

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of November 15, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

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

- a. Welcome by Mayor Pro-tem Margaret Estrada
- b. Flag Salute led by Frank Jaime

ROLL CALL:

- a. Council Members in attendance: Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Estrada, Chuck Stephens, Frances Ayres, Elizabeth Villa, Caroline Solis, Frank Jaime.
- b. Absent: Jessie Farias
- c. City Staff in attendance: Police Chief Nolan Wentz, Clerk/Treasurer Kimberly Grimm, Public works Director Jeff Schumacker.
- d. Others that were present: City of Wapato Attorney Julie Norton by phone, Minutes taker Kathy Davis, Recorder Judy Duvall

MEETING AGENDA:

Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the meeting agenda. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for the approval of the meeting agenda. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES:

Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the meeting minutes from November 1, 2021. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for the approval of the meeting minutes. Council member Frances Ayers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Contract with Yakima Dispatch. Chief Wentz stated that this is a continuation of the previous contract to use Yakima Dispatch for calls.
Mayor Pro-tem Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the contract with Yakima Dispatch. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for the approval of the contract with Yakima Dispatch. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Memorandum of Understanding for bilingual stipend. The auditors found that the stipend was not in the contract nor in policy. The stipend is for \$50.00 a month. It was grandfathered in.
Mayor Pro-tem Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding, bilingual stipend. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding for bilingual stipend. Council member Caroline Frances seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Approval to Pay Insurance. Clerk Treasure Kimberly Grimm stated that our insurance did go down about \$20,000. There were also some vehicles and other equipment that was deleted from coverage. Keep up the good record and we will see a decrease in rates. Mayor Pro-tem Margaret Estrada stated that it is something we had to have.
Mayor Pro-tem Margaret Estrada called for the approval to pay insurance. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for the approval to pay the insurance. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- d. Union Contract for Police Support. Chief Wentz stated that the support personnel were in a contract with the correction officers, which we no longer have. The new support contract mirrors the police officers but there is some different language in it. The contract is good for three (3) years.
Mayor Pro-tem Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Union contract for the police support. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for the approval of the Union Contract for the police support. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief: Bob Clark was absent.

Clerk/Treasurer: Kimberly Grimm stated that she is getting the budget together and should have it ready to present to the council soon. Ms. Grimm is almost done balancing October.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker stated that he met with Yakima County Rotary. They are interested in helping with the city park, making some upgrades. They are also looking at Zillah and White Swan. The Well 5 study is done, it was successful. Pumps will have to be installed. With Well 5 it will supply at least 100 homes and businesses. Mr. Schumacker has closed off, barricaded part of French Lane. People are speeding through there and hitting the curb and damaging it. There was a gas leak on Lincoln. It was quickly repaired. Thank you to Mr. Schumacker and his crew for the quick response and clean up of the graffiti that was done around town.

Police Chief: Nolan Wentz started out by thanking Mr. Schumacker and crew for the clean-up of the graffiti. SGT Lawther had a run in with a robbery suspect. He is home recovering. The person that ran over Sgt. Lawther was from Toppenish. They think he is the same guy that is responsible for the graffiti. The police department was able to apprehend the suspect.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Doug Milne started out by saying thank you to Public Works for the graffiti cover up job. It was a job well done. Mr. Milne stated that the duplex he is putting up was broken into twice. The thieves stole his tools. Mr. Milne was upset that the City put a stop work order on his building. He has tresses sitting on the ground that he can't put up. Wants it resolved. It was suggested to Mr. Milne to contact Norhtwest Code-Pro, he was waiting on energy prescription form. Mr. Milne stated that he is still waiting for the City to come up with a solution for the drive-by shootings. The ecology blocks are a fire safety issue.

Mail is being stolen out of mailboxes. It is a native girl with short hair. Please watch your mail.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Estrada called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to adjourn. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.

Margaret Estrada, Mayor Pro-Tempore

Kimberly Grimm, Clerk/Treasurer