

Record of the Proceedings of the Governing Body

REGULAR MEETING

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OCTOBER 15, 2025

REGULAR MEETING:

The La Cygne City Council met on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at the La Cygne Community Building. Council Members present: Ed Smith; David Brenneman; and Jerome Mitzner. ABSENT: Thomas Capp and Keith Stoker.

Others in attendance included but not limited to: City Clerk (CC) Jodi Wade; Police Chief Zachary Mathies; City Attorney Jeff Deane (Zoom); Linn County Newspaper, Brian King; and Linn County Journal, Roger Sims; and Rod Benson and Christina Brown.

CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER (7:00 P.M.)

Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Debra Wilson

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Trunk or Treat on Broadway will be held on Friday, October 31, 2025 from 6pm – 8pm. La Cygne Fire Department will provide Hot dogs and Chili at Thayer park on Friday, October 31, 2025 from 5:30pm – all food is gone.

Mayor Wilson attended the League of Municipalities Conference. She enjoyed networking with other city officials and brought home great information regarding housing, codes and zoning regulations. The City of Humboldt and the City of Independence were highlighted on innovative ways to improve housing.

CONSENT AGENDA:

❖ Motion to approve Consent Agenda:

Council Member Mitzner motioned to accept the Consent Agenda.

Minutes of the October 1, 2025 Council Meeting
Minutes of the October 3, 2025 Special Council Meeting
2025 September Budget Report
2025 September Treasurer's Report
3rd Quarter Financial Report
Check Register: September 30 – October 11, 2025

Motion seconded by Council Member Smith, voted on, passed 3-0 (1 abstain – Brenneman)

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR:

Rodney Benson addressed the council regarding the removal of the stop signs on 6th street at the intersection of Lincoln St and 6th. This has been 4-way stop for over 30 years per Mr. Benson. He stated how fast people drive on 6th street and how often they run the stop signs on 6th Street. Chief Mathies explained his approach and reasoning for the suggestion to modify the 4-way, pointing out that Lincoln is a thoroughfare and people tend to run the stop sign knowing the east-west bound is going to stop. Chief Mathies reviewed the possibility of moving the 4-way stop to the south a block to

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DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR CONTINUED:

encourage people to slow down prior to the 6th and Lincoln intersection. Mr. Benson indicated he was not in favor of changing anything with the signs. He suggested to patrol the area more often between the hours of 4pm to 7pm when people are coming home from work. Chief Mathies offered to have more discussion with the governing body and to do some further research in to the traffic in that area before making any changes to the current signage. Chief Mathies thanked Mr. Benson for coming in to have a discussion and to provide perspective from someone who lives in the neighborhood directly related to the intersection.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS:

POLICE CHIEF ZACHARY MATHIES

Chief Mathies reported on the 2025 Totals for Traffic Stops (619), Citations (76), Calls for Service (508), District and Building Checks (402) and Reports (154).

From October 1 – October 14th : (4) Information Reports; (0) Alcohol Offenses; (0) Traffic Misd. Offenses; (48) Traffic Warnings; (1) Criminal Offense Reports; (21) Calls for Service; (1) Accident Report; (0) Drug Offense; (2) Warrant Arrests; (4) Traffic Citations; (0) Animal Citations; (43) UTV Reg Total.

Still advertising for the Community Development Officer Position. To date we have interviewed one applicant. The ad was placed on Indeed recently and 2 applications have been received.

The ALPR had another delay but should be installed next week. In-car radars were recertified this week.

Chief Mathies presented information and pricing for radar signs. These signs are attached to poles or posts with brackets. The signs can be moved around town. Pricing found so far is in the range of \$2300 each. Discussion was held by the governing body of the benefits the signs could have to help slow down travel through the neighborhood and on the thoroughfares. Chief Mathies will continue to research pricing and possible funding options.

Chief Mathies read a press release from an incident which occurred on October 6, 2025 on Broadway Street. The incident involved an individual in a vehicle which ran off the road. The vehicle had caught fire. Chief Mathies thanked the citizens who reacted fast to remove the victim from the vehicle prior to the tires igniting. Chief Mathies also thanked all emergency crews for their performance and assistance.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – DAN NASALROAD

CC Wade reported that Dan was doing well. Stepen Rockers, public works superintendent, has been working through the list of some small road repairs on 4th and 5th street, culvert installation on 4th Street near the new fire station and mowing.

FIRE CHIEF – DAN NASALROAD

Nothing to report.

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REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS CONTINUED:

CITY CLERK – JODI WADE

CC Wade has been maintaining operations in the City Hall. Judge Purvis cancelled court for October due to lack of staffing. Court has been continued to November 18, 2025. CC Wade has placed an ad out for the City Treasurer and Court Clerk position, to date three (3) applications have been received.

CC Wade asked the governing body if the City Hall could be closed to public entry on Monday, October 20 and Tuesday, October 21, due to shortage of staff.

❖ **Motion**

Council Member Mitzner motioned to approve for the City Hall to be closed to public entry on Monday, October 20 and Tuesday October 21 due to a shortage in staff. Motion seconded by Council Member Smith, voted on, passed 3-0.

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

SEWER REHABILITATION PROJECT – SEWER LIFT STATION BIDS (BG CONSULTANTS)

CC Wade advised the council regarding the awarding of bid for the sewer lift stations. Since the project is funded by USDA, the motion needed to recognize the awarding is contingent upon approval from USDA. The governing body would need to rescind the prior motion and correct the language.

❖ **Motion**

Council Member Mitzner motioned to rescind the motion by Council Member Capp from the October 1, 2025, meeting to award the Sewer Lift Station Improvement project to Fat Boy Electric in the amount of \$266,862.32. Motion seconded by Council Member Smith, voted on, passed 3-0.

❖ **Motion**

Council Member Mitzner motioned to award the Sewer Lift Station Improvement project to Fat Boy Electric in the amount of \$266,862.32 contingent upon the approval by USDA. Motion seconded by Council Member Smith, voted on, passed 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

❖ **Motion**

Council Member Mitzner motioned for an executive discussion for 5-minutes for consultation with an attorney for the city which would be deemed privileged in an attorney-client relationship for sewer contracts and to return to the council table at 7:47pm. Motion seconded by Council Member Smith, voted on, passed 3-0. 7:42pm

Others in attendance: CC Wade, City Attorney Dean

OPEN SESSION RESUMED AT 7:47pm:

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SPECIAL PROJECTS CONTINUED:

KDOT CCLIP (KILLOUGH CONSTRUCTION/CFS ENG/BG CONSULTANTS)

None

WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS:

The maintenance improvements are almost completed. Final finish work on the water plant building and the installation of the raw water flow meter were being performed this week.

STORMWATER MASTER PLAN/STREET IMPROVEMENT MASTER PLAN

1% Sales Tax question for November 2026 ballot. Establish some Townhall meetings to share the master plan for the street and stormwater improvement project.

CITY FACILITY IMPROVEMENT (CITY HALL, POLICE DEPARTMENT, COMMUNITY BUILDING)

Facility Committee members Council Member Stoker and Brenneman, Chief Mathies and CC Wade met with BG Consultants on October 14th. BG presented 3 floor layouts for the group to review and provide feedback. The group will meet again on October 30, 2025.

CITY OF LINN VALLEY WATER CONNECTION

Project still on schedule. Next construction meeting is Wednesday, October 22.

REPORT OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

- a] **Utilities Committee:** None
- b] **Street Committee:** None
- c] **City Facility Committee:** None
- d] **Public Safety Committee:** None
- e] **Employee Relations and Training:** None

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: None

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION (PZC): None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

MOBILE FOOD TRUCK REGULATIONS

Tabled until the next council meeting.

CAMPING REGULATIONS

Tabled until the next council meeting.

U.S. MINERALS DUST CONCERNS MEETING WITH COUNCIL AND CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Deane provided a draft letter to Mayor Wilson and CC Wade to review. City Attorney Deane asked if the council would like to invite US Minerals to a council meeting or if they would prefer a small group meets with US Minerals. The council suggested having a small group meet with US Minerals. Chief Mathies suggested to notify KDHE of the meeting in cast the area rep could participate.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS CONTINUED:

STOP SIGN REMOVAL AT 6TH AND LINCOLN INTERSECTION

Chief Mathies brought the motion back up which had been made to remove the stop signs on 6th at 6th and Lincoln St. The council had some discussion on gathering more information and data regarding the traffic flow and input from the community members within that area. Continued discussions were held regarding the means for gathering the data.

❖ ***Motion***

Council Member Mitzner motioned to rescind the order to remove the stop signs on 6th Street at the intersection of 6th Street and Lincoln Street. Motion seconded by Council Member Brenneman, voted on, passed 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

PARK AND POOL REGULATION DRAFT

Tabled until the next council meeting. CC Wade asked the council about the supervising of the Pool Coordinator. Currently the job description indicates the Public Works Superintendent and the City Clerk are the supervisors of the position. Discussion was held on the roles the PWS and CC hold in the operation of the pool/park. PWS typically handles all maintenance/repair matters and the City Clerk handles preparations of the budget and human resource for personnel. Council Member Mitzner indicated the importance for the Pool Coordinator to take an active role in preparing and administering the season. Any off-season program or administrative processes need to be handled by the Pool Coordinator. Council Member Smith indicated the process should be if there is a maintenance problem, the Pool Coordinator should do a service order and submit to the public work for repairs to be performed. Council Member Smith also stated the Pool Coordinator should present purchase requests for items/inventory at the pool to the City Clerk for budget review and approval. All members agreed the Pool Coordinator should be held responsible for the pool programming, scheduling and operations. The governing body suggested the supervisor should be the Mayor and/or City Clerk.

402 S. BROADWAY DRAFT COVENANT AND DEED RESTRICTIONS

The council reviewed some of the options for the covenant. CC Wade will prepare for the next meeting.

MARKET STREET SIDEWALK AREAS OF REPAIR

The council held discussions regarding the conditions of some areas along the Market Street sidewalk. Per code the homeowner is responsible the grass area around an along the edge of the sidewalk, during the winter the homeowner is responsible for clearing the sidewalk. City Attorney Deane discussed some opt in/opt out agreements for maintenance. The council discussed some program possibilities.

RFQ REQUEST FOR ENGINEER CONSULTANTS FOR STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Mayor Wilson asked the council about developing the RFQs for an engineer consultant to begin the Street Improvement project. It is time we need to layout the master plan so work can begin and funding can be reviewed.

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NEPOTISM:

CC Wade talked to the council about the nepotism policy of the city. With the interviews taking place recently, CC Wade asked the City Attorney where the question regarding the nepotism policy should be addressed. CC Wade stated the application doesn't request information if the applicant is related to any current employees of the city. CC Wade also asked about the role of the council if an application is received which would be from a candidate who would fall under the nepotism policy. City Attorney Deane reviewed the role of the council to recuse themselves from voting on any matter which would involve the pay or benefits for the employee. Discussion continued on the timing for approaching the nepotism policy in the hiring process.

UNFINISHED POLICY REVIEW

DRAFT COMPANY VEHICLE USE POLICY

CHAPTER 5. BUSINESS REGULATIONS, ARTICLE 1. SOLICITORS, CANVASSERS, PEDDLERS

CHAPTER 3. BEVERAGES, ARTICLE 2 CEREAL MALT BEVERAGE AND ARTICLE 3. ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR

RENTAL READY PROGRAM (LANDLORD REGISTRATION)

ARTICLE 22: OFF STREET PARKING

NEW POLICY REVIEW:

ARTICLE 5. PARKING

SOCIAL-MEDIA POLICY

GOVERNING BODY REMARKS: None

NOTES AND COMMUNICATION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

❖ **Motion**

Council Member Brenneman motioned to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Council Member Smith, voted on, passed 3-0. 9:06p.m.

I, _____
(Jodi Wade)

La Cygne City Clerk, do hereby declare the above to be true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, and do hereby subscribe my name on this 15th day of October 2025.