

City of Wendell
Special Council Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2026

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 McRoberts; Councilman Juan Gonzales and Councilman Donald Dunn. City Attorney Tim Stover was also present.

Amended Agenda

Councilman Dunn made a motion to accept the Amended Agenda for January 8, 2026, adding Unfinished Business item a. Consideration of Annexation Agreement-Simplot and item b. Consideration of Comprehensive Plan. **Councilwoman McRoberts** 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

Councilwoman McRoberts made a motion to approve the December 4, 2025, regular council meeting minutes, as amended. She stated that there were six students at the December 4th meeting, not four. She asked that the other two students' names be added. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts- Aye and Councilman Dunn- Aye**; motion passed.

BILLS

Councilwoman McRoberts made a motion to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$22,687.64. **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

None

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Swearing in Mayor Rebecca Vipperman

City Clerk Karri French swore in **Rebecca Vipperman**, elected in the November General City election, as Mayor.

Swearing in Councilwoman Carolyn McRoberts

City Clerk Karri French swore in **Carolyn McRoberts**, elected in the November General City election, as Councilmember.

Swearing in Councilman Donald Dunn

City Clerk Karri French swore in **Donald Dunn**, elected in the November General City election, as Councilmember.

Appoint Council President

Mayor Vipperman recommended that **Councilwoman Marshall** continue as the Council President. After a brief discussion, **Councilman Dunn** made a motion to appoint **Councilwoman Marshall** as the City Council President. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Abstain, Councilwoman McRoberts-Aye, Councilman Gonzales-Aye** and **Councilman Dunn-Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Veteran's Park - American Legion Post 41 Commander Wayne Chandler

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic to be discussed. **American Legion Post 41 Commander Wayne Chandler** stated that he had spoken to the council at the last meeting. He reviewed what he had previously discussed for those in attendance who may not be familiar with the Veteran's Park. The Legion applied for grants but was not awarded any funding last year. He also stated that the Legion paid Sutton's Concrete \$16,000.00 for the concrete work, and Sutton's Concrete donated the labor. He asked the city to donate to the Veteran's Park and stated that the Legion is still actively seeking donations from other sources. They now need to order 600 new plaque tiles and hope to have them by July, with installation completed in time to rededicate the Veteran's Park next November on Veteran's Day. Donations of \$1,000.00 or more will receive an engraved plaque to be placed at the park. Wayne stated that the Legion Hall is struggling with a lack of income since losing its renters. **Councilwoman Marshall** stated that there are funds in Capital Improvement that could be used to help the Legion Hall. After discussion, **Councilwoman Marshall** made a motion to donate \$9,000.00 to American Legion Post 41 for the Veteran's Park. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts-Aye, Councilman Gonzales-Aye** and **Councilman Dunn-Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Resolution 217-2026-TAP Grant Match

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic to be discussed. **Chelsea James, representing J-U-B**, was present to update the council on a transportation grant J-U-B has been helping the city apply for. This grant would help illuminate Idaho Street. She stated that conduit already exists, which saves time and money installing streetlights. She stated that the city would need to commit to the project, pass a resolution, and pay 7.34% of the cost (approximately \$35,000.00). This would allow the city to apply for a match grant. She also stated that municipalities under 5,000 residents can then apply for an LRHIP (Local Rural Highway Improvement Program) grant to cover the match funds. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that installing street lighting along Idaho Street provides for the health and safety of Wendell residents. She also stated that the city would pay their portion (7.34%) then the match grant would reimburse the city. After discussion, **Councilwoman McRoberts** made a motion to accept

Resolution 217-2026 TAP Grant Match. **Councilman Gonzales** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts-Aye, Councilman Gonzales-Aye and Councilman Dunn-Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law-AT&T

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic to be discussed. This document finalizes the decision voted on by the council at the City Council meeting held on 11/20/25. After a brief discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to accept Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law-AT&T as presented, contingent on review by **City Attorney Tim Stover**. **Councilwoman McRoberts** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye, Councilwoman McRoberts-Aye, Councilman Gonzales-Aye and Councilman Dunn-Aye**; motion passed.

Consideration of Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law-Christie

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic to be discussed. This document finalizes the decision voted on by the council at the City Council meeting held on 11/20/25. After a brief discussion, **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to accept Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law-Christie as presented, contingent on review by **City Attorney Tim Stover**. **Councilman Don Dunn** 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 Annexation Agreement-Simplot Redlines

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic to be discussed. **City Attorney Tim Stover** and the council discussed the agreement, changes requested by Simplot, and changes the council would like to see in the agreement. After discussion, **City Attorney Tim Stover** stated that he will make the requested changes and send it back to Simplot's attorney. Tabled.

Consideration of Comprehensive Plan

Mayor Vipperman introduced the topic to be discussed. This document was reviewed by the council. A public hearing will be held next month.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COUNCIL

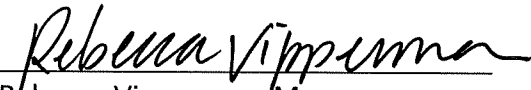
Councilwoman Marshall stated that she will bring an explanation of funds to the next meeting.

MAYOR

Mayor Vipperman stated she is glad Don Dunn is here. She expressed her thanks to all who have helped with the grants. She also stated that the city's Facebook account received a comment recently, "Whoever runs social media (for the city), never fire them."

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 7:19 PM. **Councilman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor

Attest:


Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer