

# CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting  
Minutes of March 21, 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, Rita Alvarado, 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.
- c. Others that were present: Recorder Judy Devall, City of Wapato Attorney Julie Norton via Zoom.

## **MEETING AGENDA:**

No Additions & Deletions. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for no additions/deletions. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **MEETING MINUTES:**

Minutes from March 7, 2022 were presented for approval.

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of March 7th Meeting Minutes. Council member Rita Alvarado made motion to approve meeting minutes from March 7th.

Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Approval of Community Center Rates. With Covid restrictions lifted it is time to rent out the Community Center. Rates have not been looked at for some time. Rates at other places have increased tremendously. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval to raise the rental rates of the community center. Council member Caroline Solis made motion to raise the community center rates. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. There was one nay. Motion carried with a 4-1 vote.
  
- b. Approve scope of work with Gray & Osborne on EPA Clean Water Act for Drinking Water. Nancy Wetch from Gray & Osborne was present to present Amendment 6 to contract professional engineering services. This is the risk assessment for the city water system. There are some vulnerable points, so an emergency response is required to have in place. Mayor Margaret Estrada call for the approval of the Amendment 6 Clean Water Act for drinking water. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve Amendment 6 Clean Water Act contract. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. There was one nay. Motion carried.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Fire Chief:** Bob Clark stated that calls were slightly above average for March. Our firefighters, along with seven other city agencies responded to the Stonehenge Tavern fire in Zillah. The help is part of a pre-established mutual aid agreement that all cities and fire agencies have in Yakima County. When someone needs help the cities can be called in to help. There are two new firefighters one is an experienced firefighter/emergency medical technician and the other one is just beginning their career. That brings the volunteer roster to 19.

**Animal Control:** Megan Goss has been doing a great job. In three weeks, she has picked up 15 dogs, 6 puppies and 4 cats. Two of the dogs have been aggressive. There have been two citations handed out by our police officers.

**Code Enforcement:** There has been an increase in business owners and residents painting over the graffiti. Building permits for additions, remodels, and new construction continue to come in.

**Clerk:** Kathy Davis out sick.

**Public Works Director:** Jeff Schumacker stated that the wastewater plant has found a way to remove the copper. They are about 96% of removal. Most of it is coming from the old, galvanized pipes. All the old homes in the city have galvanized pipes. It is allowing zinc to go through to the wastewater plant. There are preliminary talks to build 120 homes in Wapato. This will be good for revenue. Growth is going to help save our city. Mr. Schumacker is looking at banners to be put up downtown. He will bring samples next meeting for council to look at.

**Police Chief:** Nolan Wentz stated that there was a truck that had been vandalized. Not sure why, there was no one inside. The patrol car from Kansas is here. Just waiting for parts to get it on the road. Our court clerk Nona Cook is retiring. Kevin Collins from Yakima will be taking her position. If you have time stop by and say hi. Chief Wentz is looking at eight different cameras. Looking for the best one but not spend a lot of money. YVCOG will be here on Tuesday to talk about the crime lab that will benefit all.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Kiona Dick, President of the Lions Club. The Lions Club had been broken into. There was extensive damage. Drug paraphernalia was all over along with burnt spots where there had been small fires started. There are two tables that will have to be disposed of. Ms. Dick got so much help quickly. Found two boys in the building, they managed to get out through the garage door but were quickly caught. Armondo Garcia went and covered a hole in the door. Mr. Schumacker stated that there needs to be a steel rollup door on the garage.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to adjourn. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

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Margaret Estrada, Mayor Pro-Tempore

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Kathy Davis, Clerk

