

**CITY OF WESTWOOD  
Council Meeting Minutes**

**The regularly scheduled meeting of the Westwood City Council was held on Tuesday,  
January 19, 2026, at the home of Mayor Brant Knudsen**

**Mayor Brant Knudsen** called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.

**Roll Call** Dee Bumgardner (present), LuAnn Johnson (present), Monte Knudsen (present), Gary Lane (present), Zach Moehle (present),  
**Swearing in of Councilman** Monte Knudsen was sworn in to begin a four-year term on the Council.

**Agenda Approval** Councilman Lane made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion and the agenda was passed.

**Minutes of Previous Council Meeting** The minutes of the Council Meeting on December 16, 2025, were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Knudsen and was seconded by Councilman Moehle. The minutes were approved.

**Authorization of Claims and Financial Report** Councilman Knudsen made a motion to authorize the claims and accept the financial report. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lane. The motion passed.

**Unfinished Business**

- a. **Park Fountain.** Attaining a working fountain for the park dominated much of the conversation. Councilmen Knudsen and Lane have done considerable research on this subject and they presented their findings. The current fountain is 18 years old. Things to consider with getting a new fountain: 1. Price (\$3000-\$6000), 2. Length of cord needed (200 ft), 3. Lights (or not), 4. Spray pattern (height/width), 5. Horsepower, 6. Reconditioning current fountain, 7. Location of company where purchased (Des Moines/Michigan). Councilwoman Bumgardner made a motion to have Councilman Lane take the current fountain to Des Moines to have it evaluated. If it can be reconditioned for \$1500 or less he can decide. Otherwise, the Council would need to be contacted. He will be reimbursed for mileage and meals. Councilman Moehle seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- b. **FY27 Budget** The Clerk presented the Council with information relating to the maximum tax levy for FY27. After reviewing the information, Councilman Lane made a motion to “request with utility replacement,” an amount of \$48,500. This would result in \$48,370 in taxes levied at a rate of 7.67%. Councilman Knudsen seconded the motion. The motion carried. Because of an increase in property valuation, this would increase the amount received by \$495.00 with a slight decrease in the tax rate of .0534%.

It was decided to hold the public hearing on the proposed tax levy on Monday, April 6, at 6:30 p.m. at 3005 Hickory Lane. The proposal will be posted on March 25, 2026.

The Clerk gave the Council copies of a spread sheet containing the necessary information to complete a proposed budget. This will be taken up in February.

**New Business**

- c. **Approve Review & Update to City Ordinances** The City Ordinances have not been reviewed for some time and the books need to be updated. Ordinances related to parking RVs and boats, fireworks, and use of golf carts have been adopted but do not appear in the current book of ordinances. Other ordinances need to be considered to bring city regulations into alignment with those of the State of Iowa. Councilman Moehle moved to have the Mayor be in contact with the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission for help with this process. Councilwoman Baumgardner seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- d. **Approve Lawn Service for the 2026 Season** TopNotch Lawn Care has proposed service for the next mowing season at the same rates as last year. Councilman Lane moved approval of this service for 2026. Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- e. **Approve the Purchase of a New Water Tester** The Mayor is currently doing the daily water testing under the certification of Flint River Management. This is with view to the City taking over the water testing after a six-month period. It will save considerable cost by doing this. It was moved by Councilman Knudsen to purchase a new water tester for the City use. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Dee Bumgardner. The motion carried.

**Mayor/ Councilmember Comments**

**City Utilities**

- a. **Review A/R Aging Summary** The summary was reviewed.

**Adjournment** Councilman Lane made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Moehle. The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Monday February 16, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Home of Mayor Brant Knudsen at 3005 Hickory Lane

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Brant Knudsen, Mayor**

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**Nancy Erickson, Clerk**