

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2024

Mayor Rebecca Vipperman called the regular meeting of the Wendell City Council to order at 6:30 PM. Council members present were Council President BJ Marshall; Councilman Juan Gonzales and Councilman Donald Dunn. City Attorney Tim Stover was also present.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Dunn made a motion to approve the November 21, regular council meeting minutes, as presented. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

BILLS

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$34,420.01. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Current Contract – Republic Services Acquisition of Western Waste

Jim Hutchinson, representing **Allied Waste Services of North America dba Republic Services**, stated that Republic Services was acquiring Western Waste. He came to ask the council for assignment of the contract with Western Waste to Allied Waste Services of North America, LLC dba Republic Services. **City Attorney Tim Stover** is still reviewing the recently received assignment contract. Tabled.

Consideration of Gooding County Permit Letter- Telecommunications Facility

Mayor Vipperman stated that the city is now waiting for more information from the county. Tabled.

Consideration of Historical Preservation Commission

Mayor Vipperman stated that there are three historical buildings in town with which she is currently concerned. Two are for sale and the third building's status is unknown. She stated that Wendell has very few original buildings left, and she would like to protect Wendell's charm and history if possible. She stated that she would like to form a committee of qualified volunteers to help achieve that. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that the city will need to pass an ordinance before creating a historical committee. Tabled.

Consideration of Staff Leaving Early on Christmas Eve

Mayor Vipperman stated that in the past the council had approved closing at 2 PM the workday before Christmas. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that this has been the practice for many years and staff has received pay for the full day. After a brief discussion, **Councilman Dunn** made a motion to approve city staff leaving at 2 PM on Christmas Eve, receiving pay for the full day. **Councilwoman Marshall** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Resolution 209-2024-City of Wendell Investment Policies & Consideration of Investment Options

The council has been discussing investing the city's money since early summer. The council has had several financial advisors and financial institutions attend previous meetings to offer investment options suitable for municipalities. The council decided to start by moving additional funds into the city's two existing LGIP (Local Government Investment Pool) accounts. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that she spoke with the city's auditors and, with their advice, was able to produce a conservative approach that leaves the city funds for operations and for two years' worth of bond payments. The library's building fund account will remain at Farmer's Bank. After discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to move \$368,848.00 (wastewater bond funds) to one of the city's LGIP accounts and \$6,000,000.00 to the second LGIP account. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Purchasing Policy

This item was added to the agenda in error.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Audrey Vipperman introduced herself to the council and stated that she had attended tonight's meeting as part of a class assignment.

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall stated that she will be unable to attend the community STEAM event that will be held next Thursday (December 12th), however, she saw that it was announced that **Councilman Gonzales** will be part of the event. She also stated that she had spoken to her nephew in Colorado regarding the tiny home information provided by **Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis** at the last meeting. She stated that she is getting information on a similar type of home in that part of Colorado called a mission home. The mission homes are a permanent structure where a tiny home can be mobile.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman thanked the Sutton's for creating and organizing the Christmas Light Parade stating that it was a big success and lined up with the tree lighting perfectly. She stated that the Christmas Tree Lighting event also went well with between 300-350 people in attendance. She thanked Public Works for building several stars to find one she liked for the tree. She stated that the

decorations around town look great and thanked Public Works and **Fire Chief Bob Bailey** for all their hard work restoring many of the old decorations. She announced that the Fire Department's annual Community Dinner held at the Magic Valley Portuguese Hall will be Saturday, December 7th from 4 PM-6 PM. This event is free to the community.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:37 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor


Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer