

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

July 11, 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.

Police Chief John Robinson introduced K9 Garo and his handler, Patrolman Brant Derrow. In less than 3 weeks, the K9 has had 9 indications, 9 deployments, 3 positive indications, and one seizure.

President Hudson then called for the roll call.

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

Hunter Skaggs made the attempt to send the Clerk a letter of resignation, but the attachment could not be opened. President Hudson made a Motion to Remove Skaggs from his seat on Council, Lemaster seconded, and the Motion was approved by all in attendance. Council will seek candidates.

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

Public Comments

- none

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

Correspondence

- none

Reports of Special Committees

- Health and Safety Committee- Lemaster- none
- Public Service Committee- Duby- none
- Planning Committee- Browning- none
- Recreation Committee- Norris- The Committee met prior to Council at 6 p.m. with the new Parks and Recreation Director. Norris reports good discussion and great ideas. A Recreation Board was discussed, and Director Derrow will present a list of names to the Mayor for his approval, who will then seek Council's approval.
- Finance Committee- Spangler- none
- Community Action- Browning- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- Spangler- none

Old Business

- Councilwoman Lemaster asked if the status of the Lake Road property. The Mayor answered that he has not heard back from the attorney.

New Business

- none

Legislation

- Third Reading of Resolution No. 2024-39- A Resolution approving additional appropriations in the Police Department.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: Donation from Appalachian Dirt Riders

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

- Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-40- An Ordinance authorizing the advertisement for sale of the unused transformers, electrical equipment, six overhead cranes, and related equipment currently located in the former McNally Pitt Building that are now owned by the City but are no longer needed for a municipal purpose, to be sold the highest bidder over \$100,000 pursuant to R.C. Section 721.15.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: A company reached out to the Mayor asking to purchase the overhead cranes at the Street Garage. The bidding will start at \$100,000, but the Mayor stated he may come back to Council with a new figure. The proceeds will go to fixing up the garage- the roof was recently repaired. President Hudson stated a salt barn would be great at some point.

Discussion on 3rd Read: Mayor Brenner advised Council to amend the presented Legislation for the bidding to start at \$20,000. The labor involved in the removal of the cranes will consume most of the scrap proceeds.

Lemaster made a Motion to amend the Ordinance to change the bidding price from \$100,000 to \$20,000. Spangler seconded the Motion and it was approved by all in attendance.

A Motion to Adopt and Pass as an Emergency was made by Spangler, seconded by Lemaster, and approved by all in attendance.

- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-41- An Ordinance authorizing the creation of a Wellston Downtown Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA).

Sponsor: Phillips

Discussion: Mayor Brenner informed Council there were leftover packets of information left over from the public hearing held the week prior.

Discussion on 2nd Read: Councilman Norris has fielded concerns regarding the creation of a DORA and has urged the citizens to come to the meetings and/or call the Mayor or Service Director.

- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-42- An Ordinance renaming Fund 403 from OWDA Fund to ARPA-WWIP Fund and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Phillips

Discussion: The State would prefer to see grant funds being directed through their own line-items. Not enough Council Members present on First Reading to pass as an Emergency.

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

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

- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-43- An Ordinance renaming Fund 209 from the UDAG Revolving Loan Fund to the RPIG Fund and adding additional expense and revenue lines and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Browning
Discussion: The State would prefer to see grant funds being directed through their own line-items. Not enough Council Members present on First Reading to pass as an Emergency.
A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Phillips, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance.
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Spangler, seconded by Lemaster, and approved by all in attendance.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-45- A Resolution repealing and amending Resolution 2024-16 and Declaring a Necessity of a Fire Equipment Levy and Certifying the Fire Equipment Levy Issue to the Board of Elections and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Spangler
Discussion: Correction of Levy Numbers per County Auditor. Chief Pelletier reminded Council to educate the public on the 2 separate fire levies and that this is a renewal. Two separate levies were established while the City was in fiscal emergency. The levies are staggered, which makes them difficult to combine.
A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Lemaster, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance.
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Spangler, seconded by Norris, and approved by all in attendance.
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-46- An Ordinance Repealing and Amending the City of Wellston's Codified Ordinance Section 93.15 governing required cutting of grass and weed control.
Sponsor: Lemaster
Discussion: The Mayor says this will be a much easier policy to maintain instead of the current required four cuttings per year.
Lemaster made a Motion to Suspend the Rules to pass as an emergency. Duby seconded the motion and all in attendance voted to suspend the rules.
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Spangler, seconded by Lemaster, and approved by all in attendance.
After discussions with the Law Director, Spangler then made a Motion to Amend the Legislation as an emergency to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Wellston; Lemaster seconded the motion and all in attendance approved the amendment.
- First 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
- First 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.

Mayor

- Ball tournament happening this weekend. Between 25-30 teams being hosted by Make Wellston Beautiful
- Contracted Sewer Plant Employee Joan Waugh has received 2 grants. One is for a microscope; the other is for a wastewater sampler.
- Lake Alma Christmas in July will be happening this weekend
- Frick Lot is open to yard sales this weekend.
- Deer hunting lottery will be open from August 1 to August 30th
- The Mayor thanked OHillco for “the best fireworks show he’s ever been to.”
- Johnny’s/Peking Cook just celebrated 25 years in business; Viva Jalisco celebrated 12 years
- The County Fair starts this weekend
- Councilman Norris thanked the Mayor, Service Director, Police, and everyone involved in making the City function.

Service Director

- 226 South Minnesota Avenue has been demolished, and more to come
- Radcliff Lane/D Street Project is complete. Paving will begin in September.
- Councilwoman Lemaster thanked Director Camp for fixing the curbs and yards on C Street

Law Director

- The Habitat for Humanity lots have been closed

Auditor

- Reports Received

City Clerk’s Reports

- Reports Received

Treasurer’s Report

- None; Council has requested to see a Treasurers’ Report

Fire

- The new fire truck is on the assembly line being built and there will be an official unveiling. Chief Pelletier called this a one-of-a-kind spirit truck.

Zoning/Code

- There has been an unusually high turnover with Part-time Code Enforcement employees this year.

Police

- Reports Received

Lemaster made a Motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel Reasons with No Action to be Taken at 7:39 p.m., Spangler seconded the motion, and all in attendance approved.

Lemaster made a Motion to exit Executive Session at 7:44 p.m., Spangler made the second, and all in attendance approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

NB Esriangle
Council Clerk



KL HZ
Council President