

MINUTES
AMERICUS CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025
CITY HALL
BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Dustin Wright. Council members present were HARMON, NUESSEN, HAMLIN, BURTON, and HINRICHS. Also present were City Clerk Lesley Harbaugh, City Treasurer Dodie Doudna, Attorney Steve Atherton, Police Chief Jody Meyers, and Maintenance Nick Gadino.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Russell Torrens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *January 14th, 2025 business meeting, February 11th, 2025 business meeting, February 11th, 2025 public hearing.* Moved by HARMON to approve the minutes of the January 14th, 2025 business meeting. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 3-0-2 vote. Moved by BURTON to approve the minutes of the February 11th, 2025 business meeting. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 5-0 vote. Moved by HARMON to approve the minutes of the February 11th, 2025 public hearing. Motion seconded by BURTON. 4-0-1 vote.

BILLS TO PAY: Moved by HARMON to approve the accounts payable for March 2025 in the amount of \$65,904.36. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 5-0 vote.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

PROJECT PLAYScape: HINRICHS reported that she will be requesting a special meeting to provide information on the needs for the splash pad installation, ballpark maintenance, and Easter plans. The council agreed to set a special meeting for Tuesday, March 25th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

MAINTENANCE: Nick Gadino that he has been working on getting oil prices from Vance Brothers. He is having rock hauled in and is working on equipment maintenance to prepare for projects as the weather improves. Pothole repair will begin soon.

CLERK: Lesley Harbaugh has reported that a new alert system has been tested and is working. Residents can subscribe to receive updates and alerts via email or text message. There will be information in the newsletter on how to do this. Treasurer Dodie Doudna has been officially bonded. There has been interest in the cost of a fireworks stand permit fee. The council will address this at the special meeting later this month. City-wide garage sales will be on June 21st. It was brought to the city's attention that a new sewer connection was buried at 15 Maple before the city could inspect it. The owner has been notified that it will have to be uncovered to be inspected or confirmed through a camera run by a plumber at the owner's expense.

ADOPT THE AGENDA: Moved by NUESSEN to adopt the agenda. Motion seconded by BURTON. 4-0 vote.

1. **CHERYL HENRY:** *Project Playscape.* Cheryl Henry was not present. No action taken.
2. **CONDEMNATION:** *311 Elm Bolinger/Hecke.* Tabled until next meeting.
3. **TRASH SERVICE BIDS:** *Review.* Tabled until next meeting.
4. **STEVE'S TRASH SERVICE:** *Review of contract.* Tabled until next meeting.
5. **SEWER RATE REVIEW:** *Annual review of sewer rates.* Council will revisit the sewer rates next year.
6. **ORDINANCE NO. 623:** *Open Burn Policy enforcement and penalties.* Moved by NUESSEN to adopt Ordinance No. 623. Motion seconded by HARMON. 5-0.
7. **CITY CODE VIOLATIONS:** *Dog registrations/UTV registrations.* It is the consensus of the council to enforce penalties for violations of Ordinance No. 592 (dog registration/vaccinations) and to repeal Ordinance No. 546 (UTV registration).
8. **2025 RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC:** Updates The council was informed of different ideas for this year's rabies vaccination clinic.
9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** *Non-elected personnel matters.* Moved by BURTON to go into executive session for non-elected personnel matters for 20 minutes at 8:37 p.m. with council and legal present. Motion seconded by HARMON. 5-0 vote. Out of executive session at 8:57 p.m. Mayor Wright appoints Dodie Doudna as Treasurer/Assistant City Clerk and Jody Meyers as Police Chief.

Moved by NUESSEN to adjourn at 8:57 p.m. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 5-0 vote.

Dustin R. Wright, Mayor

Lea Hamlin, Council President

Nicky Nuessen

Britney Hinrichs

Kayla Burton

Bill Harmon