

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

June 6, 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; Walter Norris; Teresa Lemaster; Tami Phillips; and Roaby Browning. Hunter Skaggs was absent.

Excusal of Previous Absence(s)- All in attendance voted to excuse Spangler's absence; Duby's absence was unexcused.

Mayor Brenner then began discussions into hiring John Derrow as the Park and Recreation Director. All in attendance voted to approve hiring Derrow for the position by roll call vote.

Public Comments

- none

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

Correspondence

- none

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- Finance Committee met prior to the meeting to discuss aggregation. Information is still being gathered.
- Community Action- Browning- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- Spangler- none

Old Business

- none

New Business

- Norris asked the City's position on grading and graveling alleys. The Mayor responded this is usually a winter activity, but the City does maintain alleys. The Mayor recommended Norris call the Service Director to report the alleys with issues.

Legislation

- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2024-35- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor, Service Director, and any other necessary official to enter into an agreement with the County of Washington regarding the custody, supervision, confinement, and board of prisoners.
Sponsor: Browning
Discussion: Yearly
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-36- An Ordinance transferring Appropriations from the General Carryover Fund to the Rec Fund for Part Time Laborer Wages and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Norris
Discussion: The Mayor stated this was previously discussed and that funds were also added for materials.
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-37- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations in the Sewer Fund: Supplies, Materials, and Maintenance.
Sponsor: Browning
Discussion: none
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-38- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to take all necessary actions and execute any and all related documents to apply, receive, and finalize acceptance of grant moneys from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Natureworks Program and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Spangler
Discussion: Planning for the RV Park
A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Browning, seconded by Spangler, 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.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2024-39- A Resolution approving additional appropriations in the Police Department and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Lemaster
Discussion: Donation from Appalachian Dirt Riders; does not need to be an emergency until 3rd read.
- First 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.

Mayor

- Norris asked the status of the tornado sirens. The Mayor then stated there were no open grants at this time, but his office would keep searching. The Mayor then explained that funds would be available under CDBG; however, this would take away potential fund requests for street work.
- The DORA Meeting will be held next week. Mayor Brenner explained to Council that the City would control the restrictions. Councilwoman Lemaster asked at what times the DORA would be

in effect; the Mayor stated it would be no more than the hours listed in the application, but could be restricted further. Lemaster stated she thinks the range of the DORA is too large. The Mayor reminded Council again that the area in the application could be restricted further, but wanted to include the City-owned lots in the application. Norris asked the purpose of DORA. The Mayor responded it allows drinking outside during restricted hours in a DORA-approved cup. Norris and Lemaster are concerned about exposing the elderly and children to alcohol. Norris asked if there would be enough officers on duty in the designated areas. Lemaster asked how the downtown business owners feel. The Clerk previously spoke to business owners who seemed to be excited about the prospect. Conversation then led to neighboring cities with DORA. Lemaster and Norris agreed they do not want DORA at family-oriented events. Norris asked if the Mayor could find any smaller cities with a DORA. The Mayor reminded that although the City would not make money directly, the DORA would help with downtown businesses and tourism. The Mayor stated his office has been monitoring neighboring DORA communities to see if there have been problems, but none have been reported.

- The Ohio Avenue Advisory Committee will meet on Tuesday at 4:30. The Mayor invited Council. There are tentative plans that will make the section of Ohio Avenue from Broadway to 2nd Street a one-way. ADA parking will be added. President Hudson asked about replacing the red light at Broadway and Ohio with a four-way stop.
- The Mayor's Partnership for Progress will be in town on Thursday. The guest speakers are Senator Wilkins and GOA Director John Carey.
- The City is closed on Juneteenth; however, trash will still run.
- The City received a technical assistance grant through the EPA and ARC called Local Food, Local Places. This will be used to plan an open air market, and hopefully much more on a city-owned lot in the downtown area.
- The Mayor and Assistant received an ARC Ready grant and have been in workshops every Tuesday. The City will be eligible for a \$50,000 federal grant after the classes are over.
- The new mowing ordinance is being worked on. This will change from 4 times a season to a height limit.
- The external audit should be happening in the coming week(s).
- The Mayor stated that his office is looking into curbing and paving A Street.
- The outdoor restrooms at Kelli Lambert Park are being fixed and a lift station at the ballfields will be fixed soon, which will lead to those restrooms being reopened as well. Police controlled locks are being thought of as an option at the park restrooms.
- A meeting with the new Lions Club President will happen soon so that planning for the downtown parking lot can begin.
- Councilwoman Phillips stated the shrubbery on Broadway needs trimmed or removed.

Service Director

- Not present

Law Director

- None

Auditor

- Reports acknowledged

City Clerk's Reports

- Report acknowledged

Treasurer's Report

- Not Present

Fire

- Not Present

Zoning/Code

- not present

Police

- Letter received pertaining to donation to police department (earlier legislation)

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

M. B. Eganagh

Council Clerk



M. W. W.

Council President