



Willows City Council Regular Meeting Action Minutes

September 23, 2025
Willows City Hall
Regular Session: 6:00 PM

City Council
Evan Hutson, Mayor
Rick Thomas, Vice Mayor
Matt Busby, Council Member
Gary Hansen, Council Member
Lorri Pride, Council Member

City Manager
Marti Brown

City Clerk
Karleen Price

201 North Lassen Street
Willows, CA 95988
(530) 934-7041

1. CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen and Pride

Councilmembers Absent: None

4. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

5. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

- a. **Proclamation** – Global War on Terrorism & Desert Storm Veteran’s Appreciation Day received by John Benningfield and Kevin Triance.
- b. **Proclamation** – Breast Cancer Awareness Month received by Janice Smith, Survivor
- c. **Proclamation** – National Fire Prevention Week
- d. **Proclamation** – National Farmer’s Day received by Larry Domenighini, Glenn County Farm Bureau

6. PRESENTATION

- a. **Improving Park Safety and Infrastructure** presented by Joe Bettencourt, Community Development & Services Director

7. PUBLIC COMMENT & CONSENT CALENDAR FORUM

- a. **Register Approval**
Action: Approved general checking, payroll, and direct deposit check registers.
- b. **Minutes Approval**
Action: Approved the September 9, 2025 meeting minutes.

c. **Rezone (File# RZ-25-01) & General Plan Amendment (File# GPA-25-01) / 103 South Plumas Street**

Action: Introduced an ordinance entitled “AN ORDINANCE OF THE WILLOWS CITY COUNCIL GRANTING THE REZONE TO AMEND THE ZONING FROM CENTRAL COMMERCIAL (CC) TO MULTIPLE RESIDENCE-PROFESSIONAL OFFICE (RP) AND A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT TO AMEND THE LAND USE DESIGNATION FROM GENERAL COMMERCIAL (GC) TO OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL (OP) FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 103 SOUTH PLUMAS STREET, ASSESSOR’S PARCEL NUMBER 002-113-001” and directed staff to proceed with scheduling the ordinance for a second reading and adoption.

Motion to approve the consent calendar as presented.

Moved/Seconded: Vice Mayor Thomas/Councilmember Hansen

Yes: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen and Pride

No: None

Absent: None

8. PUBLIC HEARING 7:01PM

a. **Appeal of Conditional Use Permit Denial (File# CUP 25-02)**

Action: Motion to granting the appeal and approving Conditional Use Permit No. CUP 25-02 for a Retail/Dispensary Cannabis Business operated by WWCRS, Inc., for the property located at 130 N. Butte Street, Assessor’s Parcel Number 003-044-005 within the Central Commercial Zone. Motion amended to include modifications to Conditions #1, 16, and 37 of the CUP and adding a condition that revenue sharing is paid monthly.

Public Hearing Open 7:01PM, Closed 7:18PM

Public Comment #1: Karen Johnson

Public Comment #2, Manuel Treto

Public Comment #3: Lani Cleveland

Public Comment #4: Leslie Westch

Public Comment #5: Stefan Crespo

Public Comment #6: Shirley Benningfield

Moved/Seconded: Vice Mayor Thomas/Councilmember Busby

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen and Pride

No: None

Absent: None

Motion Passes 5-0

Mayor Hutson recessed the meeting at 7:55PM. The meeting was reconvened at 8:03PM.

9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION CALENDAR

a. WWCRS, Inc. Retail/Dispensary Cannabis Business License, 130 North Butte Street

Action: Motion to approve a resolution approving a Retail/Dispensary Cannabis Business License for WWCRS, Inc. for the property located at 130 N. Butte Street, Assessor's Parcel Number 003-044-005 within the Central Commercial Zone. Motion amended to include the amended Conditions of Approval as previously approved for the Conditional Use Permit.

Public Comment Open ,Closed

Public Comment #1: Reverend Linda Robert

Public Comment #2: Holly Meyers

Public Comment #3 Janice Smith

Public Comment #4: Sherry Brott, Planning Commission Chair

Public Comment #5: Shirley Benningfield

Moved/Seconded: Vice Mayor Thomas/Councilmember Busby

Roll Call Vote

Yes: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby

No: Councilmember Hansen and Councilmember Pride

Absent: None

Motion Passes 3-2

Mayor Hutson recessed the meeting at 9:17PM. The meeting was reconvened at 9:25PM.

b. New Carpet for Library (Backroom)

Action: Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager enter into an agreement for an independent Emergency Medical Services assessment study.

Moved/Seconded: Vice Mayor Thomas/Councilmember Busby

Yes: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilmembers Busby, Hansen and Pride

No: None

Absent: None

c. Wayfinding Sign Design Review

Action: Directed staff to present final designs to Planning Commission for final approval.

10. COMMENTS & REPORTS

a. **Council Correspondence**

Mayor Hutson reported receiving an invitation from UC Agriculture and Natural Resources event and received an email regarding Willows Walmart Grand re-opening.

b. **City Council Comments & Reports**

c. **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Marti Brown advised Council of two upcoming events:

- National Night Out, Texas Style, to be held October 7, 2025 from 4:30 – 7:00 PM at Central Park.
- National Wildlife Refuge Week, October 14, 2025 from 4:30-6:00pm, including Hawks, Honkers, and Hoots Wildlife Show, a reception with Sacramento Wildlife Refuge, followed by a proclamation at the City Council meeting.

11. CLOSED SESSION 9:38 PM

a. **Conference with Labor Negotiators (\$54957.6)**

Agency Designated Representatives:

Marti Brown, City Manager and Andrew Plett, City Attorney

Employee Organizations: UPEC, Fire and General Bargaining Units, and Management

Report Out: Direction given to staff.

b. **Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of section 54956.9: (1 case)

Report Out: Direction given to staff.

c. **Conference With Legal Counsel—Existing Litigation**

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)

Name of case: John Forbes, et al. v. County of Glenn, et al.;

Glenn County Superior Court Case No. 23CV03205

Report Out: Direction given to staff.

12. ADJOURNMENT – 10:26 PM

Karleen Price, City Clerk