

City of Wendell
Special Council Meeting Minutes
May 30, 2026

Mayor Rebecca Vipperman called the special meeting of the Wendell City Council to order at 4:03 PM. Council members present were Council President BJ Marshall; Councilwoman Carolyn McRoberts, Councilman Juan Gonzales and Councilman Donald Dunn.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES- NONE

BILLS- NONE

PUBLIC HEARINGS- NONE

NEW BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

Discussion/Action Item- Shawn Hill, Gem Grant Application

Mayor Vipperman introduced Shawn Hill, with LEAP housing who was attending the Council meeting via online video call. Mr. Hill stated that he was asking the Council for their approval for the City of Wendell to apply for a Gem Grant through the Idaho Department of Commerce. The grant would be for \$12,000-\$15,000 and is due date is 6/15/26. Mr. Hill explained that the city is already participating in producing a housing study for Wendell and this grant would allow the city to then take part in a Housing Investment Strategy to potentially implement strategy to meet the needs that will be identified through the housing study. Through this grant the city will be given a portfolio of possible housing projects to consider once the assessment is completed. **Council President Marshall** asked if there was a match needed to apply for the grant. Mr. Hill stated that there is, but it can be an "in-kind" match and that the Mayor's time working on the grant with LEAP housing would qualify. **Council President Marshall** asked if the grant was competitive and when the grant would be awarded. Mr. Hill responded that the grant was a competitive grant and that these types of grants are typically awarded 30 days after the grant deadline. **Council President Marshall** asked if a Resolution passed by the City Council was necessary. It was determined that it is necessary and that Council could pass the resolution at the next City Council Meeting on 6/4/2026. Mr. Hill will have a budget and resolution ready before that meeting. **Councilman Gonzales** said that he was in favor of applying for the grant to get the strategy information as long as it didn't obligate the city to act on the strategy. Mr. Hill confirmed that the city would not need to act on the information supplied by the Housing Investment Strategy unless it decided to do so. **Council President Marshall** made a motion to allow the city to apply for the Gem Grant and pass the required resolution on 6/4/26. **Councilwoman McRoberts** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilwoman McRoberts- Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Dunn-Aye; motion passed.**

Discussion/Action Item- Screen/Projector Purchase for City Events

Mayor Vipperman introduced the discussion stating that the exact screen and projector that

had been used previously in the City Park for a summer movie night was currently up for sale. She stated that although it is not the city's responsibility to host events for the public, that the few events that the city does host every year are very well attended and help to build good will with the public. She stated that bringing people together in small ways helps to build relationships and pride and that builds a stronger city. **Councilwoman McRoberts** agreed and said that when residents take pride in their city they help take care of their city better. **Mayor Vipperman** stated that, as this exact system had already been used once successfully in the park, that she knows that it would work. She believed it to be a good value and stated that once the system was purchased that multiple city events could be hosted for a very small amount of money and time. **Council President Marshall** stated that she'd like to involve local businesses and see if they would be willing to borrow this system and host movie nights themselves. **Mayor Vipperman** agreed that was a great idea. **Councilman Gonzales** made a motion to purchase the screen/projector/sound system for \$4,500.00. **Councilwoman McRoberts** seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken; **Councilwoman Marshall-Aye; Councilwoman McRoberts-Aye; Councilman Gonzales-Aye; Councilman Dunn-Aye; motion passed.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (discussion/action items)

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT

NONE

COUNCIL

Councilwoman BJ Marshall stated that she had attended the Budget and Levy Training and that she'd gotten some good information. It was stated that the Council should schedule the first budget workshop soon.

Councilman Don Dunn praised Public Works Director Stephen Devereaux and said that the city is lucky to have him.

MAYOR

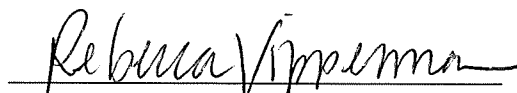
None

Adjourn

Councilman Gonzales made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Wendell City Council at 5:10 PM. **Councilwoman Dunn** seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Karri French, City Clerk/Treasurer


Rebecca Vipperman, Mayor