

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
July 20, 2023

Mayor Vipperman called the regular meeting of the Wendell City Council to order at 6:30 PM. Council members present were Councilwoman BJ Marshall; 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 June 15, 2023, regular council meeting minutes as presented. Councilman Spencer seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.

Councilman Gnesa made a motion to approve the June 29, 2023, budget workshop meeting minutes as amended. Councilman Spencer seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.

Councilman Gnesa made a motion to approve the July 6, 2023, regular council meeting minutes as presented. Councilman Gonzales seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.

Councilman Gnesa made a motion to approve the July 17, 2023, budget workshop meeting minutes as presented. Councilman Spencer seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-

Aye; motion passed.

BILLS

Councilman Gnesa made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$17,925.77. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.**

Public Hearings

Truck Route, Semi-trucks in the City Limits & Associated Issues

Mayor Vipperman opened the Public Hearing at 6:30 PM. She briefly introduced the topic to be discussed. The current truck route was established by ordinance in 2012 and updated in 2019. The purpose of this public hearing is to go over the current truck route and to hear from local truck drivers and citizens regarding the truck route and semi-trucks in the city limits. Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis went over the details of the current truck route with the council. **Mayor Vipperman** asked if any written comments were received by the clerk's office. The clerk responded that one written comment was received citing a noise complaint about trucks starting up in the early morning hours and coming in late at night.

In Favor:

None

Neutral:

None

Against:

Steve Connell-Connell Trucking- He said that many of the local drivers were unable to attend because it is harvesting season. He said that he is against the current truck ordinance. He said that he and his drivers go slow, and they do not usually operate early in the morning. He said that going past the high school and the city park are necessary because it is the best route overall to and from his business. He said that he would like to see East Main Street added to the

truck route.

Abdel Arreola- Roadrunner Trucking- He said that he wanted to know what the plan was and what the end goal was in reviewing the current truck route. Local truck drivers and agricultural drivers need to use the road. He said that he would like to see East Main Street added to the truck route.

Tom Neal said that he parks his truck at Connell Trucking because city ordinance does not allow him to park at his residence. He said that using East Main Street is necessary. He said that there are fields in the city limits that would not be able to get in and out at all without using Main Street and driving past the high school and the city park. He said that he would like to see East Main Street added to the truck route.

Tyler Connell said that trucks need to get where they are going, and local drivers are respectful. He said that other trucks are not and there has been a problem for some time with speeding semi-trucks coming into town on Hwy 46 going past New Life Church, the Ambrose subdivision, and the cemetery. He said that lowering the speed limit might be something to look into.

Mayor Vipperman asked the council if they had any questions, comments, or anything to discuss.

Councilman Gnesa said that he knows the local drivers are respectful, but the edges of the roads are being potentially damaged by heavy trucks. **Steve Connell** said that pickups, recreational vehicles, and school buses do more damage due to the way trucks are now designed. They are made with more axles to distribute the weight of the tractor and trailer better to help protect against damaging roads.

Councilwoman Marshall said that plenty of notice of the public hearing was given, she understands that it is harvest season, but she thought there would be more written comment from our local drivers.

Mayor Vipperman said that the city wants to take a good look at the whole truck route and our ordinance so that it can be properly taken care of. She said that she will contact ITD about the speed limit near the church and Ambrose subdivision.

City Attorney Tim Stover said that a traffic study would help. He said that there were even grants to help the city with the cost and that ITD would know more.

Councilwoman Marshall said that the city should also contact LHTAC.

Councilman Spencer will bring more information to the council at the next meeting.

Mayor Viperman closed the public hearing at 6:50 PM

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Caselle Conference 2023- Oct 10th & 11th

The Clerk presented to the council information on the upcoming Annual Caselle Conference. The conference is not until October but registering before August 12th saves the city \$155 if approved. **Councilwoman Marshall** asked what the difference was between the recent free Caselle classes and the conference. The clerk responded that the free training focused on three of the most commonly used modules in Caselle and provided in-depth training. The annual conference focuses on all seven as well as upcoming changes to the program and their potential benefit/impact to users based on the nature of their application in their workplace.

Councilwoman Marshall made a motion to send the Clerk to the 2023 Annual Caselle Conference. **Councilman Gnesa** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Nay; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.**

Agundez Construction Updated Bill

Agundez Construction gave us a bid last October (2022) for a project at the new park that was included in the City of Wendell's grant application to Gooding County. The amount quoted was \$13,200. Agundez Construction was able to start and complete the work after the city broke ground in May

and began building Hub City Park. Costs have increased since last October and Agundez Construction added \$2,425 to help cover those costs. After discussion, **Councilman Gnesa** made a motion to pay Agundez Construction for the work at Hub City Park not to exceed \$15,625. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.**

Consideration of Sod for Hub City Park

Mayor Vipperman presented to the council a bid for sod for Hub City Park. Good faith efforts were made to ask for additional bids, but none had been received by the time of tonight's meeting. After discussion, **Councilman Gnesa** made a motion to accept the bid from Windsor's Nursery for sod at Hub City Park not to exceed \$6,263.98. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.**

Consideration of Playground Chips for Hub City Park

Mayor Vipperman presented the council with two bids for playground chips for Hub City Park. After discussion, **Councilman Spencer** made a motion to accept the bid from Kimberly Nurseries not to exceed \$9,425.55. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.**

Consideration of Shade Structure for Hub City Park

Mayor Vipperman presented the council with two bids for metal roofed shaded structures for Hub City Park. After discussion, **Councilman Spencer** made a motion to accept the bid from Superior Recreational Products not to exceed \$22,250. **Councilman Gnesa** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilman Spencer-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Gnesa-Aye; motion passed.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall said that she had emailed the auditor regarding financial questions relating to the city's current budget but was waiting for a response.

Councilman Spencer said that the city is still waiting on the basketball hoops and hopes to have an update at the next meeting. He also said that everyone should see the work that has been done at the new Flag Plaza.

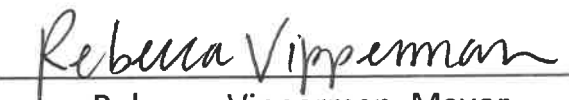
Councilman Gnesa asked what the process was for the VFW or anyone to put an application in for the city's sidewalk grant. The applications are available at City Hall and 2-3 bids are needed with the application. The application goes before the council for approval of the lowest bid. Residential applications that are approved qualify for a 75% reimbursement of the paid invoice and commercial applications that are approved qualify for a 50% reimbursement of the lowest bid.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman said that she was looking for information for the newsletter. She said that the expenses for Hub City Park were approximately \$90,000 so far. She also stated that the city staff are amazing, and they are doing a great job.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:44 PM. **Councilman Gnesa** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Karri French", positioned above a horizontal line.

Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer

