

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of June 6, 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, Ken Workman, Frances Ayres, Elizabeth Villa, Caroline Solis.
- b. City Staff in attendance: Police Chief Nolan Wentz, Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker, Fire Chief Bob Clark, Clerk Kathy Davis.
- 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 June 6, 2022 were presented for approval.

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of June 6th Meeting Minutes. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve meeting minutes from June 6th. Council member Ken Workman 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. Approval of Flock Safety Cameras. Chief Wentz mentioned that these are the cameras that have been presented. They would be helpful to the city. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Flock Safety Cameras. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the Flock Safety Cameras. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – Recognize Juneteenth as a paid holiday. Juneteenth is a federal holiday it is commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans. The state has recognized it as a holiday. The MOU is for the AFSME employees. The MOU is good through December 2024 when the AFSME contract is up for renewal. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. One council member opposed. Motion carried.

- c. Approval of Community Center Security Contract. This is the same contract that is in place but with an increase of rate for the security. The events need two security guards so to pay both there needed to be an increase. The rate went from \$300.00 to \$600.00. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Community Center Security Contract. Council member Chuck Stephens made motion to approve the Community Center Security Contract. Council member Francis Ayres seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief: Bob Clark stated that fire calls are were at 55% for May. Year to date they are up 16%. There are two new volunteers bringing his crew up to 20 volunteers. The fire department was awarded a grant from Yakima Nation Casino in the amount of \$18,237.00. The fire department will be purchasing a drone to help with fires and to assist police. FDA mandates a license to fly the drone. Chief Clark along with a couple other fire fighters will be taking a class to fly the drone. Chief Clark is completing some grants from the City of Yakima. Animal Control: Megan Moss has been busy around Wapato. The animal shelter is overflowing with animals to adopt, unfortunately adoptions are down. Code Enforcement: O'Reilly's is scheduled to open June 18th.

Clerk: Kathy Davis stated that with the loss of the utility billing clerk at City Hall they are busy cross-training. They will bring in a part time cashier to help. Kathy heard from the auditors, and the Federal audit will start in August.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker stated that Public Works applied for three different grants with the transportation improvement board. They received a \$50,000.00 grant. This will allow them to put in two crossing zones, one at 9th and Camas and the other at 9th and French Lane. Mr. Schumacker was very proud of what happened at the cemetery of Memorial Day. The guys that are out there are being aggressive to keeping the cemetery looking great. Striping will start this week weather permitting. Scope of work for repair is done for the new police department and will be sent to the insurance company. Then it will be sent for bids to do some repair work.

Police Chief: Nolan Wentz stated that there has been a lot of activity lately. The police department has picked up the one responsible for the fire on 2nd street. There is one new hire that is going through the hiring process and will be going through the last process of a psychological test. If he passes that then the medical physical is the last step, then he can be hired. There are two officers in the academy one finished in July the other in August. Chief Wentz thanked the council for the cameras. They will be a great asset for the city. The police department received a grant from the Yakima Nation for \$7,500.00. This will be used for the purchase of computers for the police vehicles.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Doug Milne: Mr. Milne is trying to get permits so that he can finish the church building. Mr. Milne met with Brian Rogers at Code Enforcement. Mr. Rogers is waiting for Mr. Milne to complete some paperwork to get things rolling. Mr. Milne wanted the city to step in, but the City of Wapato cannot do anything because there are laws, rules and regulations. Until he meets the requirements with Code Enforcement, he will not be able to continue.

Salvador: Mr. Salvador came seeking the approval to use the soccer field. He is wanting to start a youth soccer league. The age group will be from ages 6 – 11. He is concerned for the children and wants to help the kids stay busy and out of drugs and gangs. With the children involved in the league he can help train the next generation to become good leaders. The youth soccer will be free for the kids.

Kiona Dick: Ms. Dick stated that she is seeing a lot of pop-up events in different parking lots and in front of stores. She was wondering if they shouldn't have a business license and/or food handler cards.

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