

CITY OF WAPATO
Regular Council Meeting – Council Chambers
Minutes of March 7, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Juan Orozco called the regular Council meeting of Wednesday, March 7, 2018 to order at 6:01 pm.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance
- b. Welcome

ROLL CALL:

- a. Present: Those in attendance included Mayor Juan Orozco, Council members, Tony Gaytan, Dora Alvarez-Roa, Tony Guzman, and Frank Jaime
- b. Absent: Council Members Keith Workman, Ralph Sanchez
- c. City Staff Present: City Attorney (CA) Robert Noe, Interim Public Works Director (IPWD) Jeff Schumacker, Public Safety Director Campos, Lead Utility Operator John Macias, and Clerk-Treasurer (CT) Robin Cordova, and Fire Chief Santos Valdez.
- d. City Staff Absent: None

HONORS/RECOGNITION: None

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL:

- a. Mayor Orozco requested to add the City Attorney's payment voucher be added to f the meeting could be adjourned due to not having sufficient time to read the meeting packet. Councilwoman Alvarez-Roa made a motion to approve the meeting agenda and Councilman Sanchez seconded. It was a tie vote, Mayor Orozco broke the tie, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Motion by Councilmember Roa-Alvarez to approve the Consent Agenda seconded by Councilmember Sanchez. Mayor Orozco broke the tie vote, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

- a. None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Regular meeting called back to order at 7:21.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A motion was made to approve the ordinance language pertaining to a previously passed motion changing the meeting date and time to the first Wednesday of every month at 6pm. Motion was

made by Council Member Alvarez-Roa, Council Member Sanchez seconded. Tie vote was broke by Mayor Orozco, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Council does not have to act on the following items because this is the first touch, unless they make a motion to do so.

Public Safety Director Position: Mayor Orozco explained to Council that by restructuring our administration to include a Public Safety Director Position the city would save a significant amount of money because we wouldn't be paying two chiefs. Councilwoman Alvarez-Roa made a motion to approve the ordinance creating a Public Safety Director position. Councilman Gaytan seconded. Motion carried.

Central Valley Bank Authorization: Mayor Orozco explained that Central Valley Bank needs proof that City Clerk Robin Cordova has permission by Council to access and have administration rights to Wapato City finances at Central Valley Bank. Councilmember Alvarez-Roa made a motion to give permission to Central Valley Bank to have City Clerk Robin Cordova as administrator over CVB accounts, Councilmember Gaytan seconded, motion carried.

Wapato Swimming Pool: WA State Dept. of Labor and Industries currently has a "Hold Tag" on the Swimming Pool due to unsafe operating conditions. After speaking to different contractors, the consensus is to completely revamp the entire pool. This would include the chlorinator, heating system, all electrical feeds, and cosmetic aspects. Councilmember Alvarez-Roa made a motion to go out for bids to remodel the swimming pool. Councilmember Reyna seconded. Council members Guzman, Workman, and Jaime voted no. Motion carried.

Department Head Assignments: Mayor Orozco swore in Detective Campos as the new Chief of Police. Chief Campos made a speech thanking the community, council, and police force for their support. He promised to bring good attributes to the Wapato Community, which includes his communication skills in being bilingual. He confirmed his love and loyalty for the community, the city, the police department, and his job. Sgt. Deccio explained the selection process for selecting the Chief of Police. He thanked the Mayor on behalf of the Wapato Police Dept. for allowing the department to recommend its own Chief.

Mayor Orozco introduced Jeff Schumacker as the new acting Public Works Director. Mr. Schumacker thanked the council for giving him the opportunity to serve as Public Works Director for the City of Wapato.

Probation Contracts: Yakima County has asked each city to contribute to the expense in covering probationary service expenses in our criminal justice system. Council Member Alvarez-Roa made a motion to approve the contract to assist in providing Yakima County monetary coverage for probation services. Council member Sanchez seconded, motion carried.

REPORTS

- a. Correspondence- None.
- b. Committee Reports

1. Cemetery Board: John Rocha,
 - Deputy Clerk Treasurer Erica Rocha has applied for a grant to cover \$5,000 in lighting for the cemetery.
 - There have been 12 benches sold.
 - The Cemetery Committee is going to meet after the council meeting.
- c. Department Reports
 1. Police Department: Sgt. Campos
 - The Police Dept. is getting closer to locating the shooting suspects in the recent shooting on 1st St.
 - The Police Dept. is progressively looking better.
 2. Fire Department: Fire Chief Valdez
 - Fire Chief Valdez passed out packets for a review of callouts for the previous year.
 3. Public Works: Jeff Schumacker
 - The cemetery had a few trees that blew over during the high winds throughout the weekend. The Public Works dept. was sent out right away to clean up.
 - Rodent control will continue at the cemetery.
 - Security lighting at the cemetery will be helpful.
 4. Mayor's Report:
 - Mayor Orozco has been working with WA State Dept. of Labor & Industries. The Dept. had originally demanded a city wide inspection, but after the Mayor visited the dept. in Olympia, the inspection has been dropped.
 - There will be significant savings by combining the Lead Utility Operator and Public Works Director Position, and the Fire Chief and the Police Chief to Public Safety Director.
 - French Lane Project. Catholic Charities will fund 21 houses being built. These houses will be up for purchase. Mayor Orozco explained that this is a great idea, but it also comes with questions that need to be answered. There is no oversight on the selection process for homeowners. Once the houses are purchased, there is no oversight to ensure that they are maintained. There is also a potential for traffic congestion at the intersection without the installation of a traffic light. There is \$35,000 not being used for this project that can now be used somewhere else.
 - The city would like to use the undedicated \$35,000 to purchase a new mower for the cemetery, approximately \$15,000. The lowering device that is used to lower caskets is a very poor quality and there is a potential of dropping caskets as they are being lowered in the grave. A new one of good quality will cost about \$3,000. With the \$17,000 that is remaining, it would be nice to purchase entry and exit gates that work on timers.

- There is a lot of work that is currently being done at the cemetery. The Public Works Dept. is working diligently to locate, dig up, and realign headstones. They are also trimming and cleaning the debris around the bottom of the trees

5. Community Center: Councilman Frank Jaime

- Mayor Orozco said that they will be repainting the inside of the Community Center soon. They Mayor thanked Councilman Jaime for his hard work and commitment in taking care of the community center. Now the Public Works Dept. will take over opening and closing the center after events. The building will be rekeyed and all financial transactions will go through City Hall.

6. Admin/Finance:

None

7. Planning Commission:

None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Orozco thanked Chief Valdez for all of his hard work and dedication. Motion was made by Councilmember Jaime to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Reyna. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Juan Orozco, Mayor

Robin Cordova, Clerk-Treasurer