

# **Wellston City Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **January 18, 2024**

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Rick Hudson by asking Council and others in attendance to stand for the Pledge. He then called for the roll call.

Councilpersons answering the roll call included: Angela Spangler; Hunter Skaggs; Fred Duby; Teresa Lemaster; Walter Norris; and Roaby Browning.

**Excusal of Previous Absence(s)-** All those in attendance voted to excuse the absence of Angela Spangler

#### **Elect At-Large**

President Rick Hudson announced there were five interested parties in the vacant At-Large seat. He gave each applicant time to speak at the podium.

- Michael Brace, 701 South Pennsylvania Avenue, (not present, but interest letter was read by Council Clerk) highlighted his teaching and coaching experience.
- Tami Phillips, 96 Oak Ridge Road, retired RN and President of Make Wellston Beautiful, highlighted community involvement and progress.
- Barry Lambert, 301 East A Street, reflected on his past as a lifelong resident, driver for Gem Bottling, Council Member from 2005-2007, and WPD Dispatcher.
- Kathleen Harter, Bundy Heights, promises to actively and openly engage with the community.
- Kathy Helm, 616 S. New Jersey Avenue, talked about the many community organizations in which she is involved, Bachelor of Science in Accounting and previous employ with a Fortune 500 Company.

President Hudson then opened the floor to nominations. Spangler nominated Tami Phillips and Norris seconded the Motion. Lemaster nominated Kathy Helm and Skaggs seconded the Motion. No other nominations were made.

A Roll Call Vote is entered as follows:

Norris- Phillips

Spangler- Phillips

Browning- Helm

Lemaster- Helm

Skaggs- Phillips

Duby- Phillips

Hudson then congratulated Phillips and encouraged the others to volunteer for committees within the community.

#### **Public Comments**

- Debbie Heilman, 21 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, asked the Mayor if there was a timeline to resolving the water pressure issues in her neighborhood. He replied there was a solution in place. Work had begun, but now the crew was waiting for warmer weather. Secondly, semis going into Gem Bottling have been driving in her yard, busted and exposed the water meter multiple times, and almost hit an electric pole earlier that day. The Mayor stated he would look into a solution.

### **State of the City**

Mayor Brenner gave the State of the City address.

**Minutes-** All in attendance voted to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

### **Correspondence**

- Reminder from the Ethics Commission to make necessary filings.

**Reports of Special Committees-** New Committee Assignments were made and are reflected as follows:

- Health and Safety Committee- Lemaster- none
- Public Service Committee- Duby- none
- Planning Committee- Browning- none
- Recreation Committee- Norris- none
- Finance Committee- Spangler- none
- Community Action- Browning- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- Spangler- none

### **Old Business**

- none

### **New Business**

- none

### **Legislation**

- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-02- A Resolution of Necessity for a Fire Equipment Levy and requesting the Auditor of the County of Jackson to certify the total tax valuation and revenue that will be generated upon a Replacement of a 3.5 Mill Fire Equipment Levy for the City of Wellston.  
Sponsor: Lemaster  
Discussion: Chief Pelletier stated the current levy will still collect in 2024 and 2025. This is a renewal levy.

### **Service Director**

- none

**Law Director**

- none

**Auditor-** none

**City Clerk's Reports-** none

**Treasurer's Report-** none

**Fire**

- Chief Pelletier presented the 2023 Fire Report

**Zoning/Code**

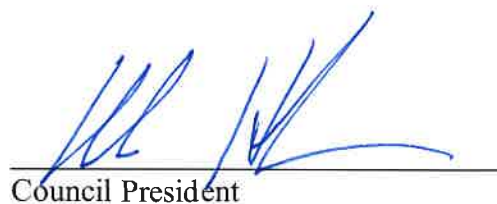
- Yearly Reports summarized in the Mayor's State of the City

**Police**

- Chief Robinson presented WPD's yearly report.
- President Hudson asked if the department would see a new car this year. The Chief replied in the affirmative and continued that funds have been set aside and a "problem" car will be phased out.
- Lemaster questioned the vehicle to officer ratio and asked if it was feasible to keep so many cars (9) due to maintenance, parking, and insurance. The Mayor and Police Chief then explained the list of vehicles, which includes the unmarked chief's car, unmarked detective unit, Resource Officer, the side-by-side, and one cruiser must remain at the City Building at all times. This left 4-5 vehicles in rotation counting the aforementioned "problem" car.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

  
Council Clerk

  
Council President