

**MINUTES OF THE
VAN WERT CITY COUNCIL
September 8, 2025**

Council President Thad Eikenbary called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Judy Bowers gave the invocation.

On call of the roll: Ringwald, Kallas, Bowers, Agler, Roberts, Moore and Marshall were present.

Agler made a motion to approve tonight's Consent Agenda and minutes from the August 25th meeting. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler St., spoke about speed limits on North Franklin street. He is proposing the speed limit ordinance for the Marsh Rd/Franklin St. be changed/rescinded to increase safety for Vantage and cars arriving back to town. The north side of Marsh Rd has an ordinance stating the speed limit is 45mph, but Davis is proposing to rescind this ordinance and drop the speed limit to 35mph to match the stretch of road that is on the other side of the overpass.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

MAYOR: Mr. Markward reported it has been one week of people using their city clean-up vouchers, about 30 have been used.

Also, a reminder, Monday starts the last brush pick up for the year. This announcement was on city water bills.

SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR: Mr. Fleming reported a pre-construction meeting is being held for September 23 to schedule/plan paving in the first week October.

Agler asked for a time frame on Sidewalks on N. Franklin/Sycamore. Fleming stated there is no set schedule, but that is next on their list.

AUDITOR: Not present.

Ringwald presented two Then & Nows in Mrs. Blackmore's absence. One for \$6,010 for Flow Testing for the Fire Department from Fire Safety Services.

A second invoice is from J&K Communications for radio upgrade for the Fire Department in the amount of \$7,985.96.

LAW DIRECTOR: Mr. Hatcher announced legislation that was asked to be prepared tonight on city properties will not be ready until next meeting.

Mr. Hatcher announced a letter that was presented to the Clerk from American Electric Power that he will take care of.

COMMENTS, COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

Mark Davis, 402 S. Tyler St., the Bonnewitz left turn arrow looks great. N. Town Centre arrow needs touched up now. Fleming also mentioned there is a chance the city will be flipping the lanes at the stop light on Bonnewitz and Washington intersection. Specifically the lanes on the Bonnewitz portion which currently stand with a left turn only lane and a straight/right lane. The consideration is switching signs and paint to indicate a left turn and straight lane combined with a right only turn lane instead.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE: Ringwald made a motion to pass the Then & Now's suggested by the city auditor. Kallas seconded; all concurred.

Ringwald made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 25-08-038. Moore seconded; all concurred.

Ringwald made a motion to suspend statutory rules. Bowers seconded; all concurred.

Ringwald made a motion to pass, on it's first and final reading, Ordinance No. 25-08-038: A RESOLUTION TO AMEND ORDINANCE 24-12-076, AND TO ESTABLISH CHARGES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AND MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT RATES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 IN THE CITY OF VAN WERT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Moore seconded; all concurred. Ordinance passed.

STREETS AND ALLEYS: No report.

JUDICIARY AND ANNEXATION: No report.

PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT: No report.

PARKS AND RECREATION: No report.

HEALTH, SERVICE AND SAFETY: Moore brought three different issues to council's attention. One being a citizen who was concerned there were people living in a plastic shed. Another a business owner who had a dumpster out front of their business in which a person dumped their personal trash/disposables into overnight. Lastly, citizens are concerned on ceratin sidewalks. Moore asked Mr. Hatcher to shed knowledge/light on these situations.

The law director stated that people living in sheds is an issue that has come up in the past and would be handled. For an outsider using the businesses dumpster, would potentially be considered theft of services and the business should file a police report.

Moore made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 25-08-036. Agler seconded; all concurred.

Moore made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 25-08-037. Roberts seconded; all concurred.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL and PUBLIC: Lisa Lugenbill, 137 Kepler St., is requesting stop lights be relocated due to the location of the stop bar making it impossible to see the light. An instance given was Crawford/Shannon and 30 exit/127 stop light. Fleming suggested instead of moving the stop light, to just move the stop bar back. He will follow up with this.

Danielle Chorea, the resident experiencing the neighbors occupying shed's was in attendance highly upset with the altercations/harrassments and concerned about her and her family's safety due to threats and altercations with the people living in shed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES:

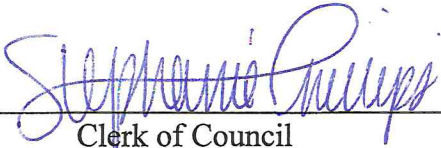
Third and Final Reading for Ordinance Number 25-08-034; A RESOLUTION REMOVING THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH WALNUT STREET AND CENTRAL AVENUE AND TO MAKE THAT INTERSECTION A FOUR WAY STOP. All concurred; Ordinance passed.

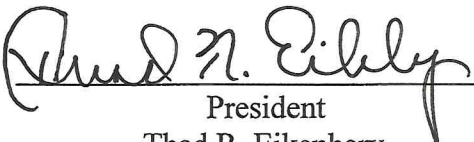
Third and Final Reading for Ordinance Number 25-08-035; A RESOLUTION REMOVING THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE INTERSECTION OF SOUTH MARKET STREET AND CENTRAL AVENUE AND TO MAKE THAT INTERSECTION A FOUR WAY STOP. All concurred; Ordinance passed.

First Reading Advisory for Ordinance Number 25-08-036. All concurred.

First Reading Advisory for Ordinance Number 25-08-037. All concurred.

Agler made a motion to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. Bowers seconded; all concurred.


Clerk of Council
Stephanie R. Phillips


President
Thad R. Eikenbary

September 22, 2025
DATE

