

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of February 20, 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: Interim Clerk Alisia Sanches, Fire Chief Bob Clark, Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker. Interim Police Chief Mike Deccio.
- 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 made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from February 5, 2024, were presented for approval. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the February 5th meeting minutes. Council member Ken Workman made a motion to approve meeting minutes from February 5th. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gray & Osborne – Wastewater facility plan and nutrient optimization assessment contract. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval of the contract. Council member Rita Alvarado made a motion to approve Gray & Osborne contract. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carries unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Basin Disposal – Proposed rate increase. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval on Basin Disposal proposed rate increase. Council member Ken Workman made a motion to approve. Council member Elizabeth Villa seconded. Motion carries unanimously.
- b. Yakima County and City of Wapato ARPA Contract – Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval on ARPA contract. Council member Caroline Solis made a motion to approve. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carries unanimously.
- c. Approval of French Lane Plat – Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval of French Lane Plat. Council member Rita Alvarado made a motion to approve. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carries unanimously.
- d. Liquor License – Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval of Wapato Mart (Roadrunner) liquor License. Council member Caroline Solis made a motion to approve liquor license. Council member Oscar Gonzalez seconded. Motion carries unanimously.
- e. Liquor License – Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval of International Market liquor license. Council member Frank Jaime made a motion to approve liquor license. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carries unanimously.
- f. Contract for conflict indigent defense services – Mayor Margaret Estrada called for approval of the contract. Council member Frank Jaime called for a motion to approve the contract. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carries unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief: Bob Clark

- * Animal control report- For the month of January 10 animal control calls were received resulting in 9 dogs being taken to the Humane Society. So far for the month of February 8 calls have been received and Two dogs have been taken to the Humane Society. There are huge amounts of dogs going through the Community. A large pack has been seen between the Middle School, Adams, and Simcoe area, which two of those have been caught as of February 20th. And is working diligently to keep the kids safe.
- * Code Enforcement report- Building permits are starting to pick up.
- * Fire Department report- In the last month of January 61 calls have been received. Which is a 10% decrease from last year in January with 68 calls.

Interim Clerk: Alisia Sanches

- * Is working on the grant from the county. Everything in City Hall is going well. Handed out new iPads to the Council Members for future council meetings.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker

- * Well 5 project is set to start towards the end of July.
- * Addressed issue with traffic on First Street. He mentioned that they are entering into early discussion with engineers and then go back to DOT to possibly look into adding traffic signals and will be conducting studies. But stop lights are strongly being considered being placed from Ahtanum up to 97.
- * Jeff Schumacker is currently working on the RCO Parks Plan, which is a \$96,000 grant. He is hoping to get some of the council's ideas within the next few months.

Interim Police Chief: Mike Deccio

- * So far, for the month of February officers have received 185 calls for service, 13 of those calls have resulted in arrests.
- * Wapato police officers assisted in attempting to locate the suspects from a home invasion robbery that took place in Toppenish.
- * Officer Ramirez is set to start the academy in March and will be attending the new academy out in Pasco.
- * An interview board will be set up on February 22nd to hire a full time investigator. The current candidates are within the department.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Frank Jaime made a motion to adjourn. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Margaret Estrada, Mayor

Alisia Sanches, Interim Clerk