

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of July 19, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro-Tempore Margaret Estrada called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

- a. Welcome by Mayor Pro-Tempore Margaret Estrada
- b. Flag Salute led by Mayor Pro-Tempore Margaret Estrada

ROLL CALL:

- a. Council Members in attendance: Chuck Stephens, Frank Jaime, Frances Ayres, Jessie Farias, Caroline Solis.
Absent: Elizabeth Villa
- b. City Staff in attendance: Police Chief Nolan Wentz, Clerk/Treasure Kimberly Grimm, Fire Chief Bob Clark, and Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker.
Absent:
- c. Others that were present: By zoom City of Wapato Legal Counsel Julie Norton, Recorder Judy Devall, Guest Speaker Sgt. Fowler from Yakima Police Dept.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL:

Mayor Pro-temp Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the meeting agenda. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for approval of the meeting agenda. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING MINUTE APPROVAL:

Mayor Pro-temp Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the meeting minutes from June 21, 2021. Council member Chuck Stephens made motion for approval of the meeting minutes. Council member Frances Ayres seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Pro-temp Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the consent agenda. Council member Jessie Farias made motion for the approval of the claims and payroll vouchers. Council member Frank Jaime seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Liquor License for Exit 44 Sports Bar and Restaurant: Mayor Pro-temp Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Liquor License. Council member Jessie Farias made a motion to table the license for more information. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion to table the license till next meeting.
- b. Liquor License for Restaurant San Juan: Mayor Pro-temp Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Liquor License for Restaurant San Juan. Council member Jessie Farias made motion for the approval of the Liquor License for Restaurant San Juan. Council Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Liquor License for American Legion. Mayor Pro-temp Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Liquor License for the American Legion. Council member Jessie Farias made motion for the approval of the Liquor License for the American Legion. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Liquor License for El Compadre Sports and Family Restaurant. Mayor Pro-Temp Margaret Estrada Called for the approval of the Liquor License for El Compadre Sports and Family Restaurant. Council member Chuck Stevens made motion for the approval of the Liquor License for El Compadre Sports and Family Restaurant. Council member Frank Jaime seconded. All members opposed the license.
- e. French Lane Improvements: French Lane project ran into a problem. There were buried slabs of concrete and burnt roofing that had to be removed. It took 22 truckloads to remove all of it. Sent in for reimbursement.
- f. Graffiti Ordinance No. 2021-4: This ordinance declares graffiti a public nuisance; prohibiting possession of graffiti implements with intent to deface; requiring removal of graffiti; imposing civil penalties; establishing appeal procedures; containing a severability provision. Mayor Pro-Temp Margaret Estrada called for the approval for Graffiti Ordinance No. 2021-4. Council member Jessie Farias made motion for the approval of Graffiti Ordinance No. 2021-4. Council member Frances Ayres seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Mayor Ordinance No. 2021-5: This ordinance is amending the salary for the Mayor; repealing prior ordinances. Mayor Pro-Temp Margaret Estrada called for

the approval for Mayor Ordinance No. 2021-5. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for the approval of Mayor Ordinance 2021-5. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. There were three (3) approval and three (3) nays. It will be brought back to the table.

- h. SGT Fowler from Yakima Police Department came and presented a program for helping the homeless.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief: Bob Clark stated that the Fourth of July brought 4 fires that they attended to. Code enforcement is busy as usual. Animal control has been very busy.

Clerk/Treasurer: Kimberly Grimm stated that the auditors were doing the last audit around the state, and she is waiting to hear when the exit audit will be. Kimberly is looking at properties that may qualify as rehab homes. Kimberly stated that she is balanced through June. Utility collections are down. Governor Inslee has extended the shut offs till the end of September, and we will start our winter and we won't be able to shut off until March/April. Payouts have been made for the Police from their new contract. Just waiting upon the support group contract.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker stated that with the French Lane construction they are down a few parking places, but they plan on extending from the park gate out. Public works guys are working on it. Stripping has begun. It is from 10:00/11:00 pm to about 4:00 am so be careful. Looking at resurfacing Naches ave., but it does not qualify under the TIB qualifications.

Police Chief: Nolan Wentz stated that the Fourth of July was busy. It was hard to tell the difference between fireworks and gun shots. The police-support contract is almost done. The police department has seven (7) officers and have offered job to two (2) others. Chief Wentz has a local individual that would be perfect for helping the homeless. The used police car that was purchased was just picked up in Kansas and should be here next week. The two (2) new cars that were ordered, don't know when they will be in.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Doug Milne came forward with concerns with the apartment building at South Fourth and Wapato Rd. There has been gun fire there and his parents live there. He is afraid for them. He would like to put up a retaining wall. Public works has some ecology blocks that they would sell to him. Mr. Milne mentioned that he called 911 for gun fire and the operator told him it would be an hour before Wapato police would arrive because they were on a domestic violence call. Mr. Milne also had found a time

capsule at his burned down church. Inside were papers dated June 30, 1949 and July 2, 1949. He would like to make copies and display them at the City Hall.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was an executive session with council members and the city attorney to discuss a potential litigation.

ADJOURNMENT:

Council members adjourned..

Margaret Estrada, Mayor Pro-Tempore

Kimberly Grimm, Clerk/Treasurer