

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2025

Mayor Rebecca Vipperman called the regular meeting of the Wendell City Council to order at 6:31 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

None

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilwoman Marshall made a motion to approve the April 17 special council meeting minutes, as amended. Councilman Gonzales noted two typos on page 1. 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 \$19,775.90. 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 Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law-Martinez

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic. This document was drafted by Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis and approved by City Attorney Tim Stover. It confirms the decision made by the city council to deny Juan Martinez's Vacate application on April 3, 2025. She also stated that City Attorney Tim Stover and Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis are working on an easement agreement for the council's consideration regarding the same property. Mayor Vipperman asked the council if they had any questions or anything they wanted to discuss. The council had no questions and there was no discussion. Councilman Gonzales made a motion to approve the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law-Martinez as presented. Councilman Dunn seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

Consideration of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law-Ortega

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic. This document was drafted by Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis and approved by City Attorney Tim Stover. It confirms the decision made by the

city council to approve Lorena Ortega's Zoning application on April 17, 2025. **Mayor Vipperman** asked the council if they had any questions or anything they wanted to discuss. The council had no questions and there was no discussion. **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law-Ortega as presented. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Ordinance 562-2025 Public Parks-Parking & Motorized Vehicles

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic. This is an ordinance regarding motorized vehicles in city parks and parking zones around city parks. The city currently owns three parks within city limits: McGinnis Park, City Park and Hub City Park. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated it should not be an issue but expressed concern for the possibility of a tired traveler stopping to rest if they were too tired to continue their journey. **Councilman Gonzales** stated that he was neutral on the ordinance. He stated that if it was going to pass, it should be enforced. He stated that without this ordinance it could become a problem. He also stated that educating a person before citing them would help as well. **Code Enforcement Officer Nathan Lewis** stated that signs will go up at all three parks informing visitors of the ordinance. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that there are other locations in town that are out of the way for tired travelers to stop temporarily to rest. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that ICRMP supports limitations on motorized vehicles in city parks and involving our law enforcement. This helps keep citizens safe on city properties as well as reduce or eliminate city liability in the event of an incident.

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. **Councilwoman Marshall** seconded the motion. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that it has been moved and seconded that the 2nd and 3rd reading rule be dispensed, and that proposed Ordinance 562-2025 pass its first reading by title only. She asked the council if they had anything to discuss. There was no discussion. 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 WENDELL, IDAHO, REVISING TITLE 10, CHAPTER 03, OF THE WENDELL MUNICIPAL CODE BY ADDING MOTORIZED VEHICLE AND PARKING ZONES TO SECTION 10-3-1: DEFINITIONS, ADDING SECTION 10-3-3: USE OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES IN A PUBLIC PARK, AND SECTION 10-4-3-*CORRECTION* Section 10-3-4: PUBLIC PARK PARKING ZONES ESTABLISHED, AND CHANGING PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED SECTIONS 10-3-3 TO 10-3-5, AND 10-3-4 TO 10-3-6; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE UPON PASSAGE, APPROVAL AND PUBLICATION ACCORDING TO LAW be formally adopted. **Councilwoman Marshall** seconded the motion. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that it has been moved and seconded that proposed Ordinance 562-2025 be formally adopted. She asked the council if they had anything to discuss. There was no discussion. **Mayor Vipperman** asked the council if they had anything to discuss. There was no discussion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Gooding County Prosecuting Attorney Contract FY2025-2026

Mayor Vipperman presented the Gooding County Prosecuting Attorney Contract for fiscal year 2025-2026. This contract includes an increase of \$19.85 per month over last year's contract. **Councilwoman Marshall** asked **City Attorney Tim Stover** if, beside the increase cost, if the contract was the same as last year. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that the contract language was the same. The only change is the increased cost for the next fiscal year. **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the FY 2025-2026 Gooding County Prosecuting Attorney contract. **Councilman Dunn** 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 Adding Funds/Closing Account-Money Market Account

City Clerk Karri French stated that she had received the additional information she had requested, and the additional information requested by the council. This money market account at Farmer's Bank was originally opened with funds from the general fund. Its function was to generate interest income for the city. She asked the council to decide whether to continue using the account by transferring funds to meet the minimum balance requirements or to close the account. She also asked the council to decide, if closing the money market account, where the remaining funds in the account should go (general fund main account or LGIP). **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that the account no longer serves a purpose, and it would make sense to transfer the remaining funds to our LGIP (Local Government Investment Pool) account and close the money market account. The interest income for the city is much higher and will benefit the city more than keeping the money market account. **Mayor Vipperman** stated her agreement that it was logical to move the funds to LGIP account and close the money market account. **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to move the funds in the money market account at Farmer's Bank to the city's LGIP account and close the money market account. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall stated that she and **City Clerk Karri French** attended the AIC Spring Meeting in Twin Falls on May 1. We received legislative updates from a new AIC member that were easy to understand. There was discussion on city charters, Idaho power regarding new updates to the power grid, wildlife mitigation, a group exercise regarding leadership and visual/verbal learning, Robert's Rules of Order, and adoption of procedures for a city's needs. Overall, it was a better meeting than recent ones.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman stated that the Easter Egg Hunt went well. She expressed thanks to Councilman Gonzales for helping put the eggs out. She stated that Dairy Days planning has had great involvement, and it is going well. She announced that Dairy Days 2025 is scheduled for June 13th & 14th. She stated that Spring Cleanup is underway with dumpsters for trash and appliances located at City Hall and a dumpster for tires located at Public Works. Pick up in the alleys is scheduled for May 7th. She announced that the kindergarten classes will visit City Hall and the Library on May 7th at 12:45 PM. She

also announced that we have reached our goal of \$1500 for the city's Operation Facelift project to put landscaping and gravel at the city sign near the freeway.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:05 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor