Wellston City Council Meeting Minutes September 11, 2025

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Rick Hudson by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge. He then called for the roll call.

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

Excusal of Previous Absence(s)

Phillips was excused from the last Council meeting.

Public Comments

 Charles King, 316 Electric Park Road, spoke of his father coaching little league and pony league in the past. He was hoping to rename the Wellston Sports Complex to the Charlie King Sports Complex. Since the Complex was secured through grant funds, it cannot be renamed. Council will look into a Wall of Honor with plagues.

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- none
- Community Action- Browning- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- Spangler- none

Old Business

 Phillips questioned the 200,000 per day water loss. Director Walton says this is a hard leak to track because there has been no discolored water or pressure loss; however, the City is treating more water as shown by the extra chemical use. Walton reported that different companies and organizations have tried to locate the leak to no avail. There is fear that the water is being emptied into an old mine.

New Business

Legislation

• Third Reading of Resolution No. 2025-54- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor, Service Director, and any other necessary official to enter into an agreement with the County of Gallia regarding the custody, supervision, confinement, and board of prisoners.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: no new discussion

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

 Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-55- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations in the Police Training School Fund.

Sponsor: Boch

Discussion: no new discussion

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

 Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-58- An Ordinance creating eight new fund line items for unemployment tax and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Browning

Discussion: The Mayor answered in the affirmative to Phillips' question asking if this is to make the budget cleaner by having its own line.

 Second Reading of Resolution No. 2025-59- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor, Service Director, and any other necessary official to enter into an agreement for the procurement of natural gas supply services and establishing a fixed rate for municipal use.

Sponsor: Spangler

Discussion: no new discussion

 First Reading of Resolution No. 2025-61- A Resolution accepting and authorizing the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: Lemaster had concerns about the emergency language. The Mayor responded that this is a yearly piece of legislation and that it should have been passed before this council meeting.

 First Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-62- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations in the EPA/OWDA Water Plant Project Revenue Lines from the EPA/OWDA Water Plant Project Expense Line and Declaring an Emergency. Sponsor: Boch

Discussion: The Mayor explained that since this is a reimbursement grant, Council can expect to see multiple emergencies to pay invoices related to the new water plant until its completion—there is no way around it.

• First Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-63- An Ordinance for Additional Appropriations from the General Fund to the Officer's Wages Fund

Sponsor: Boch

- Discussion: Chief Robinson explained that this is Wellston City School's contribution to the school resource officer's wages.
- First Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-64- An Ordinance for Additional Appropriations from the Water Grants and Loans Fund to the Water Supplies, Materials, and Maintenance Fund

Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: EPA grant fund reimbursements for well abandonment projects

• First Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-65- An Ordinance approving Additional Appropriations in the Fire Laborer Wages Fund Line and the Fire Supplies, Materials, and Maintenance Fund from the Fire/EMS Calls Expense Line and Declaring an Emergency.

Sponsor: Phillips

Discussion: Hazmat reimbursement for the truck stop incident

 First Reading of Resolution No. 2025-66- A Resolution authorizing Mayor Anthony Brenner to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement Program(s) and to execute contracts as required and hereby Declaring an Emergency. Sponsor: Lemaster

Discussion: Grant submission for the Pennsylvania Avenue waterline replacement project.

Mayor

- Two separate grant applications are being worked on for the Louvee grant match.
- Municipal Court will be held on the 16th.
- The Water Plant needs an operator.

Service Director

- The water plant site has been cleared. The waterline project should be finishing next week.
- The budget should be presented to the Finance Committee within the next week.

Law Director

Not present

Auditor

Not present. Statement of Cash Position and Expense Report received

City Clerk's Reports

Sales and Consumption report received.

Treasurer's Report

· Account Totals, Debits, and Credits received.

Recreation

Not present

Fire

Not present

Zoning/Code

Not present

Police

- Activity Summary and Call Report Received.
- Chief Robinson thanked all area agencies for lending a hand during OHillCo due to the recent loss of Officer Matthew Juniper.

A Motion amend the agenda to enter executive session was made by Lemaster for a personnel matter, Boch made a Motion to go into executive session with no action taken at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Council Clerk

Council President