

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
September 21, 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; and Councilman Juan Gonzales. Councilman John Gnesa emailed the clerk's office, mayor, and council in advance that he may not be able to attend tonight's meeting. He also let the clerk's office, mayor and council know that he was resigning his seat and that this would be his last meeting.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Spencer made a motion to approve the September 7, 2023, regular council meeting minutes as presented. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Spencer- Aye** and **Councilman Gonzales- Aye**; motion passed.

BILLS

Councilman Spencer made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$13,137.87. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Spencer- Aye** and **Councilman Gonzales- Aye**; motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

NONE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Gerry Bates- Presentation of Tree City Plaque

Gerry Bates, South Idaho Forestry Assistant contractor, certified arborist,

and nurseryman, presented the City of Wendell with its 10-year Tree City USA award, plaque and 10-year flag.

Consideration of Push Button System and Signs for City Park

As part of an effort to provide safety for the schools and the city park along E Main Street in conjunction with the addition of E Main Street to the truck route, **Mayor Vipperman** presented the council with options and pricing for a push button crossing system. The system includes push button flashing crosswalks to be placed at Fairfield Street S going across E Main Street, at Gooding Street S going across E Main Street, at N Hailey going across E Main Street and at S Pocatello going across E Main Street. After discussion, **Councilman Spencer** made a motion to purchase four sets of push button rapid flashing beacon systems w/ arrow signs not to exceed \$16,000. **Councilwoman Marshall** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Spencer- Aye and Councilman Gonzales- Aye**; motion passed.

Update from McHugh Bromley- Memorandum & Motion

City Attorney Tim Stover stated that the memorandum and motion are a current update from McHugh Bromley. The purpose is to continue to protect Wendell's water rights and the water rights of other cities also represented by McHugh Bromley. No motion needed.

Consideration of New Sign for Hub City Park

Mayor Vipperman presented a design plan for a new sign for Hub City Park. The cost is within the mayor's purchasing limit, but she wanted to share the progress and get the council's opinion. The consensus was favorable. No motion needed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Proposed Turn Lane at the High School

Public Works Director Steve Devereaux presented the council with quotes for the proposed turn lane, but the quality of the road would suffer in less costly quotes. The funds are not available in the current fiscal year 2022-2023 budget. The new budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year was finalized in

August. The mayor and the council unanimously agreed that this must be done correctly and will have to wait for funding. This will be revisited in the future. No motion needed.

Consideration of Increase to Farmer's Credit Card Limit

City Clerk Karri French presented to the council the need for an increase in the city's credit card limit. There are only four cardholders. The current limit is not large enough for the needs of the city. It has prevented departments from making regular purchases at times. After discussion, Councilwoman Marshall made a motion to increase the credit card account limit to \$10,000. Councilman Spencer seconded the agreement. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Spencer Aye and Councilman Gonzales- Aye;** motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

NONE

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall thanked the council and Public Works for the stop sign on 4th Avenue W and Wallace Street N. She said that the problems she had seen before have all decreased, creating a safer environment for the residents in that area of town.

Councilman Spencer stated that the goals for the basketball court at City Park should arrive soon. He stated that the Rec District has expressed interest in putting in a mini pitch. He will attend the Rec District's meeting and bring more information to the council in the future. He also thanked LeeAnne Gonzales for all of her hard work on the library board and for going above and beyond to help the library and the community.

Councilman Gonzales stated that the cooperation between the city and the school district, the way the community has come together and events like the recent Homecoming parade are just one more reason to have pride in our town. Wendell looks better every day. He thanked Public Works, Wendell Fire, Code Enforcement, and the citizens of Wendell for all of their hard work. He also thanked the Gooding County Sheriff's Office stating that they are doing a great

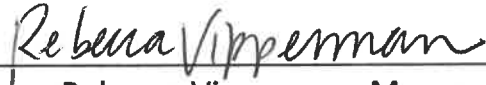
job.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman stated that she had recently visited Glens Ferry, Idaho and they paint their curbs. She stated that the painted curbs really make a very pleasant difference in how the sidewalks and curbs appear. She congratulated Fire Chief Bob Bailey on his anniversary as an employee of the City of Wendell. As of September 16, 2023, Bob has worked for the City of Wendell for 28 years! Mayor Vipperman thanked Public Works for painting the big "W" and "Trojans" on East Main Street near the High School. The stencils have been a big hit and will be borrowed for use in various places around town.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:36 PM. **Councilman Spencer** seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor



Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer