

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 15, 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; 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. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Councilwoman Marshall noted one typo on page 3 of the minutes for the May 1 Regular Council Meeting. **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to approve the May 1 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 \$56,318.64. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Appointing New Council Member- Carolyn McRoberts

Mayor Vipperman recommended to the Council that Carolyn McRoberts be appointed to fill the Council seat vacated by former Councilman Shaun Spencer. **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to appoint Carolyn McRoberts to the City Council. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed. **Mayor Vipperman** administered the Oath of Office to Carolyn McRoberts, and she took her seat among the Council.

Consideration of FY25-26 REDS Commitment Letter

Mayor Vipperman invited Cheryl Viola, representative for REDS, to speak regarding the program. Ms. Viola updated the Council on various programs that REDS had run throughout the previous year that had been beneficial to the city including Operation Facelift and various social media posts. There was extensive discussion regarding RFI's from companies and how to respond to those. **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to allow **Mayor Vipperman** to sign the REDS Commitment Letter for FY 25-26. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts- Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Adjusting/Finalizing Wendell Area of Impact

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic. She stated that **City Attorney Tim Stover** had made her aware of new state legislation requiring a re-examination of a city's area of impact by December 31, 2025. She stated that she had added this item to the agenda to start the discussion. **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that he would reach out to Gooding County to see about their processes and requirements. The item was tabled until more information could be obtained from the County.

Consideration of City Owned Pheasant Forever Property

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic. She asked Fire Chief Bob Bailey to address the Council. Mr. Bailey informed the Council that North Side Canal Company was requiring water shares to be more tightly accounted for. As such, he had had to distribute the city's 741 water shares over the 7 headgates in town. In looking at the shares he decided to allocate 20 water shares to the city's 28 acres of land that was previously used as a land application site but is currently not being used for any purpose. He told Council that he believed it would be a good idea to use the land for some purpose, either farming or grazing and asked Council if they would like him to investigate leasing the property. The City Council thanked Mr. Bailey for his good idea and asked him to investigate what it would take to irrigate the property to get it prepared for grazing this year. **City Attorney Tim Stover** informed the Council that to lease the property they would need to go through the surplus property process. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

Consideration of Special Event Applications- Portuguese Hall Parades- 6/21/25, 6/22/25, 8/23/25, 8/24/25

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic. She told Council that these are small parades that the Portuguese Hall conducts every year and they the city has never had a problem because of these parades. She also informed the Council that although there are 4 different events, on 4 different dates that the parades are technically part of only 2 different events that span 2 dates each. She said that, as such, she had made the call to only charge the Portuguese Hall for 2 event application fees. She encouraged the Council to approve the events. Gooding County Sheriff's Office representative said that they could handle barricading the streets as needed. **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the special event applications. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts- Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Ordinance 563-2025- Zoning Ordinance Update

Councilman Gonzales made a motion that proposed Ordinance 563-2025 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 563-2025 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 563-2025, **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WENDELL, IDAHO, REVISING TITLE 05, CHAPTER 02, OF THE WENDELL MUNICIPAL CODE BY THE ADDITION OF THE UNDERLINED LANGUAGE IN SECTION 03; 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 563-2025 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, Councilwoman McRoberts- Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kim Hickman of 535 E Ave C asked Council to take note of her street. She said that the edge of the roadway was crumbling, that she had noticed an increase in semi traffic on her street lately and that she had large potholes in front of her home. She also complained about the feral cat situation. **Mayor Vipperman** apologized to Ms. Hickman regarding her issues. **Mayor Vipperman** informed Ms. Hickman that the edge of the road crumbling was to be expected as the road aged and said that potholes would be addressed. Public Works Director, Stephen Devereaux, told Ms. Hickman that the spring had been very busy, that the Public Works Department had been finishing up the city's spring clean up event as well as dealing with major irrigation repairs but said that now that the weather was warming up, they'd be able to start addressing the state of the city's streets.

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Dunn welcomed **Councilwoman McRoberts** to the City Council. **Councilman Gonzales** said that the Library Board Meeting had been rescheduled for May 20th, 2025.

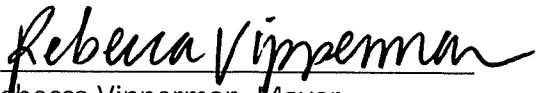
MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman stated that the city's website had recently been updated and encouraged Council to look at it. She thanked Public Works for all their hard work for the city's spring cleanup program. She informed Council that Dairy Days was still moving forward and that she would be meeting with the new Gooding County Building Inspector the last week in May. She reminded the Council that the filing period for the open Council seats this year begins August 18, 2025 at 8AM.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:37 PM. **Councilwoman McRoberts** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor