

# CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting  
Minutes of August 15, 2022

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

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

- a. Welcome by Mayor Margaret Estrada
- b. Flag Salute Led by Council Member Frank Jaime

## **ROLL CALL:**

- a. Council Members in attendance: Chuck Stephens, Rita Alvarado, Frank Jaime, Ken Workman, Frances Ayres, Elizabeth Villa via zoom, Caroline Solis.
- b. City Staff in attendance: Police SGT Chuck Lawther Jr., Clerk Kathy Davis, Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker, Fire Chief Bob Clark.
- c. Others that were present: Recorder Judy Devall, Wapato City Attorney Julie Norton via zoom.

## **MEETING AGENDA:**

No Additions & Deletions. Council member Rita Alvarado made motion for approval of no additions/deletions. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **MEETING MINUTES:**

Minutes from August 1, 2022 were presented for approval.

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of August 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting Minutes. Council member Ken Workman made motion to approve meeting minutes from August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the consent agenda. Council member Elizabeth Villa made motion for the approval of the claims and payroll vouchers. Council member Frank Jaime seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Approval of Renewing the Contract with Yakima Humane Society. Chief Clark stated that they Humane Society has done a good job and that this is a continuation of the contract that we already have. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Yakima Humane Society Contract. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the Yakima Humane Society Contract. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Approval of Conflict Attorney Contract and Judge Pro-Tem Contract. Clerk Kathy stated that there are four cases that Conflict Attorney is necessary in case there is a conflict of interest with the public defender. Judge Pro-Tem contract is in case there is a conflict of interest with Judge Garrison, that he would not be able to oversee the case. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the Conflict Attorney Contract and the Judge Pro-Tem Contract. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the Conflict Attorney and Judge Pro-Tem contracts. Council member Chuck Stephens seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Fire Chief:** Bob Clark stated that calls for July were up from last year. They had 74 calls for July 2022 alone. Chief Clark stated that two of the veteran firefighters have made Lieutenant. There are nine people that will be going through drone training.

**Animal Control:** Chief Clark thanked the council for approving the contract for the next three months. Things are going well.

**Code:** Chief Clark says that code enforcement has been busy. With the warm weather people are heading outdoors to do different projects.

**Clerk:** Kathy Davis stated there is a part time employee helping in the office. Her name is Beyonce. Stop by and say hi and introduce yourself. Had a meeting with the auditors they had several questions. Things were looking good.

**Public Works Director:** Jeff Schumacker stated that he brought in four of the banners for the council to look at. They are built well. If taken care of properly they should last at least seven years. Mr. Schumacker also had a meeting with the auditors in a risk assessment review, do we have any theft or fraud, and he made sure that the auditors knew that city hall ran a tight ship. Public Works has applied for two grants through transportation improvements for \$800,000 each. They also applied for a \$100,000 grant for crack sealing. Some of the streets in Wapato need repaired. EPA final permit is here. For the first time in about seven years the wastewater plant will be operating with a valid permit.

**Police SGT:** Chuck Lawther Jr. stated that the cameras are up and running. On August 6<sup>th</sup> they had 5 hits for stolen vehicles. They were able to recover one. Working on trying to sit at some areas to catch the stolen vehicles on their way out of town. Officer Garcia has started. Officer Stephas just started academy. Should be back before Christmas.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

Gina Ramos: Tamale fest will be kept downtown. Asked about the banners. Mr. Schumacker said they will be on 1<sup>st</sup> and Wapato ave.

Steve Saunders: Just wanted to come in and introduce himself. He is running for Yakima County Commissioner. He has a team out canvassing the lower valley.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor 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 7:30pm.

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Margaret Estrada, Mayor

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Kathy Davis, Clerk