

# CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting  
Minutes of October 18, 2021

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Keith Workman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

- a. Welcome by Mayor Keith Workman
- b. No Flag Salute due to being a call-in meeting.

## **ROLL CALL:**

- a. Council Members in attendance: Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Estrada, Chuck Stephens, Frances Ayres, Elizabeth Villa, Caroline Solis, Frank Jaime.
- b. Absent: Jessie Farias
- c. City Staff in attendance: Police Chief Nolan Wentz, Fire Chief Bob Clark, Clerk/Treasurer Kimberly Grimm, Public works Director Jeff Schumacker.
- d. Others that were present: City of Wapato Attorney Julie Norton, Minutes taker Kathy Davis, Recorder Judy Duvall

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Keith Workman called for the approval of the consent agenda. Council member Margaret Estrada made motion for the approval of the claims and payroll vouchers. Council member Elizabeth Villa seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Lease agreement between the Community Center and Emerald Care. Emerald Care has signed the lease to use the Community Center from October 19 thru November 17 provided there were no construction change orders or such.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Fire Chief:** Bob Clark stated that in September of 2021 the fire district had 51 calls. In September of 2020 there were 30 calls. That is a 70% increase. For the third quarter of 2021 the fire department responded to 147 calls. Chief Clarks stated that by the end of the year 2021 the fire department could reach 600 calls. That would set a record for the Wapato Fire Department. There are currently two fire fighters in EMT training and

one in recruit training. They should be done by the end of the year. In September there was a shortage of ambulances which delays response time. There were six overdose cases last week alone. There has been a loss of personnel for various reasons. As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, there are 13 volunteers at the fire department. Between districts there has been a 43% loss of personnel. The four Automated Chest Compression devices have been ordered. Chief Clark is busy applying for grants for fire equipment. Friday night October 22<sup>nd</sup> is Wapato High Schools homecoming game. Fireworks are expected.

**Animal Control:** Chief Clark is trying to keep up with the strays. It has been a difficult task due to the high volume of calls for the fire department.

**Code Enforcement** is seeing an increase in building and some of the projects are nearing completion. The concrete ecology blocks that Doug Milne would like to use for his home will not work. Bob Clark, Jeff Schumacker, and Nolan Wentz are working with Mr. Milne to find a solution. They have a meeting scheduled for Wednesday October 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss some solutions.

**Clerk/Treasurer:** Kimberly Grimm stated that she is busy getting the USDA report for the Waste Water Treatment Plant done. The report is due November 1<sup>st</sup>. Kimberly has received the preliminary report from the auditors. Kimberly must respond by October 29<sup>th</sup> and then roughly two weeks later the auditors will have the final report and it will be presented to the council. Kimberly is busy working on budget. She is going to be setting up a workshop for the council to go over budget.

**Public Works Director:** Jeff Schumacker stated that public works made a presentation for a grant. Out of 60 to 70 applicants Wapato is in the top ten. Jeff stated that they scored high in their presentation. Jeff should know the first week of November if they will receive the grant. The grant is ADA Compliant so the work will start with school routes where the children walk to school.

**Police Chief:** Nolan Wentz stated the cars that were ordered two months ago should be in this month (October). The police department has seven officers. Chief Wentz stated he will be starting an IA Conference. It is an infrastructure meeting to get the new police station going.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Keith Workman called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Chuck Stephens made motion to adjourn. Council member Elizabeth Villa seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

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Margaret Estrada, Mayor Pro-Tempore

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Kimberly Grimm, Clerk/Treasurer