

City of Van Meter, Iowa

City Council Workshop Minutes – March 23, 2026

1) The Van Meter City Council met for a workshop on Monday, March 23, 2026, at the Van Meter United Methodist Church located at 100 Hazel Street, Van Meter, IA 50261. Mayor Herman called the meeting to order at 6:15pm. The following council members were present upon roll call: Travis Brott, Joe Lake, Jason Barney, Jarin Young, and Joel Akers.

Staff present: Library Director Jonatha Basye, Police Chief Michael Brown, Parks and Rec Director Sam Chia, Fire Chief Mark Schmitt, Public Works Director Drew McCombs, City Engineer Randy Johnson, and Interim City Administrator-Clerk Travis Cooke.

2) Motion by Akers to approve the agenda. Seconded by Young. On roll call, the votes were as follows: Akers – Yes; Brott – YES; Barney – YES; Lake – YES; Young – YES. **YES (5) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (0)**

3) Microsoft representatives Jackie Nickolaus and Sara Hansen from Microsoft gave a presentation on the proposed data center project the company has been planning in conjunction with the city and answered questions regarding the developer agreement. Motion by Ackers to approve Resolution #2026-25-A Resolution Authorizing Development Agreement with Microsoft Corporation. Seconded by Young. On roll call, the votes were as follows: Akers – Yes; Brott – YES; Barney – YES; Lake – YES; Young – YES. **YES (5) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (0)**

4) Council discussed FY27 budgets for parks and recreation and public works.


5) Motion by Brott to approve Resolution #2026-26 Setting Date for a Public Hearing for the FY 27 Budget Hearing for April 27, 2026, at 6:15 PM at the Van Meter United Methodist Church, Van Meter, IA. Seconded by Akers. On roll call, the votes were as follows: Akers – Yes; Brott – YES; Barney – YES; Lake – YES; Young – YES. **YES (5) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (0)**

6) City Administrator search updates were discussed.

7) Motion by Brott to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Young. On roll call, the votes were as follows: Akers – Yes; Brott – YES; Barney – YES; Lake – YES; Young – YES. **YES (5) NO (0) ABSTAIN (0) ABSENT (0)**. Mayor Herman adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.



Joe Herman, Mayor



Travis Cooke, City Clerk