

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
December 19, 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.

Councilman Dunn made a motion to accept the agenda as amended with the addition of items New Business item A- Consideration of Extending Parking Time Limit (one block from 6th and 7th) and New Business item B Consideration of Liquor Licenses- Silver Spur and Stockman's Club and Unfinished Business item B Consideration of Gooding County Permit Letter- Telecommunications Facility. Councilman Gonzales seconded the motion.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Dunn made a motion to approve the December 5, 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 \$53,724.00. Councilman Dunn seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Extending Parking Time Limit (one block from 6th to 7th)

Mayor Vipperman stated that she had received complaints regarding truck parking past 6th Avenue. She invited Noel Briggs to make his statement regarding the matter. Mr. Briggs expressed concern regarding trucks parking for extended periods of time in front of the LDS Church. He stated that he found it disrespectful, that it caused debris to be scattered on the church's property, and that it was a traffic hazard. He stated that he and his wife had almost been in a traffic accident as they were leaving church because they couldn't see around the truck. He presented the Council with pictures of the manure that consistently was dropped by the truck on the church's property. Councilman Dunn, Councilman Gonzales, and Councilwoman Marshall all

stated that they had also notice the truck parked there. They agreed that it was a hazard. The council stated that they would like to see the ordinance changed to lengthen the area for parking restrictions on Idaho from f Avenue to 8th street. No motion was made. Ordinance to be reviewed at the next meeting.

Consideration of Liquor Licenses- Silver Spur and Stockman's Club

Mayor Vipperman stated that according to the city ordinance all liquor licenses were to come before the Council to be approved. She told Council that the Clerk's Office had verified that all requirements had been met by both businesses and that Council approval was the final step to issuing the licenses. **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to approve both licenses.

Councilman Gonzales seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye**, **Councilman Gonzales- Aye** and **Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Approving City Shop Addition Plans

Mayor Vipperman stated that although a certain amount had been budgeted this summer to expand the City Shop that the plans and estimates that had been received would be at least double the budgeted amount. Therefore, the Mayor requested that the Council see the plans and discuss the budget to see if the city could move forward with the plans as is. Public Works Director Stephen Devereaux discussed the need to expand the shop to the plans specifications to adequately house the city's property. He stated that the city spends money on new equipment and that equipment needs to be housed properly to extend its life. **Councilman Dunn** and **Councilman Gonzales** visited the City Shop recently to see about the plans and what was necessary and were in favor of the addition as is as long as the budget could tolerate it.

Councilwoman Marshall looked at the current city budget and said that the money was there but that the city would have to spend less on other budgeted items. It was discussed that the city should put the current plans out to bid to see what the actual cost would be and then make a final decision. **Councilman Gonzales** made the motion to have the city proceed with bidding out the current shop addition plans. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye**, **Councilman Gonzales- Aye** and **Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Utility Billing Ordinance

Attorney Tim Stover stated that the current Utility Billing Ordinance had some holes in it and suggested changing the ordinance to make it more specific in the ways that the city will lien a property if the bill isn't paid. The council discussed having the tenants held responsible for the water bills but that the property owner would ultimately be responsible for unpaid bills. **Attorney Tim Stover** will adjust the ordinance to Council's specifications and bring it back for Council approval. No motions were made.

Consideration of New City Hall Sign

Mayor Vipperman brought Council a new design by Lytle Signs for a new City Hall

sign. Since the city rebranded and has used a new logo for the past two years it is necessary to change the sign to have it match the other signage in town. This sign would be a panel and post sign with the new logo that will be installed and will have some minimal landscaping installed around it by the Public Works Crew. The council agreed. **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion directing **Mayor Vipperman** to order the sign and have it installed. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Subdivision Ordinance

Mayor Vipperman asked **Attorney Tim Stover** to explain the proposed changes to the city's current subdivision ordinance. The ordinance currently states that property would qualify as a subdivision if it were divided into 5 or more lots. The proposed changes would be to lower that number down to 2 or more lots. **Attorney Tim Stover** said that other cities that have grown quickly had problems with the higher number and he would recommend lowering the number to two. **Councilman Gonzales** expressed some concern saying that in his work as a surveyor he runs into problems with similar ordinances. It was discussed that the ordinance change would require a public hearing to be changed, and it would be good to hear what the public says. The council directed the mayor to proceed with scheduling the public hearing.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Current Contract- Republic Services Acquisition of Western Waste.

Richelle with Republic Servies introduced herself and again discussed the acquisition of Western Waste by her company. She stressed that no contract terms would change, and that Republic Services would be keeping the same support staff so that no services would change. She stressed Republic Services emphasis on recycling and invited the Mayor and the Council to do a tour of their recycling center in Jerome. **Mayor Vipperman** said that she would love to see recycling options in Wendell. **Mayor Vipperman** asked Richelle regarding the free dumpsters that the city currently receives every spring for the spring clean-up event. Richelle confirmed that those would still be free of charge. **Mayor Vipperman** asked her if her company donated to local causes and charities, and she said they did. As Council had already heard and discussed the acquisition and **Attorney Tim Stover** had already looked over and approved the contract **Councilwoman BJ Marshall** made a motion to allow Republic Services to take over the city's current contract with Western Waste. **Councilman Don Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Gooding County Permit Letter- Telecommunications Facility

Mayor Vipperman told the council that she had heard back from the County regarding the comment letter requested for a special use permit for a telecommunications facility in the city's area of impact. The county told her that the terms of the original special use permit that had been granted were that it be renewed every 10 years and that those 10 years had expired. They said that nothing had changed in the use of the facility. **Councilwoman BJ Marshall** made a motion to direct **Mayor Vipperman** to write the comment letter to Gooding County saying that the city has no objection to them renewing the special use permit. **Councilman Juan Gonzales** seconded the

motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Shauna Tvurdy said that her new building at 530 W Main Street needed an inspection and that she was told by Gooding County that their building inspector was on vacation and would be until 1/6. She asked what could be done to get an inspection while he was on vacation. **Mayor Vipperman** said that she would call the County on Monday to see what could be done.

COUNCIL

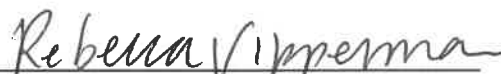
Councilwoman Marshall stated that she had helped at the Wendell Elementary School STEAM night along with **Councilman Gonzales** and **Mayor Vipperman**. She said that it seemed that the night had been a great success and that everyone there had a lot of fun.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman informed the Council that she would miss the next Council meeting on January 2nd as she would be out of town with her family. She asked **Council President BJ Marshall** if she would please run the meeting. She also announced that as part of the staff Christmas party they would be touring the Manor and invited any Councilmembers who wanted to attend. She also informed Council and staff that their Christmas hams were in the fridge and to take them home and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:56 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor


Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer