



Minutes

City Council Work Session Meeting

Oelwein City Hall, 20 Second Avenue SW, Oelwein, Iowa

August 11, 2025 - 6:30 PM

Roll Call

Present: Lenz, Cantrell, Payne, Seeders, Ricchio, Weber

Also Present: Mayor DeVore, City Administrator Mulfinger

Absent: NA

Pledge of Allegiance

Discussions

1. Utility Assistance Program.

DeVore opened the meeting letting the public know this was not a traditional work session and all audience members were encouraged to ask questions and voice their opinions and concerns. DeVore asked residents state their name and address for the city.

Mulfinger presented on the Utility Assistance Program.

Warren Fisk, 102 6th Ave SW, stated he want to help people but had concerns about the proposed program. Fisk encouraged homeowners to get insurance for these issues. Fisk wanted to see a nonprofit take on this program and not the city. Fisk stressed that the community should be able to provide \$11,000 each year to this program and it should not come from fees. Fisk also took issue with contract sale homes being allowed into this program.

Carol Tousley, 909 3rd Ave SW, questioned the city council on the availability of grants and if those could pay for this program.

Shelly Dempsey, 708 2nd Ave SW, questioned the need for a donation when the city just raised rates and should be able to cover the program. DeVore stated the rate increase is being used for infrastructure projects and not this program.

Janet Schon, 131 3rd Ave NW, stated she agreed with Fisk. She stated anyone with home insurance should take on the extra policy for water and sewer lines.

Ammon Morgan, 105 4th Ave SE, stated his water bill in Utah was much cheaper than his water bill in Oelwein. Morgan stated he also had issues with contract buyers receiving assistance. He wants the city to look at ways to help people in contract sales.

Mike Scheidt, 243 Lincoln Drive, felt the leak assistance program was the best program and should be funded. He did not want anyone to fall behind on their bill because of a leak.

Councilmember Seeders wants staff to investigate the city providing information to first time homebuyers about the importance of utility line insurance and what to expect maintaining their utility lines.

The public meeting had 13 people in attendance.

Adjournment