

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2022

Mayor Rebecca Vipperman called the regular meeting of the Wendell City Council to order at 7:01 PM. Council members present were Council President BJ Marshall and Councilman Shaun Spencer; Councilman Juan Gonzales and Councilman John Gnesa. City Attorney Tim Stover was also present.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Gnesa made a motion to approve the October 20, 2022, regular council meeting minutes as presented. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Spencer- Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

Councilman Gnesa made a motion to approve the November 17, 2022, regular council meeting minutes as amended. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Spencer- Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

BILLS

Councilman Gnesa made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$60,917.09. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall- Aye, Councilman Spencer-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

(Public Works/Clerk-Treasurer/Fire/Police/Library/Ordinance)

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Balanced Rock- New Rates for Current Plan and Plan Options 2023

Jason and Lori Bergsma of Balanced Rock presented, via speakerphone, the new rates for renewal of the current health insurance plan as well as additional plan options for the City of Wendell employees. The plan rates increased by nearly 25% over the City's projected increase. Other plans were examined but the current plan is a "one of a kind" health plan and there were none on the market to compare it to. It was also discovered that the budgeted amount was inadequate to cover any increase due to a miscalculation. Mayor Vipperman stated that we would be over budget in this category regardless. A lesser plan was discussed but it did not satisfy the council. The council felt that it was unfair to give the staff a much-deserved cost of living raise (October 2022) and then put staff in the position of having to be spend it on increased out-of-pocket expenses for health insurance. After discussion, it was agreed that the current plan is the best option in spite of the increase. **Councilman Gnesa** made a motion to accept the Pacific Source Gold HSA health plan renewal. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall- Aye, Councilman Spencer-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Caselle W-2/1099 Processing Proposal

The Clerk, Karri French, presented the proposal from Caselle to process the W-2/1099's for 2022. The price is the same as last year. After a brief discussion, **Councilman Gnesa** made a motion to accept the proposal from Caselle to process the w-2/1099's for 2022 not to exceed \$1625. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall- Aye, Councilman Spencer-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Resolution 197-2022 Broadband Assessment

This is the resolution discussed at the November 17,2022 meeting, authored by Region IV and reviewed by City Attorney Tim Stover. After a brief discussion, **Councilman Gnesa** made a motion to accept Resolution 197-2022 Broadband Assessment as presented. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall- Aye, Councilman Spencer-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

Chip Seal Bids for 2023

Public Works has multiple priority projects for 2023 and requests that the council allow for bids to be gathered for the year's road maintenance (chip seal, repairs). This will free up valuable time for Public Works to concentrate on these projects. **Councilman Gnesa** made a motion for Public Works Director Steve Devereaux to begin acquiring more information, gathering specs and work with City Attorney Tim Stover on the bidding process. **Councilwoman Marshall** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall- Aye, Councilman Spencer-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye** and **Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law for Maverik Variance Request

City Attorney Tim Stover presented. This document is the formal decision regarding the variance request from Maverik after council made their decision on November 17, 2022. After a brief discussion, Councilman Spencer made a motion to approve the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law for the formal decision regarding Maverik's variance request. Councilman Gonzales seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall- Aye, Councilman Spencer-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye** and **Councilman Gnesa- Aye**; motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COUNCIL

Councilman Gnesa stated that Wreaths Across America would be placing wreaths on gravesites on December 16, 2022, at 2:00 PM and that a ceremony at the Veteran's memorial would take place on December 17, 2022 at 10:00 AM. A corporate donation was received for the wreaths.

Councilman Spencer stated that the school board voted to proceed with the Flag Plaza and that he is working with them on the wording for the agreement. He would also be consulting with City Attorney Tim Stover on the

agreement.

Councilman Gonzales stated that he noticed the snowplows were out early plowing the roads and putting down sand. He thanked Public Works for their hard work.

Councilwoman Marshall stated that a letter would be going home with students in Gooding and probably Wendell to test the internet speed as part of the Broadband project. She encouraged parents and citizens to participate.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman stated that the City of Wendell staff are doing a great job. This past year has seen many challenges, yet everyone continued to work together, and the city has an amazing team. She also stated that the Christmas Potluck will be held at City Hall at 2:00 PM for all employees and their families. Merry Christmas!

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 8:22 PM. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer



Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor