

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
February 6, 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 (virtually); 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 New Business Item D. Consideration of Ordinance 562-2025- Definition of a Subdivision. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to approve the January 16, regular council meeting minutes, as amended. **Councilman Dunn** 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 \$39,050.47. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ordinance 562-2025- Definition of a Subdivision

Mayor Vipperman opened the Public Hearing at 6:35 PM. She briefly introduced the topic to be discussed. **Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis** stated that the proposed ordinance would change the subdivision definition from “a tract of land divided into five (5) or more lots” to “a tract of land divided into two (2) or more lots.”

Mayor Vipperman asked if the Clerk’s Office had received any written comments from the public. **City Clerk Karri French** stated that no written comments had been received. **Mayor Vipperman** asked the council if they had any questions, comments, or anything to discuss. There was no discussion. **Mayor Vipperman** opened the public hearing for public comment.

In Favor:

None

Neutral:

None

Against:

Don Bunn stated that he was opposed, and he does not understand the purpose. It will not fix recent events. He stated that, before any annexations, the original townsite was plotted and planned in 1909. He stated that the ordinance could serve future annexed property but would have no bearing on the original plats.

Fred Larson stated that he originally bought eighty-six lots and has been selling them off slowly. He stated that selling his property does not make him a developer. He is opposed to the ordinance.

April Carlson stated that she owns eight city lots and the current rule is five or more. She has plans to split. She does not want to be subject to the rules in the ordinance that has been presented in this public hearing. She is not in favor and feels that the average person would not have the money for the requirements.

Levi Welker stated that he would like to know the purpose of changing the ordinance subdivision definition. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that other cities have had issues with developers and that the City of Wendell wants to be responsible with the city's tax dollars. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that this does not affect current property owners.

Mayor Vipperman asked the council if they had any questions, comments, or anything to discuss. There was no discussion. **Mayor Vipperman** closed the public hearing at 6:46 PM

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Ordinance 562-2025- Definition of a Subdivision

Councilman Gonzales made a motion that proposed Ordinance 562-2025 pass its first reading by Title only and that the 2nd and 3rd reading rules be dispensed relative thereto. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye**, **Councilman Gonzales- Aye** and **Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Councilman Gonzales made a motion that proposed Ordinance 562-2025, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF THE CITY OF WENDELL, IDAHO, AMENDING CHAPTER 1, TITLE 6, OF THE WENDELL MUNICIPAL CODE BY AMENDING SECTION 6-1-2 DEFINITION OF SUBDIVISION AND PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE UPON PASSAGE, APPROVAL AND PUBLICATION BY SUMMARY ACCORDING TO LAW be formally adopted. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Nay**, **Councilman Gonzales- Nay** and **Councilman Dunn- Nay**; motion does not pass, all opposed.

Consideration of Special Events Application with Alcohol Catering Permit Application

City Clerk Karri French stated that the El Tapatio, who holds a liquor license with the city, wanted to hold an event, Galentine's, at their other business next door to El Tapatio. Since the second business does not have an alcohol license, and they would like to serve alcohol at the event, the Special Event application must be accompanied by an Alcohol Catering Permit application.

Councilwoman Marshall noticed that the application listed that participants would be painting something asked Michelle Ponce what it was. Michelle Ponce stated that it would be a flowerpot. She also stated that she would like to be able to serve drinks at the event which requires the Alcohol Catering Permit. After discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the Special Events application and Alcohol Catering Permit Application for Galentine's. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Dairy Days Special Event Application

Mayor Vipperman stated that she was asking as a citizen and not the mayor for the council to consider this application. She stated that there is now a committee to get Dairy Days going again and she is a member of the committee. She stated that the committee is requesting the liability insurance requirement be waived or allow the event to use the city's liability insurance. She also requested the council waive the \$25 application fee. She stated that the event would take place in Jim Prince Field and City Park. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that Jim Prince Field is part of the Recreation District so the Recreation District should provide the liability insurance for that part of the event, not the city. After discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to approve waiving the \$25 Special Event Application fee. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Proposed Irrigation Rates 2025

City Clerk Karri French presented the proposed irrigation rates for the 2025 Irrigation season. Don Bunn, a Wendell citizen present in the audience, asked the mayor and council if he could get clarification of the rates. **City Clerk Karri French** clarified the individual fees for the ditch rider amount per user for each property with access to irrigation water and the irrigation maintenance fee rate per square foot for each property in city limits and the combined cost of the ditch rider fee and maintenance fee per city lot (calculated at one city lot = 6250 sq. ft.). After a brief discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to accept the proposed irrigation rates 2025 as presented. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of REDS Quote

This was added to the agenda in error. No motion.

Consideration of Proposals for 2 Desktop Printers

City Clerk Karri French presented the council with two proposals for a desktop printer in the mayor's office and her office. She stated that she prints all the check payments, does payroll and much more that makes having a designated printer in her office essential. She has been without a printer since the old one finally stopped working. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that the one in her office has never worked and it would be convenient to have one in her office as well. She stated that it also was not necessary because she has never had one and has used the large printer in the clerk's office. After discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to authorize the purchase of one desktop printer for the clerk's office. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Proposals for All City Hall Printers

Tabled for more detailed information on the large printer in the clerk's office. No motion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Operation Facelift Project

Tabled for input from the City Council members on ideas for the next project. No motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

April Carlson stated that she has an old open ditch on her property that has not been used or had water in it for 4-5 years. She asked what can be done to fill it in or remove it. She asked if a stop sign could be considered for 4th E and Gooding St. because the kids are not stopping to and from the school at the other stop signs, perhaps another sign would encourage them to stop. **Mayor Vipperman** stated the stop sign issue will be addressed at the next meeting. April Carlson also asked when Tiny Homes would be back on the agenda.

Wayne Chandler stated that the Veteran's Park remodel has a committee in charge of the project. The proposal for the project is nearly complete. The committee is working on grants and would like a member of the city council on the committee.

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall stated that she was looking over the REDS flyer and noticed that the application due date is March 15, 2025. She also stated that she was loving being in Arizona this time of year.

Councilman Gonzales asked the Gooding County Sheriff's Department representative present at the meeting if he could please request increased patrols around the school during peak times.

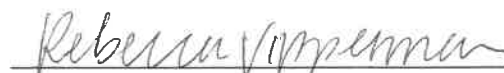
MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman announced that the next Library Board meeting will be on February 10, 2025. She stated that the publications for bids on the Library Project and the City Shop Addition Project will be published soon and will include a pre-bid meeting to set a start date for the projects. She announced that Wendell's 2025 Spring Cleanup is scheduled for April 28-May 9, 2025, and an Easter Egg Hunt will be held the Saturday before Easter.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:40 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor