

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of October 07th, 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-Excused, Frank Jaime, Ken Workman, Oscar Gonzalez-via zoom, Elizabeth Villa-Excused, 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 Frank Jaime motioned to approve the meeting agenda. Council member Caroline Solis seconded.

MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from September 16th, 2024, were presented for approval. Mayor Margaret Estrada called to approve the September 16th, 2024 meeting minutes. Council member Caroline Solis 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 Ken Workman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council member Frank Jaime seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Esmi Larios: I would like to thank Elizabeth Villa. I spoke to her at the Catholic Charities location in Yakima. I am a volunteer with the Red Cross and the home fire campaign. Interest in any partnerships to seek to engage with fire departments that have the community's trust and that we have resources. We are looking to work together to host local events together. Partnerships with the Red Cross will enhance community awareness and preparedness for fire safety. Also, additional resources for after-fire and cleanup resources.

Kiona Dick: Marla is not here, but I'm sure that it's because she's tired; she put on the tamale festival last weekend. Another weekend that was put onto Wapato even though family member passed. One thing we encountered is that city workers showed up late, I made a few phone calls. At 7:22am I called Lori, we also noticed that the gates to the city work facility were opened and somebody went over there and knocking on the doors and nobody answered or anything. But I think they started showing up about quarter to 8:00am but we had to let them use the water at the Lions Club so they can start setting up and everything so I just wanted to let you guys know. I know we did see one council member there.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A.** Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval for the Progress Estimate 3 approval. Jeff, this is the third estimate for Naches Avenue. You have already gone through one and two, and this one has gone through the transportation approval board. I just need the council to approve it before moving forward to receive funds from the state. My best guess is you have two more coming your way before the project is done. This one is the larger of the last two, and it will be the middle of November before you see the pay estimate come through. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve, council member Ken Workman second. Motion carried.
- B.** Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval for Liquor License-Restaurant San Juan approval. Officer Beckwith: I don't have anything to discuss. To my knowledge and experience, there have never been any incidents related to liquor or DUI. Council member Frank Jaime made a motion to approve, and council member Caroline Solis second. Motion carried.
- C.** Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval for Liquor License-Temptations Restaurant & Bar approval. Officer Beckwith: for temptations, I know they have taken calls for domestic violence incidents, parking complaints, and parking

complaints in their previous locations. There have been reports nothing confirmed of drug dealing from this location as well. But nothing we have been able to verify. Council member Ken Workman would like the motion to be tabled until Chief Janis and Council member Jaime Frank second. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Interim Clerk: Alondra Juarez

Let everyone know that the headstone setting for the Cemetery will be finalized by next week until the following spring, at the end of March or early April, depending on the weather.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker

Currently, the public works water department is surveying every connection in the city for copper and lead. It is done annually, and health is approved every four years. Sidewalk repair started this week, and industrial water meter service starts this week as well and will continue for the next two weeks. Naches' schedule is coming to its last week, as we discussed the pay estimate. I expect pavement to be all done the last week of October and the first week of November, and wrap that up and weather holes and some stripping afterward. The Mayor and I will be attending an ICC conference this 21st. We will be approaching all funders for the state and federal funders for the possibility of many grants that we can get just like we did the previous year. Our goal is around 5-6 million in grants. In the past couple of years, we have easily qualified for grants; the Mayor will be the first time meeting going up there and meeting these funding agencies in person. Jesse Farias was a regular at the ICC conferences. He never missed a day, and he did really well up there. Money is available for this town, and that is where you will get it, you have to show up and attend the meetings.

Fire Chief: Bob Clark

Animal control: The number of loose animals continues to be an issue in our city. I would like the opportunity to remind citizens to please keep their animals inside, on a leash.

Code enforcement: Little Caesar's project continues to move forward; their building plans were submitted last week, and we expect the approved plans to come back shortly.

Jeff and I regularly contact Catholic Charities on both of their projects. In regards to Phase 1 we are expecting to have their plan corrections on the first 10 houses completed in the next 3 ½ weeks. Once this is completed the approved plans will be returned and those 10 building permits issued.

Fire: 62 calls for service, 83 last year. Down 21 calls from last year. Since we last met, the fire department has had a number of significant events occur; there was an overdose on the North side of town that took 3 Nark tanks to bring back this individual, and thankfully, we were successful. From last Tuesday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon, we had 3 fentanyl overdoses in the city. One of those required CPR. All three

individuals survived. Also, last Friday morning at 2:00 am, YSO and WPD discovered a shed on fire in the alley of 500 block of S Tieton Ave that was threatening the primary residence. Through a quick response by our team, along with assistance from Officer Beckwith and Ramirez, we were able to keep damage to the residence to a minimum. There were no injuries. The cause of the fire is undetermined after investigation.

Police Officer: Beckwith

268 calls for service, 6 assaults, 5 burglaries, and 7 domestics; Chief Clark, alluded to the 3 overdoses, 2 sex crimes, and 5 vehicle proves. The most major ones that I expect that you would want to know about are. I don't have the previous year's number, so I can't say trending-wise what it is looking like. I can say that officers are out there patrolling, so I would imagine those numbers trending in the downward direction.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Margaret Estrada, Mayor

Alondra Juarez Interim Clerk