

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of February 23, 2022

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 via phone, Frank Jaime, Frances Ayres, Elizabeth Villa, Caroline Solis.
- b. City Staff in attendance: Police Chief Nolan Wentz, Fire Chief Bob Clark, Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker, Clerk Kathy Davis
- c. Others that were present: Recorder Judy Devall.

MEETING AGENDA:

No additions or deletions

MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from February 7, 2022 were presented for approval.

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of January 18th Meeting Minutes. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve meeting minutes from February 7th. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the consent agenda. Council member Frances Ayres made motion for the approval of the claims and payroll vouchers. Council member Frank Jaime seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Workman had asked that in lieu of flowers for Mayor Keith Workman's funeral that donations be made. Mr. Workman stated that Keith had spent a lot of time riding around with the police officers. Donations of \$2150.00 had been received. Mr. Workman presented the funds to Chief Wentz. Chief Wentz was speechless.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Approval of Contract with Humane Society: Chief Clark stated that there has been a large number of strays in the city. It seems that they are getting dropped off. Chief Clark has asked the Humane Society to help. This is a three-month contract at \$2250.00 per month. Chief Clark is optimistic that with the Humane Societies help they can catch most of the strays.
Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the contract with the humane society. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the contract with the humane society. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Approval to Purchase a Police Car: Chief Wentz stated there is a car in Kansas, where they purchased the last car, for sale. The cost is \$28,450.00. The funds will come from the monies owed from the Wapato School District for SRO's. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval to Purchase the police car. Council member Chuck Stephens made motion to approve the purchase of the police car. Council member Frank Jaime seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Approval of Liquor License
 1. Wapato Mart, Roadrunner: Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the liquor license for Wapato Mart. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the liquor license for Wapato Mart. Council member Elizabeth Villa seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
 2. International Market: Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the liquor license for the International Market. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the liquor license for International Market. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
 3. Temptations Restaurant Bar and Nightclub: Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the liquor license for Temptations Restaurant Bar and Nightclub. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the liquor license for Temptations Restaurant Bar and Nightclub. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. The vote was 4-1 with Elizabeth Villa voting opposed. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief: Bob Clark stated that for the Fire Department in January 2021 there were 45 calls for service and January 2022 there were 63 calls for service. That is a 40% increase. It is encouraging there has been a great turnout of firefighters for calls. There has been a strong interest from the firefighters to do the weekend duty program. That helps ensure there is coverage 7 days a week. There has been an interest amongst the firefighters in the Lieutenant and Captain position. Mr. Clark plans on providing the city with experienced firefighters to help lead the team.

Animal Control: There has been an influx of strays and with the Humane Society contract it will help to alleviate some of them.

Code Enforcement: There are multiple residential and commercial projects in the city, and they are in various stages of completion. O'Reilly's project is on schedule and plans to open the end of March. 14 graffiti abatement letters went out and there are only two properties that have addressed the issues. Mr. Clark and Mr. Schumacker will begin the process to notify the owners they will be painting the graffiti. They will start with the businesses that have a high visibility. There will be a 48-hour notice to the businesses that don't comply before public works goes on the property. An estimate will be given to business for public works to do the painting.

Clerk: Kathy Davis stated that things are going well at city hall. There a several funerals that have been scheduled.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker stated that the transportation grant has certain criteria that has to be followed. They will be replacing some sidewalks, putting in some sidewalks close to the schools. They will install flashing crosswalk lights at the crosswalks near the school crosswalk. The grant is good for foot transportation.

Police Chief: Nolan Wentz stated that their new hire Arthur A. will be going to police academy March 8th. On March 4th he will have another officer starting. She was a corrections officer. Mr. Wentz will be looking for one more officer. The court clerk position has been filled. He has city experience and will be starting the 1st of March. Mr. Wentz is still looking at cameras. They need to be able to get pictures of the license plates. The Inspire building is now dry and Chief Wentz is looking for funding to get the place ready to use. Mayor Margaret Estrada gave Chief Wentz and the police department kudos for such a quick response to the shooting that happened.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Kiona Dick from the Lions Club asked if she could start planning the Harvest Festival. Ms. Dick also asked if she could use the park to hold an Easter egg hunt for Easter. With things starting to open the approval to proceed was given. Mr. Schumacker requested dates so that public works could have things ready for them.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to adjourn. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned.

Margaret Estrada, Mayor Pro-Tempore

Kathy Davis, Clerk