

City of Wendell
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
July 3, 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; Councilwoman Carolyn McRoberts; Councilman Juan Gonzales; and Councilman Donald Dunn. City Attorney Tim Stover was also present.

AMENDED AGENDA

Councilwoman McRoberts made a motion to accept the Amended Agenda for July 3, 2025, adding item C. Consideration of Special Use Application-Jespersen. Councilman Dunn seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts- Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to approve the June 17 Special Council Meeting minutes as presented. Councilwoman McRoberts seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn-Aye; motion passed.

Councilwoman McRoberts made a motion to approve the June 25 Special Council Meeting (Budget Workshop) minutes as presented. Councilman Gonzales seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts-Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

BILLS

Councilwoman Marshall made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$25,314.25. Councilman Dunn seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts- Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye; motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Special Use Application Public Hearing-Jespersen

Mayor Vipperman opened the Public Hearing at 6:33 PM and read the rules for public hearings.

City Clerk Karri French presented the Special Use application from Jespersen. The property, located at 425 7th Avenue E, is zoned residential. The applicant, Tonya Jespersen, is asking the council to approve her special use application so she can run her nail business out of her home rather than continue to rent a space at a local salon. City Clerk Karri French also read portions of City of Wendell Ordinance regarding Special Use Permits for home-based businesses.

Tonya Jespersen was present and stated that she has been in business for 25 years and high

rent at the salon has made it difficult to keep working there. She is asking the council to approve her Special Use application that would allow her to work from her home. As the council asked questions, she stated that she has a large room with a separate entrance and its own bathroom, it has a sink (health department requirement), she has room for two cars at a time to park, does not expect to have more than one client at a time and she would be running her nail business by herself. If her application is approved, she would then move forward with getting licensed with the state. The council stated that this was the same type of business they had approved previously for another Wendell resident (Seaira Gold) and if all requirements with the city and the state were met, they were not in opposition.

Mayor Vipperman asked how many responses the Clerk's office had received regarding the proposed Special Use. **City Clerk Karri French** responded that there were 21 letters sent with 0 responses received.

Mayor Vipperman stated that public comment was now open:

In Favor:

Kim Hickman stated that she was in favor. It is the same setup that Seaira Gold has at her house.

Neutral:

NONE

Against:

NONE

Rebuttal

NONE

Mayor Vipperman asked the council if they had anything further to discuss. The council stated they did not.

Mayor Vipperman closed the public hearing at 6:41 PM

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Truleap Quote-Replace Computers (3)

City Clerk Karri French presented a quote for three new computers to the council. She explained that Windows 10 will no longer be supported as of October 14, 2025 (end of life date). She stated that Truleap evaluated most of the City of Wendell's computers and found that two in the library (used by staff) and possibly the one used by the fire department (needs cleaned up and evaluated) would not support Windows 11. The quote would replace all three computers if needed.

Fire Chief Bob Bailey stated that the computer used by the fire department is only 2 years old and that Truleap should have no issue preparing it to support Windows 11. He also stated that he has had access issues after normal business hours when the fire department provides 24/7 service and it is not unusual for someone to need access to support in the middle of the night to download

system or program updates. He requested his access issues be resolved by Truleap. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that if after-hours support access was going to be a problem with Truleap, then the city should look at its options for IT providers when our current contract nears expiration. After discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to approve the quote from Truleap to replace all three computers, not to exceed \$3530.01. **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 Caselle Quote-Adding Backflow Module

Tabled for more information from the Deputy Clerk.

Consideration of Special Use Application-Jespersen

Mayor Vipperman stated she would like the council to vote on this item first, then move on to the rest of the new business items. After a brief discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to approve the Special Use Application for Tonya Jespersen. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts -Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Consideration of Pocatello 2025 Water Storage Lease Agreement

City Attorney Tim Stover stated he has reviewed this, and he has been in regular contact with McHugh Bromley, PLLC regarding this agreement. He stated that the language of the agreement has been cleaned up and the cost increased by \$130.64. After discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to approve the 2025 Pocatello Water Lease Agreement in the amount of \$3342.24. **Councilwoman McRoberts** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts -Aye, Councilman Gonzales- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kim Hickman thanked the city and the Public Works department for their work on E Avenue C. She then asked what she could do to get cars to slow down in her area as well. She asked if the city or citizens could do something to protect the children who play in the area from speeding cars. The council stated that it has not put out these kinds of signs in the past, but citizens are able to put up signs for drivers on their own property to alert drivers to children playing. Kim Hickman asked why the city does not have a farmers' market. **Mayor Vipperman** encouraged Kim Hickman to pursue working with other citizens to potentially start a farmers' market for Wendell. Kim Hickman asked if there was a plan for a youth center or something for the kids in Wendell, stating that the old Ace Theater or the old ag shop next door to city hall might be good location. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that the Ace Theater building was not currently for sale, and the old ag shop is going to be the new city library. **City Attorney Tim Stover** recommended contacting the Girls and Boys Club to see what they could do to help. He stated that it would be a good first step in finding possible solutions to help the youth in Wendell.

COUNCIL

Councilwoman Marshall stated that, now that she is retired and has more time, she went

to the library for the first time with her granddaughter. Her granddaughter enjoyed the STEM slime volcano activity.

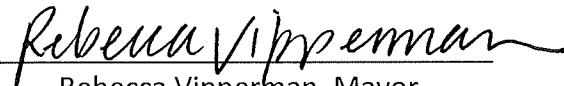
Councilman Gonzales stated that he witnessed the Wendell Fire Department, and the Gooding County Sheriff's Office handle a situation in town recently. He stated that it was done very professionally, and he thought they did a great job.

MAYOR

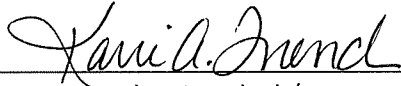
Mayor Vipperman announced that the Annual Pancake Breakfast, hosted by the American Legion and both LDS wards, would be held on July 4 from 8 am to 10 am. St. Lukes would have a mobile mammogram parked at City Hall on July 14 from 9 am to 3 pm. The City of Wendell will have an All-Team meeting on July 24. Tammy Middleton, HR Risk Manager at ICRMP, will be conducting an in-person training session for the city staff and another one for all city department heads. On August 1, the Wendell High School senior class will hold a movie fundraiser. The movie will be *The Sandlot*, and admission will be \$3 per person.

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:18 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor

Attest:


Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer