

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of March 7, 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, 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, City of Wapato Attorney Julie Norton via Zoom.

After roll call Clerk Kathy Davis swore in counsel member Rita Alvarado. She took her seat at position #2.

MEETING AGENDA:

Deletion of New Business letter A, to fill council position #2. It was done in a work session.

MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from February 22, 2022, were presented for approval.

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of February 22nd Meeting Minutes.

Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve meeting minutes from February 22nd. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Fill Council Position #2. This was done in a work session before the regular meeting.
- b. Approval to Surplus old vehicles and equipment. Chief Wentz stated that the police department has some vehicles that they no longer use and wants to surplus them. They also have some other items such as laptops and modems. Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker stated that public works had some vehicles that don't run, and they would like to surplus them also. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval to surplus the items. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the surplus of the items. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Approve contract with Gray & Osborne for Inspire Building Restoration. Nancy Wetch from Gray & Osborne was present to present a contract to restore the Inspire building. There was a lot of water damage from a broken pipe. The insurance will pay for the repair to restore the building to what it was before. But to save on some costs some things do not need to be restored. Nothing new can be put in but other items can be removed. Mayor Margaret Estrada call for the approval of the Inspire Building Restoration contract. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the Inspire Building Restoration contract. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief: Bob Clark stated that calls are up about 19% so far this year. Most of the calls have been for alcohol and drug use. He is having a great turnout of volunteers responding to calls. Several are wanting weekend duty.

Animal Control: With the new Humane Society contract, Megan Goss, has come out to help. She is working three hours a day 5 days a week. In the first week of Megan being here she trapped 7 animals. One dog was vicious and tried to bite a child. Thankfully the skin was not broken. She is doing a great job.

Code Enforcement: Mr. Clark has been working with public works and trying to keep the graffiti down. A local business will be doing a large expansion later this year.

Clerk: Kathy Davis stated that things are going well at city hall. With help from Tim DeVries at Gray & Osborne closeout paperwork has been done. Payments from Catholic Charities \$107,000.00, and Chamber of Commerce \$37,500.00 have come in.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker stated that public works is continuing to work on potholes. They have cutout some sections by the cemetery. Public Works is putting the final touches on the parking lot by the park. Mr. Schumacker stated that there will be an energy assessment at the wastewater treatment plant. The power bill has been anywhere from \$7,500.00 to \$8,500.00. He will be looking into why it is so much.

Police Chief: Nolan Wentz stated that their new hire Arthur Alcazar will be leaving for the police academy March 8th. Jasmine Garcia started last week, not sure when she will be going to the academy. Mr. Wentz is still looking at cameras. The ones that he is looking at can be moved from one place to another. Chief Wentz is busy trying to get funding for the police department.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

LaDon Linde, Yakima County Commissioner was present. He wanted to inform the council that Yakima County will be receiving \$48million in ARPA funds. With the final rules finished on the ARPA funds Yakima County would like partner with other cities to help stretch dollars. The areas that they are looking at are public safety, public health, and infrastructure. End of March they should have the application available to apply for funds. Mr. Linde also mentioned that Yakima did a county clean-up. They want to be help community's clean-up. If any other cities need help removing debris the county would be willing to help.

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 8:00pm.

Margaret Estrada, Mayor Pro-Tempore

Kathy Davis, Clerk