

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

August 1, 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; Fred Duby; Teresa Lemaster; Tami Phillips; and Roaby Browning. Walter Norris was absent.

Excusal of Previous Absence(s)- All in attendance voted to excuse Spangler and Browning from the previous meeting.

2nd Ward Council Vacancy

- Candidates: Calvin Sheets, 164 Harrison Avenue, presented a resume and addressed Council.
Karen Boch, 025 Grady Lane, presented a resume and addressed Council
- Spangler nominated Boch, seconded by Lemaster, and all in attendance approved Karen Boch for 2nd Ward Councilperson.

Public Comments

- none

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

Correspondence

- The Auditor of State is now requiring Fraud Risk Surveys be completed by everyone employed and/or elected by the City of Wellston.

Reports of Special Committees

- 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

- Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-47- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations in the Garbage Fund.
Sponsor: Spangler
Discussion: Funds from the sale of a trash truck
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Lemaster, seconded by Browning, and approved by all in attendance.
- Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-48- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations in General Civil- supplies, materials, and maintenance for the purchase of bulletproof vests through the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation's Law Enforcement Bulletproof Vest Program.
Sponsor: Phillips
Discussion: Grant received.
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Spangler, seconded by Browning, and approved by all in attendance.
- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2024-49- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and finalize an agreement between the Teamsters 637 as representative of the City of Wellston Police Department Employees and adopting said agreement.
Sponsor: Lemaster
Discussion:
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-50- An Ordinance authorizing the creation of a Wellston Downtown Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Browning
Discussion: Lemaster asked the Mayor the main benefit of establishing a DORA. The Mayor responded that current downtown business owners with liquor licenses could host outdoor events. The DORA will be managed by the Park and Recreation Department, who will oversee the needs for openings/closings and special events. The Mayor expects to host new events on a grander scale and attract more outside visitors. Brenner continued to say that he and his office has contacted smaller communities with a DORA and they reported no problems. Lemaster then asked why the boundaries extended beyond downtown businesses and into the Frick lot, and the DORA hours of operation. The Mayor explained the boundaries could be pulled back at any time along with the hours. Discussion then led to how DORA cups cannot be refilled, they are only single-serve. Chief Pelletier then said he asked that Fire Station 2 be included so that the department has the opportunity to host fundraising events, which have been successful for other fire departments.
Lemaster asked for a Motion to Table this Ordinance until the new Councilperson takes seat; there was no second.
Motion to Suspend the Rules: Spangler
Second: Phillips
All in attendance voted to suspend except Lemaster, who voted no.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-51- A Resolution approving Additional Appropriations in the Police Department and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Phillips
Discussion: Chief Robinson stated this was for Jackson County EMS Tactical Medical Training. This is a reimbursement. He stated no emergency was needed.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-52- A Resolution approving Additional Appropriations in the Police Department and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: These monies came from the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office. The Chief would like this legislation to pass as an emergency.

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

A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Spangler, seconded by Browning, and approved by all in attendance.

Mayor

- Mayor Brenner began by bringing up the previous topic of a buying a machine that vacuums leaves versus the current system of bagging. The cost of the machine is \$92,700, compared to the small cost of the current bagging system which was approximated at no more than \$2,000 per year. Council asked for the Ordinance to purchase to be presented.
- The City has received a grant from the EPA's Chloride Reduction Act. The amount of the grant is just over \$66,000 and will provide the City with road brining equipment that can utilize beet juice. This can potentially reduce the City's salt usage by up to 75% and beet brining is less corrosive than regular salt brining.
- The Mayor then listed the weekend events.
- There is now a toll-free number for water bill credit card payments.
- \$4,664.72 was received from the Opioid Settlement.
- The Mayor then asked Council to review the Drug Policy so that it allows employees, who are not in safety sensitive positions, to utilize medical marijuana. CDL's will still see a restriction throughout the State.

Service Director

- Ryan Pelletier is serving as Interim Service Director. He gave an update on Stacy Camp.
- Sidewalk and curb work has been completed throughout the City in the last week and a half. Pelletier spoke of the young workers that are on the crews learning new skills and doing a great job.
- Round 2 of Code Mowing is complete. The new Ordinance has not been implemented yet.
- Security systems will be updated at the City Building. Updated security cameras, door locks, and key fob entry systems will be installed soon.
- Pelletier then spoke on the Rumpke Truck overturn near the water treatment facility.
- Paving projects included Radcliffe Lane, Sunset, E Street, and A Street, toward the cemetery, will get new paving and curbs.

Law Director

- none

Auditor

- Not Present

City Clerk's Reports

- None

Treasurer's Report

- Not present

Fire

- None

Zoning/Code

- None

Police

- None

Lemaster made a Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel Reasons with No Action to be Taken at 7:54 p.m., Spangler seconded the motion, and all in attendance approved.

Spangler made a Motion to exit Executive Session at 8:22 p.m., Lemaster made the second, and all in attendance approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Council President