

# CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting  
Minutes of September 3rd, 2024

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Margaret Estrada called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

- a. Welcome by Mayor Margaret Estrada
- b. Flag Salute Led by Council Member Frank Jaime

## **ROLL CALL:**

- a. Council Members in attendance: Chuck Stephens-Excused, Rita Alvarado, Frank Jaime, Ken Workman, Oscar Gonzalez, Elizabeth Villa, and Caroline Solis.
- b. City Staff in attendance: Interim Clerk Alondra Juarez, Fire Chief Bob Clark, Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker. Police Chief: Craig Janis
- c. Others that were present: Mid Valley TV Sean Davido.

## **MEETING AGENDA:**

Additions & Deletions. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the meeting agenda. Council member Caroline Solis motioned to approve the meeting agenda. Council member Ken Workman seconded.

## **MEETING MINUTES:**

Minutes from August 19th, 2024, were presented for approval. Mayor Margaret Estrada called to approve the August 19th, 2024 meeting minutes. Council member Rita Alvarado made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Council member Frank Jaime seconded; motion carried.

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the consent agenda. Council member Rita Alvarado made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council member Frank Jaime seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

**Gina Ramos:** Labor Day at the park, the main concern was disability parking. The disability parking was too far and defeated the purpose. People were angry and would like to have more disability parking spots.

**Curtis King:** State senator from the 14th legislative district. I participated in the parade and wanted to say who put it together and did a great job.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Progressive Estimate N.2:** Gray and Osborn progress estimate, a lot of citizens without water and hoping in the next weeks it should be finished. TIB granted the city up to 800k to use every dollar for water valve and fire line improvements. Once approved, it will be moved to AP to be paid. Rita wanted clarity regarding for zero bill while Jeff clarified. Council member Frank Jaime made a motion to approve, and Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried.

**B. Filipino American History Month Proclamation:** Rey Pascua spoke about Filipino month on October 18, 1587, the first time a Filipino landed in the United States. 10 year effort for the state legislation approved Filipino American History Month. I hope that Wapato's brother is now a statue. He would love to introduce a list of famous Washingtonians who happen to be Filipino. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve, and Council member Oscar Gonzalez seconded. Motion carried.

**C. 2025 Dispatch Services Contract:** Craig Janis, Chief of Police Yakima County, has done it since we don't have our own. Council member Rita Alvarado made a motion to approve, and Council Caroline Solis, a member, seconded. Motion carried.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

#### **Interim Clerk: Alondra Juarez**

Inform the council that the DRS audit has been completed. Continue to work with the state auditors, and we have submitted reports for adjustment reports, end-of-year, and general ledger for 2020-2022. We will be meeting with the department head for preliminary budgets next week.

#### **Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker**

The new budget will be discussed with the department heads this coming up week. We are waiting for a response to the extension for the grant form department. Water

treatment facility water testing is happening. We are using County Arpa funds for the well 5. Once the extension is done, there is a loan grant matched and submitted for the grant for metal removal study for the wastewater.

**Fire Chief: Bob Clark**

Animal control: took in 10 animals.

Code enforcement: Little Caesar's project continues, hoping to break ground soon.

Fire: 472 calls. Last Friday morning, they had a fire, and two houses were threatened.

Other fire departments came to assist. I participated in the harvest festival and would like to thank the Lion Club. The kids enjoyed the fire trucks.

**Police Chief: Craig Janis**

245 calls for service, 88 traffic stops in two-week time span. Calls are reducing. Officers are being more active and have asked the county to come in. Numbers are slowly starting to come down because officers are being proactive and would like to continue to keep that up. One of the officers working with DEA and the majority of the drugs were found here in Wapato. Cocaine, marijuana, and fentanyl powder are here in Wapato and the surrounding area. Inspire building is coming along.

Council Oscar: Is there any way the outside can be cleaned, and the grass cleaned the payment?

Craig Janis clarified that there is an active and proactive

Council Rita: The Xpress Mart sets up a tent, and we would like that to be cleared out.

Craig Janis, when I see them, I do have them move along, but that only moves the places.

Craig Janis, met with the new director of Noah's Ark, understands the laws, and would like to clean that up.

Council Elizabeth: Store owners should not allow the homeless to solicit.

Craig Janis encourages the council that they are welcome to go on a ride along with them. They have provided showers; some officers provided rides to have them come to the showers that were out and needed to get there. Has been issuing infractions to nontribal members drinking in public. Since they have been doing this there has been.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Frank Jaime made a motion to adjourn. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned.

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Margaret Estrada, Mayor

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Alondra Juarez Interim Clerk