

## Keota City Council Meeting

July 6, 2026 – 7:00 pm

### Minutes

#### Work Session

Mayor Ryan Carr called the work session to order at **6:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Mayor Ryan Carr; Council Members Matt Greiner, Heath McDonald, Chad Greiner, Keith Conrad, and John Mather; Clerk Hunter Bruns; Assistant Clerk Kristen Clarke; Public Works Director Micah Harmsen.

**Public Present:** Danielle Imhoff.

Discussion was held regarding proposed changes to the Employee Handbook and the water rate changes discussed at the previous council meeting.

---

#### Regular Council Meeting

##### 1. Call to Order

Mayor Ryan Carr called the regular meeting to order at **7:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Mayor Ryan Carr; Council Members Heath McDonald, Matt Greiner, Chad Greiner, Keith Conrad, and John Mather; Clerk Hunter Bruns; Assistant Clerk Kristen Clarke; Public Works Director Micah Harmsen; Librarian Toni Greiner.

**Public Present:** Danielle Imhoff, Brandon Imhoff, Cody Brandstad, Janie Westendorf, Kathy Ewald, Diana Mather, Wanda Ballou, Chad (ION), Lori Hammes.

---

##### 2. Consent Agenda

Keith Conrad moved to amend the agenda by adding Item **(k)** under New Business to consider moving the next regular council meeting to **Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** Seconded by John Mather. Motion carried.

Chad Greiner moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Seconded by Heath McDonald. Motion carried.

Keith Conrad moved to approve the bills. Seconded by John Mather. Motion carried.

---

##### 3. Department Reports

###### Public Works

Public Works Director Micah Harmsen reported that on **June 22**, a resident reported sewer backup in their basement. On the morning of **June 23**, staff inspected the sewer system and discovered the city sewer main was backed up in the alley near **202 N. Green Street and Keokuk Avenue**. After approximately 65 feet of cleaning, gravel was encountered in the main. Boitnott Industries of Ottumwa cleaned approximately 150 feet of sewer main, and Tremmel excavated and replaced a broken sewer wye on **June 24**.

Harmsen also reported that Westrum Leak Detection was in town on **June 23** and identified a water main leak at **412 S. Gilbert Street**, allowing water to enter the sanitary sewer. The water main was repaired on **June 26**, and the leak is believed to have been the source of the city's unexplained water loss.

### City of Keota Council

Mayor Carr\*K. Conrad\*J. Mather\*M. Greiner\*C. Greiner\*H. McDonald

## Keota City Council Meeting

July 6, 2026 – 7:00 pm

### Minutes

Additional updates included:

- Painting of the park pavilion has been completed.
- Routine mowing, weed trimming, spraying, and storm drain cleaning continue.
- The pool continues operating smoothly and pool staff have performed exceptionally well.
- Summer interns Greiner and Galindo have been excellent.
- Fire rings were installed at the campground, along with two dog waste stations—one at the city park and one at the trailhead. Keota Unlimited donated the stations.
- Staff plans to install a new valve on the 4-inch water line serving the elementary school on July 7.
- Kevin continues work at the city dump.
- Staff hopes to install speed radar signs on Broadway and continue replacing water meters.

### ION Report

Chad with ION presented the monthly report.

### Water Plant

The City received its Sanitary Survey Report on June 24. The report included violations related to chlorine documentation, required paperwork not being maintained on-site, and occasional elevated hardness levels.

ION explained that although on-site documentation had not previously been required during inspections, the Iowa DNR indicated the EPA now requires operating reports, sample plans, and sample results to be maintained at the water plant. A binder has been assembled to comply with this requirement.

ION further explained that ongoing high water flows affect the softener regeneration process, causing fluctuations in chlorine readings and occasional high hardness levels. These issues are connected to the City's long-term drinking water improvements needed to address radium removal requirements.

### Wastewater Lagoons

ION reported the City received another notice regarding chloride violations. Concern was expressed that the current engineering consultant has not made progress addressing the issue. It was suggested the City consider returning to HR Green to complete the Facility Plan.

### Library

Library Director Bridget Greiner reported the Summer Reading Program concluded last week. The library held a successful pool party with excellent attendance.

Janie Westendorf complimented Bridget Greiner and Toni for providing creative and engaging summer programming.

---

## 4. Resolutions & Ordinances

### Resolution No. 2026-44 – Building Permit for Ryan Sieren

Keith Conrad moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-44. Seconded by Heat McDonald. Motion carried.

### Resolution No. 2026-45 – Liquor License for Keota Eagle Foods

Matt Greiner moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-45. Seconded by John Mather. Motion carried.

## City of Keota Council

Mayor Carr\*K. Conrad\*J. Mather\*M. Greiner\*C. Greiner\*H. McDonald

## Keota City Council Meeting

July 6, 2026 – 7:00 pm

### Minutes

---

#### 5. New Business

##### a. Bridget Greiner Payroll

Matt Greiner moved to approve the payroll. Seconded by Heath McDonald. Chad Greiner abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

##### b. Mia Conrad Payroll

John Mather moved to approve the payroll. Seconded by Heath McDonald. Keith Conrad abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

##### c. Ava and Marlee Greiner Payroll

Keith Conrad moved to approve the payroll. Seconded by Heath McDonald. Matt Greiner abstained due to a conflict of interest. Motion carried.

##### d. June Timesheets and Comp Time

Keith Conrad moved to approve the June timesheets and compensatory time. Seconded by John Mather. Motion carried.

##### e. Comp Time Payout for Micah Harmsen

Discussion was held regarding the payout of **150 hours** of compensatory time for Public Works Director Micah Harmsen at **\$29.81 per hour**.

Keith Conrad moved to approve the payout. Seconded by Heath McDonald. Motion carried.

##### f. City-Owned Properties to List for Sale

Discussion was held regarding listing **108 W. Keokuk Avenue** and **302 N. Green Street** for sale.

John Mather moved to list both properties for sale. Seconded by Keith Conrad. Motion carried.

##### g. Selection of Realtor to List City-Owned Properties

Keith Conrad moved to authorize Mayor Carr to meet with local realtors, review brokerage agreements, and select a realtor to list the city-owned properties. Seconded by Matt Greiner. Motion carried.

##### h. Keota Veterinary Clinic – Animal Control

Cody Branstad of Keota Veterinary Clinic discussed the importance of current rabies vaccinations and responsible pet ownership. Discussion included the possibility of requiring dog permits, establishing permit fees, assessing penalties for animals not current on vaccinations, and utilizing vaccination records maintained by the veterinary clinic.

No action was taken.

##### i. Law Enforcement Discussion

Diana Mather addressed the Council regarding law enforcement coverage in Keota and asked what efforts were being made and what responsibilities the City has under its code.

Mayor Carr stated he has been actively working to identify law enforcement solutions. He recently attended a Board of Supervisors meeting where he was informed that funding was not the issue and that staffing decisions remain with Sheriff Hinnah.

Mayor Carr announced a meeting would be held on **Thursday, July 9, at 7:00 p.m.** at the Keokuk County Courthouse involving the Board of Supervisors, city officials, the Chief Deputy, and Sheriff Hinnah.

### City of Keota Council

**Mayor Carr\*K. Conrad\*J. Mather\*M. Greiner\*C. Greiner\*H. McDonald**

## Keota City Council Meeting

July 6, 2026 – 7:00 pm

### Minutes

Mayor Carr also shared that he has been in discussions with the mayors of Hedrick, Richland, and What Cheer regarding the possibility of sharing a law enforcement officer. Additionally, he reported that the City of Sigourney recently hired a Police Chief, who is expected to begin in August, and preliminary discussions have taken place regarding potential shared law enforcement services and possibly a School Resource Officer.

No action was taken.

#### **j. Animal Permits**

Discussion regarding animal permits occurred during Item (h). No action was taken.

#### **k. Next Council Meeting Date**

Keith Conrad moved to reschedule the next regular council meeting to **Thursday, July 23, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** Seconded by John Mather. Motion carried.

---

### **6. Council Comments**

Keith Conrad stated the work session was productive and there is a great deal for the Council to review.

John Mather commented that there were many good discussions during the meeting.

Matt Greiner stated that meetings like this are important because there are many significant issues facing the City, including the budget, employee handbook, and water and sewer systems. He added that the City is making positive progress and working to make Keota the best and safest place to live, recognizing that improvements require both time and funding.

---

### **7. Public Forum**

Kathy Ewald expressed concern about fireworks continuing until approximately 1:00 a.m. on July 4 and asked about the City's fireworks ordinance. It was also noted fireworks were being discharged from the middle of the roadway and requested that the torn American flag located between the bakery and the VFW be replaced.

Janie Westendorf stated many residents are unaware of the City's fireworks ordinance and suggested the City publish reminders through Facebook or the city newsletter. She also requested that law enforcement remain a standing agenda item so the public is aware of ongoing efforts.

Diana Mather thanked the Council for discussing law enforcement and stated the community desires transparency regarding the City's efforts. She noted she had not realized the City had continued pursuing solutions.

Danielle Imhoff thanked the Council for discussing law enforcement and for communicating with neighboring mayors and the Board of Supervisors. She also thanked council members for assisting with loose dog concerns and commented that dog permits could become an administrative challenge.

---

### **8. Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Carr encouraged residents to attend Board of Supervisors meetings and voice their concerns regarding county law enforcement coverage. He stated residents deserve the law enforcement

## City of Keota Council

**Mayor Carr\*K. Conrad\*J. Mather\*M. Greiner\*C. Greiner\*H. McDonald**

**Keota City Council Meeting**

**July 6, 2026 – 7:00 pm**

**Minutes**

services their tax dollars support and emphasized the importance of continued community involvement.

Mayor Carr also stated the City will continue providing updates regarding law enforcement and directed that the topic be included on future council meeting agendas.

---

**9. Adjournment**

Keith Conrad moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Matt Greiner. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at **8:39 p.m.**

---

Mayor Ryan Carr

---

City Clerk Hunter Bruns

**City of Keota Council**

**Mayor Carr\*K. Conrad\*J. Mather\*M. Greiner\*C. Greiner\*H. McDonald**