



COMMUNITY CLIFF NOTES

City of Lake Winnebago, MO | Monthly Newsletter



I would like to thank our Police Department for all their efforts during this trying time with the Hwy 291 construction project, as well as the residents on South Shore and the villas for their patience.

On the first day of the road closure, LWPD stopped more than 25 semis from coming through South Shore, although some still slipped through. Next, they handed out nearly 20 speeding tickets in one day. This past Monday just when we thought things were getting better, we discovered Google Maps was now routing traffic through South Shore instead of Ward Road or Hwy 7. Our Public Works Dept is putting more signs out to try and help with the situation, however, we have discovered a literacy barrier with many of the drivers who have been stopped.

The good news is the project is ahead of schedule so hopefully this issue will be resolved sooner than later. Once again, thank you to everyone for their patience and understanding.

Thank You, Mayor Collar

LEADERSHIP

Michael Collar
Mayor

Nick Lombardo
Ward 1 Alderman

Steve Stephan
Ward 1 Alderman

Don Davis
Ward 2 Alderman

Craig Brandon
Ward 2 Alderman

Kathy Ray
City Clerk

Steve Besermin
Public Works Director

Michael Mrachek
Police Chief

Barbara Aaron
Court Clerk

Krista Meinders
Assistant Clerk

Lake Winnebago Police Department Update

Lake Winnebago Residents,

LWPD has been working closely with Mayor Collar and other city employees relative to the on-going construction project on Highway 291 and the corresponding effect it is having on the city. Specifically on S. Shore Drive, Kidwell Road, and Wild Horse Parkway. LWPD will continue to dedicate as many patrol resources as possible to these locations. I have spoken with many residents regarding this situation and have welcomed their input. Please attempt to limit our youngsters' presence on S. Shore Drive until this project has been completed. Scooters and similar methods of transport and recreation are difficult to see under normal circumstances. Every effort we make to decrease the odds of an accident is important. Please utilize patience when driving on S. Shore and we will all get through this together.

Representatives from LWPD attended Wyandotte County, KS, Deputy Sheriff Elijah Ming's funeral on August 11th and will also be attending Kansas City, KS, Police Department Officer Hunter Simoncic's funeral on September 3rd.

LWPD participated in the August 24 Winnebago Days community event at the AYC and will be engaged in both the upcoming "Shopping in the Park" and "Smoking on the Point" events as well.

Pease feel free to email, call, or stop down at the department with any issues or concerns. Our goal is to keep everyone safe.

Michael G. Mrachek
Police Chief
Lake Winnebago Police Department
mgracheki@lwpd.org
816 537 7900



Lake Winnebago Police Department

Thank you, Dan!



Asst Clerk Krista Meinders presenting retired KC Wolf, Dan Meers, with a gift from The Ski Club at LW for his retirement from the KC Chiefs and Ski Club.

Backflow Certificates

Reminder Backflow Certificates need to be turned into City Hall every year.

Do you irrigate with city water? If so, you are required by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to have a backflow prevention device installed and have it tested every year. If you are not compliant your water can be turned off by MDNR. Please email your current backflow certificate to asstclerk@cityoflakewinnebago.com

For more information, please visit MDNR

[CLICK HERE](#)

Tickets for August 2025

Total: 111 tickets

Collected \$\$7,888.81 for the month of August 2025

Driver's License - 12	General Driving - 2
No Insurance - 19	Accidents - 2
Registration - 24	Sign/Signal - 5
Speeding - 27	Passing - 1
Defective Equipment - 9	DUI, Alcohol-Drugs, Traffic - 6
Traffic/Other - 3	C&I Driving - 1

Warnings Written for August 2025

Total warnings written: 51



Moving Violations – 7
Registration – 23
Speeding – 12
Defective Equipment – 6
Trespass - 2
Other - 1

City Hall 816-537-6778
Police non-emergency 816-537-7900

Want to Receive the Monthly Cliff Notes Newsletter?



If you would like to stay up to date on current happenings at Lake Winnebago and would like to receive the monthly Cliff Notes, please send your email address to asstclerk@cityoflakewinnebago.com. We promise your email will be used for City Business only. **Note: More than one person per household is allowed to sign up!**

BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

CITY OF LAKE WINNEBAGO

August 28, 2025 at 7:00pm

REGULAR BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

ROLL CALL - Mayor Collar opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. City Clerk, Kathy Ray, took roll call. Members attending were Mayor Collar, Aldermen Craig Brandon, Don Davis, Nick Lombardo, and Steve Stephan. Steve Besermin Director of Public Works, Ron Hillerman City Inspector, Chief Michael Mrachek, City Attorney Lindsey Kolisch with Lauber Municipal Law, LLC., and a few residents attended. Mark Meinders, HOA Liaison, was absent. Kathy Ray served as secretary.

PUBLIC HEARING

To receive public input on the proposed real estate and personal property tax rates for the City of Lake Winnebago, Cass County, Missouri for the year 2025.

Mayor Collar stated the purpose of this public hearing was to receive public input on the proposed real estate and personal property tax rates for the City of Lake Winnebago, Cass County, Missouri for the year 2025. The Mayor, Alderman Craig Brandon and the City Clerk met with Piper Sandler to review the proposed 2025 tax levy rates. The proposed tax levy for the general fund is \$0.6897 and \$0.8687 for the debt service fund with a total levy of \$1.5584. He explained there was increase in the overall assessed value to \$100,621,000 from \$87,069,000 over last year, however the Missouri Hancock Amendment limits government tax increases by requiring local governments to reduce their tax rates if assessed property values increase by larger percentage than the general inflation rate. This year the general levy rate decreased by .00567 and the debt service fund had no change from last year. The total expected additional general revenue over last year is estimated at \$95,000.00. The senior property tax freeze will impact the budget process going forward. The “freeze” is actually a tax credit that prevents your property taxes from increasing beyond the amount paid in your initial year of eligibility. The city will need to understand the fixed revenue that the senior property tax freeze participants have on the total revenue paid to the city going forward. There were no comments from the Aldermen or the residents. The mayor closed the public hearing, Alderman Don Davis moved to close the hearing, seconded by Nick Lombardo. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, Steve Stephan-yea. The hearing was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Board of Aldermen Work Session Meeting 7-23-25 – Board of Aldermen Meeting 7-23-25, Alderman Don Davis moved to approve the Board of Aldermen Work Session meeting and Board of Aldermen meeting minutes from 7-23-25, seconded by Alderman Nick Lombardo. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, Steve Stephan-yea.

2. MAYOR – provided the following updates:

- He has been working with MoDOT to improve the road closed signage and requested increased presence of the Police department on South Shore Drive. He believes the project will be completed ahead of schedule, but the crew is looking at schedules for the paving. He will communicate with the community if he learns more about the updates to the project timeline.
- Resident John Hawkins wanted to express his concern about how dangerous he has witnessed individuals going over the speed limit along South Shore Drive since the 291 highway MoDOT project started. He would like to request more Police patrolling in the area during the project.
- Resident Ed Charland also shared his concern with dangerous driving on South Shore since the 291 highway MoDOT project started. He has witnessed concerns with speeders that could impact walkers and kids along the street. He has also witnessed tailgating and passing on the wrong side of the street. He would like the police to consider using temporary speed bumps or digital speed signage. Please keep our streets safe.
- He has been collaborating with staff to finalize the employee handbook. Last month Alderman Stephan had recommendations specifically to the City Administrator role. Those recommendations were reviewed and accepted. The mayor also recognized that City Clerk does the majority of City Administrator role. He thanked her for dedication and all that she does for the city.
- He has been collaborating with staff to resolve the pool fence code violations.

3. BOARD OF ALDERMEN – No comments.

4. COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS – No comments.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

CITY OF LAKE WINNEBAGO

August 28, 2025 at 7:00pm

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Review Final Docket of Court, Court Fee Report and Court Bond Report for July 2025 – The Mayor confirmed the Judge had signed the court docket.
- Review of the Civic Leadership Nomination - The Mayor recommended City Clerk for the award, after discussion, Alderman Don Davis made a motion to accept the recommendation and Alderman Nick Lombardo seconded. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, Steve Stephan-yea. The city clerk respectfully declined and would defer the recognition to when she retires from her role with the city. She appreciates the acknowledgement but would recommend the board consider another candidate for the 2025 calendar year.
- Appoint 2025 Budget Committee – Mayor Collar recommended the following individuals to serve on the 2026 Budget Committee: Mayor Collar, Alderman Craig Brandon, Director of Public Works Steve Besermin, Jordan Long, Chief Michael Mrachek, City Clerk Kathy Ray, Court Clerk Barbara Aaron, and Assistant Clerk Krista Meinders. Alderman Nick Lombardo moved to appoint Mayor Collar, Alderman Craig Brandon, Director of Public Works Steve Besermin, Jordan Long, Chief Michael Mrachek, City Clerk Kathy Ray, Court Clerk Barbara Aaron, and Assistant Clerk Krista Meinders to serve on the 2026 Budget Committee, seconded by Don Davis. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea Nick Lombardo-yea, Steve Stephan-yea.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- Review of the lake development project status – Mayor shared Mark Meinders report, the HOA shared the amenities and pool area are on target to open in Spring of 2026.
- Review city code for fencing a pool - Ron Hillerman City Inspector presented an overview of the status of the residents remaining in city pool fence code violation. After discussion, the aldermen agreed to leave the city pool fence code the way it is currently. They recommended the staff write a final letter to individuals that remain in violation of city code. The board instructed the city attorney to create an amendment to the city code to allow retractable pool covers. The board thanked the staff for all their work regarding this topic.
- Review of the golf cart ordinance – Mayor Collar shared that the Police continue to monitor the safety of under aged drivers and individuals not adhering to securing the children in appropriate safety seats will driving golf carts.
- Review the section 400.420 section 11 regarding recreational vehicles or equipment such as boats, boat trailers, camping trailers, converted buses or trucks, house trailers, golf carts, UTV and ATV – After review, the board of alderman would like to keep the current code regarding storage of recreational vehicles or equipment. They would like the city attorney and staff to amend the code to not allow golf carts, low speed vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, and utility task vehicles to be parked on the street or on grass.
- Review the definition of recreational vehicles, golf carts, UTV and ATV – After reviewing the board recommends no change to the current definitions.
- Review the sewer, storm sewer and street project timeline – the mayor and director of Public Works reviewed the manhole repair bid from Visu-Sewer with the aldermen. After discussion, Alderman Craig Brandon made a motion to accept the Visu-Sewer bid for \$157,002.00, seconded by Nick Lombardo, Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, and Steve Stephan-yea, Steve Besermin informed the board that the staff is reviewing potential curb repairs in October. The staff will communicate with the community when the target start date and project locations.

7. BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

- Bill No. 751-25, Ordinance No. 984 - An ordinance setting the rate of taxation to be levied for the year 2025 for the City of Lake Winnebago, Cass County, Missouri: General Fund \$0.6897, Debt Service Fund \$0.8687, Total: \$1.5584 - After Mayor Collar read by title only Bill No. 751-25, Alderman Craig Brandon moved to go to the second reading, seconded by Alderman Nick Lombardo. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, and Steve Stephan-yea. After discussion, the tax levy general levy of .6897, debt service \$0.8687, Total: \$1.5584, Alderman Craig Brandon made a motion to accept tax levy rate for general \$0.6897, debt service \$0.8687, Total of \$1,5584, seconded Don Davis. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, and Steve Stephan-yea.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN MEETING

CITY OF LAKE WINNEBAGO

August 28, 2025 at 7:00pm

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS CONTINUED

- Bill No. 752-25. Ordinance No. 985 – An ordinance to establish a procedure to disclose potential conflicts of interest and substantial interests for certain officials. After Mayor Collar read by title only Bill No. 752-25, Alderman Steve Stephan moved to go to the second reading, seconded by Alderman Don Davis. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, and Steve Stephan-yea. After discussion, Alderman Steve Stephan made a motion to accept the establish procedure to disclose potential conflicts of interest and substantial interest for certain officials, seconded by Craig Brandon. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, and Steve Stephan-yea.
- Resolution No. 555-25 - A Resolution adopting an updated version of the City's employee handbook - after discussion Alderman Don Davis made a motion to accept the employee handbook dated August 2025, seconded by Alderman Nick Lombardo, Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, Steve Stephan-yea.
- Resolution No. 556-25 - A Resolution to start the 2026 budget process for the City of Lake Winnebago, Cass County, Missouri - after discussion Alderman Nick Lombardo made a motion to begin the 2026 budget process, seconded by Alderman Craig Brandon. Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, Steve Stephan-yea.

8.COMMITTEE REPORTS

- HOA/LAND COMPANY – Mark Meinders – absent - Mayor shared Mark Meinders report, the HOA shared the amenities and pool area are on target to open in Spring of 2026. The HOA also wanted to thank the Police Department regarding two lake incidents that recently occurred.
- LEGAL – City Attorney – Lindsey Kolisch – reported there are new sunshine updates, and she will bring to the mayor and the board an ordinance to amend the code in September.
- FINANCIAL – City Clerk, Kathy Ray
 - Review July 31, 2025, Financial Statements
 - Review July 2025 Check/Deposit Register - after review of the check register Alderman Craig Brandon made a motion to accept the check register, seconded by Nick Lombardo, Passed with 4 yeas and 0 nays. Polling: Craig Brandon-yea, Don Davis-yea, Nick Lombardo-yea, Steve Stephan-yea. Passed unanimously. The city clerk informed the Mayor and Board there were the following out of the normal expenses this month:
 - Astro Enterprises – 4th of July Fireworks display
 - National Sign – Replacement Street signs
 - The work comp audit remains open due to staffing issues. It should be completed by the end of September.
- POLICE, FIRE, CIVIL DEFENSE – Chief Michael Mrachek – the following updates:
 - Numerous calls for service this month
 - Supported two boat incidents on the lake. He thanked highway patrol for their support.
 - August hosted a national night out and thanked the participants involved.
 - Improving technology moving away from Rejis to Mules system
 - A few officers attended a training course to maintain compliance requirements.
 - Attended a service for a local officer.
- PLANNING AND ZONING – Don Davis – no report.
- WATER, STREETS, SEWERS – Steve Besermin – no report.

9.OTHER BUSINESS – City Clerk, Kathy Ray reminded the mayor and aldermen that trash will be picked up on Monday, September 1, 2025. The holidays that the trash company will not be picked up if the holiday falls on a Monday, are Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

- The current October 22, 2025, board meeting does not have a quorum. The mayor and the Aldermen would like to move the meeting until October 15, 2025.

10.ADJOURN BOARD - Alderman Craig Brandon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM, seconded by Nick Lombardo. Passed unanimously.

- Next Board of Alderman meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.