

CITY OF WAPATO

Regular Council Meeting
Minutes of November 21, 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 via phone, Rita Alvarado via Zoom, Frank Jaime, Ken Workman, Frances Ayres, Elizabeth Villa, Caroline Solis.
- b. City Staff in attendance: Police Chief Nolan Wentz, Clerk Kathy Davis, Public Works Director Jeff Schumacker, Fire Chief Bob Clark.
- c. Others that were present: Mid Valley TV Sean Davido, Wapato City Attorney Julie Norton via zoom.

AWARD PRESENTATION: Mayor Margaret Estrada presented a plaque to the Wapato Grid Kids Football B Team. They took the championship. The City of Wapato wanted to recognize the hard work and dedication they displayed.

MEETING AGENDA:

Additions & Deletions. Mayor Margaret called for the approval of the meeting agenda. Council member Frank Jaime made motion for approval of additions/deletions. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES:

Minutes from November 7, 2022 were presented for approval. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of November 7th Meeting Minutes. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve meeting minutes from November 7th. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor 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 Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Approval of Contract for Judge Garrison. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval of the contract and pay increase for Judge Garrison. Council member Caroline Solis made motion to approve the contract for Judge Garrison. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Approval to renew Humane Society Contract. Chief Clark made mention that the contract would be for ten hours a week instead of the 15 hours a week. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval to renew the Humane Society Contract. Council member Frank Jaime made motion to approve the Humane Society Contract. Council member Ken Workman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Approval for fire department to use ARPA funds to purchase safety lights. Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the approval for the ARPA funds for the fire department safety lights. Council member Ken Workman made motion to approve the use of ARPA funds for the fire department safety lights. Council member Caroline Solis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Chief: Bob Clark stated that the fire department has had 517 calls for service this year. That is a 17% increase. The homeless population is what most of the fire department's calls are for. Noah's Ark reopened during the day. Noah's Ark is about 39% of the fire department's calls. The jaws-of-life are in and are being installed on the trucks. As soon as they are installed, he would like the council to see them. Thank you for renewing the Humane Society contract. Code Enforcement: There will be a public hearing on December 5th council meeting on the 23 parcels that are planned for French Lane.

Clerk: Kathy Davis stated that she has received the contract with the Department of Commerce for the Utilities Arrearages. The funds will soon be applied.

Public Works Director: Jeff Schumacker stated Kathy and he is working really hard on the budget. During inflation time we are trying not to raise rates. The city is exploring different options.

Police Chief: Nolan Wentz stated that the cars are on their way here. We are losing one officer. His last night is Tuesday night. Chief Wentz wished him well in this new adventure.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Gina Ramos: Ms. Ramos stated that she is still seeing the same dogs out and she hasn't even seen the dog catchers around. To Chief Wentz, Ms. Ramos stated that in a week and a half she had only seen an officer twice. To Mr. Schumacker, she would like to see flags up around town for Veteran's and Memorial Day. Mr. Schumacker will present prices to council before Memorial Day.

Doug Milne: Mr. Milne stated that he went to cover the graffiti on the ecology blocks, and it was already taken care of. He thanked everyone for taking care of it. It has been nine months since he applied for a building permit and still has not received it. There are some wild cats by his apartments, and he has yet to see animal control pick them up. Chief Clark told him that if they are wild, they are not adoptable so the humane society usually will not pick them up, if they can catch them.

Pastor Richard Burson: Wanted to know if there was a tree lighting. There will be a tree lighting on December 15th. Pastor Burson wanted to let the council know that if there was anything that the church could help with, they would like to help.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Margaret Estrada called for the adjournment of the meeting. Council member Frank Jaime made a motion to adjourn. Council member Elizabeth Villa seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Margaret Estrada, Mayor

Kathy Davis, Clerk