of the Waverly Human Equity and Diversity Commission. They encouraged curiosity over anger and greater community involvement. Guest Councilmember Lindsay Bienemann thanked the Council for the opportunity to participate.

L.Mayor’s Comments

•Mayor Anderson encouraged kindness within the community.

M.Moved by Kangas, seconded by Birgen to adjourn. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Motion passed. Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

Mark A. Anderson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carla Guyer, City Clerk

Published in the Waverly Democrat on October 30, 2025.

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forcement challenges. There was a general agreement to move forward with drafting an amendment to match state code. There was no vote taken, but council members expressed openness to the proposal. They also acknowledged the importance of responsible ownership and existing safeguards in the code.

F. Reports from Boards and Commissions

1.Waverly Board of Adjustments Minutes ; February 10, 2025; Received into record.

G.Staff Updates

•Leisure Services Director Garret Riordan shared that there is a candlelight walk scheduled for Saturday, November 1st from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for setup beginning at 4:00 p.m. and teardown immediately after. There are two shade structures from the pool that will be installed at Cedar River Park near the all-inclusive playground. Installation prep has been completed and the structures will be set in the spring. This will be an estimated savings of \$20,000.00 by reusing the existing structures. Riordan gave an update on the swimming pool construction. The deep end is poured and moving eastward next week. The walls in the deep end are being formed, shotcrete application expected soon, and the zero-depth area is formed with plumbing installation pending. Drone images were presented to show construction stages and layout. The footings are installed for the concession stand and the guard room but not the rest of the building. They plan to get those in before winter to allow indoor work during colder months. The backwash area (in layman’s terms) is used to clean pool filters and will be covered by a grassy mound. The surge tank is located outside, is covered and is responsible for circulating and filtering pool water. In the visual overview of the splash pad and zero depth area plan showed that there is a small slide, platforms, water dumping structures, ground sprays and a flower-shaped water feature. The splash pad will be located adjacent to the zero-depth area. Garret committed to providing regular updates at future study sessions with photos and progress reports.

H.City Council Comments

•A safety concern was shared after encountering pedestrians and joggers on Cedar River Lane in low visibility. Please wear some kind of reflective or lighted clothing or devices, especially with daylight hours shortening. A reminder that while right turns on red are legal however drivers must come to a complete stop first. Election Day is next week; if you are an eligible voter, please vote. There will be a free dinner for veterans at the Waverly Area Veterans’ Post sponsored by the Exchange Club on November 6th. RSVP is required. Guest Councilperson Lindsay Bienemann once again thanked council for inviting her to participate in the meetings for October.

I.Mayor’s Comments

•Mayor Anderson reflected on the 2008 flood and the community’s resilience. He addressed the current government shutdown and its impacts on local families with 500 households in Bremer County relying on SNAP benefits. If the shutdown continues, November benefits may not arrive, risking hunger for vulnerable residents. The loss of \$155,000 in monthly food assistance will also affect local businesses. He then called upon Waverly residents to donate \$10.00 to United Way, Northeast Iowa Community Action, local churches, and service clubs. Anderson then quoted the parable of the rich man and Lazarus from Luke 16. He emphasized that if every citizen contributes, over \$100,000 could be raised to help mitigate the crisis. He closed with a call for kindness and community action, encouraging Waverly to stand tall once again.

J.Moved by Meyers, seconded by Kangas to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Yes: 7 No: 0 Absent: 0

Mark A. Anderson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carla Guyer, City Clerk

Published in the Bemer County Independent on November 4, 2025.

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