

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2025

Mayor Rebecca Vipperman called the regular meeting of the Wendell City Council to order at 6:32 PM. Council members present were Council President BJ Marshall; Councilman Juan Gonzales and Councilman Donald Dunn. City Attorney Tim Stover was also present.

Approve Amended Agenda

Councilman Dunn made a motion to accept the agenda as amended with the addition of Unfinished Business Item A. Consideration of Gooding County Permit Letter- Variance Letter. Councilman Gonzales seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilwoman Marshall made a motion to approve the January 2, 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 \$25,318.10. 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 Estimate- Pro Lawn Care 2025

City Clerk Karri French presented an estimate from Pro Lawn Care for 2025. There was an overall increase over last year, most notably for Hub City Park. Councilwoman Marshall stated that it was a 7% increase over last year. Mayor Vipperman stated that an increase is expected year to year. Last year was the first year Hub City Park was added to the contract and the increase in cost for that property was understandable. The council agreed. The council also agreed that the city has used Pro Lawn Care for years and the company does a great job. Councilwoman Marshall made a motion to approve the estimate from Pro Lawn Care for \$20,725. Councilman Dunn seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn-

Aye; motion passed.

Consideration of Vehicle Purchase- Public Works

Public Works Director Steve Devereaux stated that Public Works has two aging trucks. Even though the department has worked hard to keep them running, they are in bad shape. He asked the council to consider purchasing a 2020 Ford F350 he had found at a dealership in Nampa. He stated that he and Ethan went to Nampa to look it over and found it to be in great condition. After discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to purchase the 2020 F350 from Dick's Kar Karal, for \$33988. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Amend Resolution 210-2025

City Clerk Karri French presented the council with the amended Resolution 210-2025. **Mayor Vipperman** was unable to attend the meeting when the original version of Resolution 210-2025 was passed and requested an amendment before she signed it. She felt that requiring a new application from all 1135 city utility users was not in the best interest of the citizens. After discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to approve amended Resolution 210-2025. **Councilman Gonzales** 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 Gooding County Permit Letter- Variance Request

Mayor Vipperman stated that Gooding County has requested a letter from the City of Wendell regarding a variance request in the county and in the city's area of impact. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that the letter was a comment letter stating the city's position. **Councilman Gonzales** stated that his feelings on the variance request were neutral, and **Mayor Vipperman** should write the letter. He also stated that it should balance with other buildings in the area. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that she would write a letter of no opinion and that she is not opposed. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that if the area were ever annexed, the variance would be grandfathered in. **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve **Mayor Vipperman** writing a letter on behalf of the City of Wendell regarding the Gooding County Variance Request. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Historical Preservation Commission

Mayor Vipperman announced that she has three volunteers for the Historical Preservation Committee she has been working to create. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that the city will need to pass an ordinance first with the requirements for the commission including term of office, permissible actions, meeting times, etc. before appointing any members. **Mayor Vipperman** asked if the committee would post an agenda and minutes for their meetings. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated the committee would need to post an agenda and minutes. No motion needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall stated that she will be going to Arizona soon and the speakerphone needs to be working by the next meeting so she can attend by phone.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman stated that the quarterly newsletter will be going out at the end of January. She asked for information that anyone would like to add to it. She stated that she and **Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis** had attended a meeting regarding the county's broadband project. She stated that the county will get the liability insurance information to the city as well as a date the project should start running fiber. She stated that she met with J.U.B. regarding the master water plan. She also stated that she will attend a meeting with Blue Cross Foundation for Health on January 27th. She thanked the Public Works department for saving money while working to replace aging vehicles and thanked them for their support. She stated that the Clerk's Office and Fire Department are also doing a great job.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:33 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor