

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Rick Hudson by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge. Hudson welcomed the newest member of Council, Rhonda Downey, who represents the 4th Ward. He then called for the roll call.

Councilpersons answering the roll call included: Fred Duby, Karen Boch, Angela Spangler, Keith Woolum, Rhonda Downey, and Tami Phillips. Roaby Browning was absent

Excusal of Previous Absence(s)

- All in attendance voted to excuse Woolum from the previous meeting.

Public Comments

- None

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

Correspondence

- Ethics Committee Filing Reminder

Reports of Special Committees

- Health and Safety Committee- none
 - Public Service Committee- none
 - Planning Committee- none
 - Recreation Committee- none
 - Finance Committee- none
 - Community Action- none
 - Civic Organization Liaison- none
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Old Business

- Boch would like to see a fee schedule from Code Enforcement. There will also be a fee schedule needed from the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Boch asked if there was a written functions/expectations policy for council committees. President Hudson responded that it is his obligation to appoint topics and members to committees. The Mayor stated he would look into other cities' policies.

New Business

- Spangler stated many members of the public have problems hearing the meetings. The Mayor responded that he will look into upgrading the sound system.

Legislation

- Third Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-03- An Ordinance approving additional appropriations in the Officer Blu Fund and the Drug Enforcement Supplies, Materials, and Maintenance Fund.
Sponsor: Woolum
Discussion: no new discussion
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Boch, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2026-04- A Resolution authorizing and accepting the terms and conditions of the Ohio Auditor of State to provide local government services and to issue an accounting report and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Spangler
Discussion: Members of Council requested that Auditor Dupree attend the next meeting to discuss this agreement. No emergency will be passed at this time.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2026-05- A Resolution authorizing the City to enter into an agreement to employ Joseph D. Kirby of the Law Firm of Cole, Kirby, & Associates, LLC., as attorneys for the City and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Woolum
Discussion: Mr. Kirby said no emergency was needed.
- First Reading of 2026-06- A Resolution supporting the Louvee Theater Phase 1 Cultural Project and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Boch
Discussion: The Mayor stated that the State has agreed to use the Ohio Avenue updates and City-owned properties as match for the \$1.5 million grant. He stated this is not an appropriation and he does not think that these funds will need to be used in the long run. A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Spangler, seconded by Woolum, and approved by all in attendance.
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Boch, seconded by Phillips, and approved by all in attendance.

Mayor

- Mayor Brenner began by thanking Council for passing 2026-06. He hopes to get the project moving.
- He welcomed Rhonda Downey to Council and thanked everyone that sent a letter of interest.
- \$2 million has been awarded to the water plant through the federal budget, as well as \$200,000 for WPD's MARCS radios.
- The authorization to proceed was received for the RV Park. We expect a ribbon-cutting in March or April.
- The NRA ammo grant was awarded for just over \$4,100.

- Six additional grant opportunities have been added to our grant board.

Service Director

- Walton began with the recent BWC PERPP violations. He stated remediation has been completed, along with policy and training. The new Trenching and Excavation policy is attached to the Council packet.
- A Petty Cash policy was also attached for Council's review.
- The Employee Evaluation form is almost ready.
- There is currently a salt shortage, but the City is in good standing. The City of Jackson sold 50 tons of salt to Wellston. Since we have adequate storage now, we will begin to keep a surplus when ordering is available.

Law Director

- none

Auditor

- Statement of Cash Position received
- Expense Report received

City Clerk's Reports

- UB Sales and Consumption

Treasurer's Report

- none

Recreation

- Smith recently attended the Parks and Recreation Association Conference. She will attend the Gus Macker conference next week.
- This spring, the Director has partnered with Jackson and Eastern/Beaver, so travel times will not be as long. In addition, the Wellston fields will accommodate night games. 10 tournaments have been scheduled to date.
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Fire

- Not present

Zoning/Code

- Not present

Police

- none

All in attendance voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m.



Council Clerk





Council President