

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2025

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 (virtually); Councilman Juan Gonzales and Councilman Donald Dunn. City Attorney Tim Stover was also present.

APPROVE AMENDED AGENDA

None

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Dunn made a motion to approve the February 20, 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 \$24,600.58. 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 National Senior Nutrition Program Proclamation

Mayor Vipperman presented the council with the 2025 National Senior Nutrition Program Proclamation and read it into record. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Marshall made a motion to adopt the 2025 National Senior Nutrition Program Proclamation. Councilman Dunn seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

Consideration of Hidden Heroes-Military Caregivers Proclamation

Mayor Vipperman presented the council with the Hidden Heroes- Military Caregivers Proclamation. After Mayor Vipperman read the proclamation aloud, Councilwoman Marshall and Mayor Vipperman both stated that the city still does not have a point of contact for military caregivers. Tabled.

Consideration of Ditch Rider Bid

Mayor Vipperman asked City Clerk Karri French how many bids the city received for the ditch rider. City Clerk Karri French stated that the city only received one bid. Mayor Vipperman stated that the bidder, Adrian Aguilar, has been the city's ditch rider for the last two years. Adrian Aguilar stated

that he would like to continue as the city's ditch rider for 2025. The council all agreed that Adrian has done a great job over the last two years, and they have heard good things from the public. After discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to accept Adrian Aguilar's bid as the irrigation ditch rider for the 2025 irrigation season not to exceed \$39,000.00. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Continuation of N Milner Street

Fire Chief Bob Bailey was present to discuss the continuation of N Milner Street. He stated that about 6 months ago, a car crashed through the area and went through a fence that had been placed across the unfinished road, which opened it up. Now Public Works would like to complete the road, making it safer to travel through the area. **Fire Chief Bob Bailey** stated that in addition to cleaning up the area, they would have to remove some trees as well. When asked, he stated that Public Works plans to complete it with gravel. He stated that Public Works is also talking to Winn & Co to see what it would cost to do more than gravel in the future. After discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the continuation of N Milner St, not to exceed \$5,000. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Christmas Light Parade/City Park Christmas Lights-Kristie Sutton

Kristie Sutton stated that she would like to ask the council about decorating City Park. She stated that she wants to decorate the trees, the bandshell and have other decorations in City Park. She stated that she did not submit a Special Event application for the Christmas Light Parade yet because a date for the event has not been decided. She also stated that she wants to schedule the date for the parade very soon because there is a reindeer farm that rents reindeer. To secure the rental, she must reserve a date by the end of this month. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that she would contact Kristie to get together and set a date. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that last year was well attended for the parade and the tree lighting, and she looks forward to the events this year. After discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the City Park Christmas Lights. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of "Buy a Tree" Program

Mayor Vipperman stated that she was talking to **Public Works Director Steve Devereaux** recently, and he stated that every year the city he used to live in bought trees and offered them to citizens to purchase. He stated that the leftover trees were then planted around town. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that she would like to do something similar, selling the trees to citizens at cost and seeing how it goes. She also stated that planting any leftover trees would also help the city achieve its Arbor Day goals. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that she thought the soil district had a similar program and there were other nearby agencies that may also have similar programs. She then asked **Mayor Vipperman** what type of trees she planned to purchase. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that she would purchase trees that are drought resistant and would thrive in our Idaho climate. She also stated that she would like to work with Simerly's to keep it local. After discussion, **Councilman Dunn** made a motion to approve **Mayor Vipperman** purchasing ten trees for the "Buy a Tree" program. **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 Multi-function Printer for City Hall

City Clerk Karri French presented the council with the proposals for the multi-function printer in City Hall. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that she was glad to see that one of the proposals had reduced the per click price for printing, per her request at the last meeting. After discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to accept Dex Imaging's proposal at \$86.52/month, with a per click price of 0.0055 for black and white and 0.055 for color, for 63 months. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Spraying Quotes

Mayor Vipperman stated that she had to recuse herself due to a conflict of interest and sat in the audience for the duration of this item. **Mark Vipperman and TJ Wasko, representing Forever Green**, were present to answer any questions the council had about the price difference between their quote and a second quote the city had received. After the council member's questions were answered, **Councilman Gonzales** stated that it was not so much about the cost difference, it really came down to a desire to continue with the kind of service the City of Wendell has experienced with Forever Green in the past. After discussion **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to accept Forever Green's quote in the amount of \$24,902.10 for 2025. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Special Event Application- Dairy Days

Cynthia Scott, representing the Dairy Days Committee, was present to speak to the council about changes made to the original application after it was reviewed at a previous meeting. The addition reflects a decision to include alcohol at the event with Stockman's alcohol license and help from the Winmill brothers. **Cynthia Scott** stated that the committee is working to raise money for Dairy Days. Their goal is \$3500, and the committee plans to ask local dairies for help. She stated that the committee requested the city sponsor the event by providing liability insurance. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that the city's liability insurance may not be enough coverage for city property and employees and recommended that the city acquire a rider policy in the event the city grants the insurance request. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that she had spoken to ICRMP and was told that a rider for the event was approximately \$300 and should provide any additional coverage for city property and city employees. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that the Recreation District would still need liability insurance for the events at Jim Prince Park. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that she had read a Facebook post talking about moving the event to July instead of June. **Cynthia Scott** stated that the event would be held in June and include as many events as possible traditionally associated with Dairy Days. She also stated that, for the alcohol, Stockman's would need a county alcohol permit for the event. **City Clerk Karri French** stated that a city Alcohol Catering Permit would also be required to include alcohol for the event and has a state fee of \$20 (the city does not currently charge a fee). **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that alcohol sales and consumption would need to be separated from the rest of the activities. **Cynthia Scott** stated that the committee has a plan for isolating alcohol sales and consumption. **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the Special Event application for Dairy Days, contingent on liability insurance, contingent on purchase of the rider policy and contingent on Stockman's alcohol catering permits. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken;

Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

Consideration of Extending Alley Drive

Mayor Vipperman stated that the city has received a Vacate Application from a citizen regarding Alley Drive. A public hearing will be held soon to consider the application. Tabled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall thanked the city staff for all their hard work.

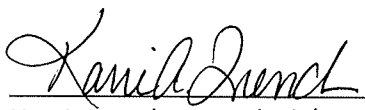
Councilman Gonzales thanked the Gooding County Sheriff's Department all their hard work and for the extra patrols, especially around the schools.

MAYOR

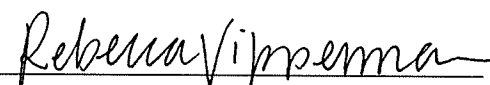
Mayor Vipperman announced that she would be speaking at CSI in Twin Falls on Friday (March 7th) and she would be out of town March 8th-11th. She also announced that the Library Board meeting would be held on March 10th in the library. She wished Anna (in the audience) happy birthday on March 7th and wished **Library Director Annie Burke** happy birthday on March 9th. She stated that she has a meeting on March 13th at 10:30 am about the fiber (county broadband project). She also stated that the city staff are doing a great job.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:24 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer



Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor