

MINUTES
AMERICUS CITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13th, 2025

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor WRIGHT. Council members present were HARMON, HAMLIN, NUESSEN, BURTON, and HINRICHS. Also, present City Attorney Steve Atherton and City Clerk Dodie Doudna.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Danny Gerleman and Tim Burton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES *October 14th, 2025, business meeting* Moved by HARMON to approve the Oct. 14th, 2025, business meeting minutes. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 4-0-1 vote. *October 16th, 2025, special business meeting.* Moved by BURTON to approve the Oct. 16th, 2025, special business meeting minutes. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 4-0-1 vote.

BILLS TO PAY: Moved by HAMLIN to approve the November bills to pay for \$24,130.65. Motion seconded by BURTON. 5-0 vote.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

PROJECT PLAYSCAPE: Hinrichs noted that it is very busy. Match Day is Monday the 17th, goal to raise \$35,000 this year. She currently has 3 advocate families raising funds.

MAINTENANCE: Winterized the splash pad, in need of a compressor to help with this. Authorized maintenance to purchase. Need tech on north pump station, will schedule service. Maintenance will attend Wastewater Certification training on Dec. 3rd in Emporia.

CLERK: Clerk reported that she is currently reviewing insurance options for 2026 for staff. Reported that the copier is aging and need to start thinking about what next steps council wants to take. Purple Wave auctions on the vehicles end on the 18th. Have started on the audit. Reported that the ESU E-Mersion experience was a success. Let council know that Steve's Trash Service have placed a couple of poly carts around town to show what they have planned to distribute next year with a renewed contract.

POLICE:

PARKS AND RECREATION:

AMEND AND ADOPT THE AGENDA: Moved by HINRICHS to adopt the agenda. Motion seconded by HARMON. 5-0 vote.

1. **RV PARK:** Tim Burton would like the council to move forward with allowing RV spots at the trailer court located at 102 Main. After discussion council decided a working session will be needed to discuss current RV ordinance and changes that can be made. This working session will be held on December 2nd at 6 pm. Burton also let council know that they currently have an RV staying at the spots, council agreed to issue a temporary use permit to allow them to stay until the next council meeting. Moved by HARMON to issue temporary use permit for 30 days with full sewer charge assessed for 102 Main. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 3-1-1 vote.
2. **BUILDING PERMITS:** Moved by BURTON to extend new construction building permits to 1 year time limit instead of 6 months. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 5-0 vote.
3. **CHRISTMAS PARADE & EVENTS:** December 6th will be the Christmas Parade. Barriers will need to be placed to block the roads from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. Hinrichs asked for \$325 for Santa and travel and \$400 for bags and prizes. Moved by BURTON to approve the funds for Santa and the closure of the road pending approval from the county. Motion seconded by HAMLIN. 4-0 vote.
4. **UNCLAIMED CATS:** Britney met with Deb, Kelly and the Streets Cats Club. Discussion was had on forming a community partnership with Street Cats Club and East Emporia Vet to trap stray cats to vaccinate and spay/neuter. Moved by BURTON to approve \$2000 to trap 30 cats to spay/neuter. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 5-0 vote.

5. **CMB LICENSE RENEWAL:** Moved by HAMLIN to approve Casey's 2026 license. Motion seconded by NUESSEN. 5-0 vote.
6. **CHIPPER:** Discussion on a chipper on purple wave. Moved by BURTON for the clerk to bid by proxy on the 2008 Chipper in the amount to not exceed \$31,000 for the bid and not to exceed \$36,000 for the delivery, fees and cost. Motion seconded by HINRICHS. 5-0 vote.
7. **EQUITY BANK:** Council discussed ongoing issues with Equity Bank. Council instructed clerk to send a letter of concern to the corporate office about the issues at hand.
8. **CONDEMNATION LIST:** Council instructed clerk to send follow up letters to 401 Main, 7 Fourth, and 210 Main. A letter will be sent to 507 Elm giving 30 days' notice of the city hiring a crew to clean up property of stated violations.
9. **COLLEGE BLOCK LOTS:** Clerk instructed to refund portion of the lot purchase price of college block to those who met the conditions of the contracts.
10. **COLLEGE BLOCK LOTS:** Clerk instructed to relist the 2 remaining lots for sale.
11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** *Non-elected personnel matters.* Motioned by HINRICHS to go into executive session for 20 minutes with council, mayor, and legal present. Motion seconded by HAMLIN. 5-0 vote. Out of executive session at 9:10 p.m. Mayor WRIGHT appointed Dakota Hamlin as Deputy Clerk/Treasurer. Motion to adjourn by NUESSEN at 9:18 p.m. Motion seconded by HARMON. 5 -0 vote

Dustin R. Wright, Mayor

Lea Hamlin, Council President

Nicky Nuessen

Britney Hinrichs

Kayla Burton

Bill Harmon