

# **Wellston City Council**

## **Emergency Meeting Minutes**

### **June 26, 2024**

Meeting was called to order at 6 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; Fred Duby; Walter Norris; Teresa Lemaster; Tami Phillips; and Roaby Browning. Hunter Skaggs was absent.

**Excusal of Previous Absence(s)-** No excusal of Skaggs' previous absence since he has intention to resign.

#### **Public Comments**

- Raymond McComas, Kinder Insurance, has been the City's Insurance Agent since 2013. He stated he did not know the City was bidding the insurance. He warned Council of entering into the Ohio Public Entities Pool of Ohio for insurance coverage. Council questioned the bidding process. The Mayor stated that the bid was in the newspaper twice (as required), in addition to the internet. Only one bid was received. The Mayor and Service Director did notify local agencies to bid for coverage, resulting in the one bid received.

#### **Legislation**

- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-44- An Ordinance of the Legislative Authority of the City of Wellston, Ohio, to accept the bid of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio as administered by ACRISURE and Local Agent Andrew Derrow for Property Casualty and Liability Insurance Coverage for the City of Wellston as it was the lowest responsive and responsible bid submitted and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Browning

Discussion: Lemaster asked if accepting Derrow Insurance would be a conflict of interest since John Derrow was just hired as the Parks and Recreation Director. The Mayor responded that it would not, because John Derrow is not part of the decision-making process according to the City Attorney. Since the insurance bill is due the following Monday, Council needs to make a decision that evening pertaining to the insurance policy. Andy Derrow, Derrow Insurance, spoke on the Ohio Public Entities Pool and other municipalities that receive the same coverage. Members of Council were concerned over the short decision time.

A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Spangler, seconded by Duby, and approved by all in attendance.

Spangler made a Motion to deem the bid as unresponsive and Lemaster seconded. The roll call vote was as follows: Spangler- yes; Duby- yes; Norris- no; Lemaster- yes; Phillips- no; Browning- yes.

Spangler made a Motion to Amend the current legislation to retain insurance with Kinder for the year and Lemaster made the Second. All in attendance voted in favor of the amendment except for Norris, who voted no.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

  
Council Clerk

  
Council President