

# CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting  
Minutes of January 16, 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, Rita Alvarado, Frank Jaime, Ken Workman, Oscar Gonzalez, Elizabeth Villa, Caroline Solis.
- b. City Staff in attendance: Clerk Kathy Davis, Fire Chief Bob Clark, Public Works Director. Interim Police Chief Mike Deccio via Zoom. Sgt. David Beckwith, Officer Adrian Ramirez.
- c. Others that were present: Via zoom Attorney Julie Norton, Mid Valley TV Sean Davido.

## **Public Hearing:**

None

## **MEETING AGENDA:**

Additions & Deletions. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the meeting agenda. Council member Rita Alvarado a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **MEETING MINUTES:**

Minutes from January 2, 2024 were presented for approval. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting minutes. Council member Rita Alvarado made a motion to approve meeting minutes from January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Gracie Sexton from Department of Agriculture – Wanted to let the community know that there are still Japanese beetles spotted in Wapato. There is more information at city hall. The Department of Agriculture will be back out in May & June to spray.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

No old business

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Kelly Garza – Wapato School District Superintendent - There will be a school bond levy in February. Three schools need to be replaced, Camas, Status, and Pace. The buildings are approximately 100 years old. There will be a community forum January 23<sup>rd</sup> at Camas Elementary for more information.
- b. Memorandum of Understanding, AFSME Union Cost of Living increase – The union reps asked for a 5% increase, but it was accepted at 3.5%. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the MOU. Council member Caroline Solis made a motion to approve the MOU. Council member Rita Alvarado seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Election of Mayor Pro-Tempore – Frank Jaime and Ken Workman were both nominated for mayor pro-tempore. After the vote Ken Workman was voted in as Mayor Pro-Tempore.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

#### **Fire Chief: Bob Clark**

- \* Animal Control – Took 4 dogs to the animal shelter. There was a very aggressive dog running around. With school getting ready to close for the day public works were able to locate the dog. Chief Clark managed to capture the dog and took it to the pound. The pound held it for 72 hours, and with no owner contact it was put down.
- \* Code Enforcement – With the severe weather we have been having building permits slowed down.

- \* Fire Department – 20 Calls for January. The replacement drone will be arriving soon. There has been another operator certified to operate the drone.

**Clerk: Kathy Davis**

- \* Getting W2's ready to mail out. Things at city hall are going well.

**Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker**

- \* Safe Streets grant has approximately \$17,000 to use. Next council meeting Mr. Schumacker would like to hear some ideas from the council. The ideas will be presented to TIB.
- \* Mr. Schumacker has applied for another grant. It is for archiving old data. He wants to use it for the cemetery. The grant would cover \$20,000 for the cemetery, \$20,000 for the building, and \$50,000 for the program.
- \* It is that time of year when temperatures drop, please keep your faucets dripping so pipes won't freeze.

**Interim Police Chief: Sgt David Beckwith/Mike Deccio**

- \* Adrian Rameriz was present and met the council members. Officer Ramirez started on Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>. Glad to have him aboard.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Ken Workman made a motion to adjourn. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

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Margaret Estrada, Mayor

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Alisia Sanches, Interim Clerk