

Wellston City Council

Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2026

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: Fred Duby, Karen Boch, Angela Spangler, Rhonda Downey, Keith Woolum, and Tami Phillips. Roaby Browning was absent.

Excusal of Previous Absence(s)

- None

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- none
- Public Service Committee- none
- Planning Committee- none
- Recreation Committee- none
- Finance Committee- none
- Community Action- none
- Civic Organization Liaison- none

Old Business

- None

Introduction of New Officer

- Chief Robinson introduced new officer, Dylan Bond to Council, who came from the Jackson County Sheriff's Office.

New Business

- none

Legislation

- Third Reading of Resolution No. 2026-15- 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: Downey
Discussion: Yearly; cost is \$100 per day
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Woolum, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance.
- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2026-17- A Resolution authorizing the Service-Safety Director to enter into an agreement with the Jackson County Land Reutilization Corporation for mowing certain property located within the City and authorizing the Director to establish fees sufficient to cover the City's costs and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Downey
Discussion: The Mayor explained there is no emergency needed. The Land Bank will be charged \$40 per property.
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-18- An Ordinance to repeal in its entirety Ordinance 2021-63 that established the position of Public Works Supervisor.
Sponsor: Downey
Discussion: none
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-19- An Ordinance repealing Ord. 3206 and removing Section 30.04 from the Codified Ordinances of the City.
Sponsor: Spangler
Discussion: This completely removed Public Works/Utility Supervisor from the Codified Ordinances, along with Ordinance 2026-18. In the future, Council can pass legislation to reinstate the position if necessary.
- Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2026-20- An Ordinance authorizing the annual salary increase of one and one-half (1.5%) for the Service-Safety Director.
Sponsor: Downey
Discussion: The salary increase was discussed further. Council requested an updated job description.
- First Reading of Resolution No. 2026-21- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for, accept, and enter into a cooperative agreement for design of Water Treatment Plant Phase 3 Cherrington Hill Project between the City of Wellston and the Ohio Water Development Authority and Declaring an Emergency.
Sponsor: Spangler
Discussion: The Mayor explained this is to seek grant funding for a new water tower.
A Motion to Suspend the Rules was made by Boch, seconded by Spangler, and approved by all in attendance.
A Motion to Adopt and Pass was made by Spangler, seconded by Boch, and approved by all in attendance.
- Second Reading of Resolution No. 2026-22- A Resolution of the Legislative Authority of the City of Wellston authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Indigent Defense Contract with the Jackson County Commissioners to provide legal counsel to indigent persons charged with violations of the Wellston Municipal Code for 2026 in the total amount of \$5,000.00.
Sponsor: Downey
Discussion: Due to the writing under state code for a number of years, the City is renegotiating the contract from \$20,000 to \$5,000.

Mayor

- Mayor Brenner began by stating the ARC POWER grant is opening soon. We will resubmit for the Louvee Project.
- Moreno's office has accepted the City's federal request proposal for 3 police cruisers, a side by side, and radar trailers.
- The preconstruction meeting for New York Avenue will happen on Tuesday.
- The bid opening for the Water Plant Phase 2 did not go well. There was only one bid received. The engineer's bid number was estimated at \$8.5 million and the bid received was \$19 million. Numbers will need to be revised, and the project will be put out for bid again.
- The groundbreaking for the RV Park is scheduled for June 1st.

Service Director

- A significant leak has been found under the railroad tracks. Due to this fix estimated to cost over \$25,000, Director Walton stated there may need to be an appropriation made later on in the year.
- Bucket truck training occurred.
- Closed circuit for the sewer separation project is underway.
- We are closed Memorial Day. A double trash route will be run on Monday.
- Roads will continue to be patched, and he is hopeful the streets can be striped after Memorial Day.
- Big haul went well.
- Inventory tags have been received. The company that was hired stopped showing and was never paid. Our auditing office will be tagging all the inventory.
- An inquiry was made regarding the recent public comment attendee who has a collapsing culvert on his property. Walton responded the property owner would have to purchase the pipe, but the City would supply labor. As pipe is expensive right now, the homeowner is hesitant to purchase. As for now, the City will monitor this issue. There is no record of an easement established at this property.
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Law Director

- none

Auditor

- Line-item transfers approved
- Simple Full Memo, Statement of Cash Position, Expense Report, and Cash Balance received.

City Clerk's Reports

- Sales and Consumption received

Treasurer's Report

- none

Recreation

- Not present

Fire

- None

Zoning/Code

- 22 permits have been received, with 5 of those being new builds and 2 commercial constructions.
- Code mowing has begun.

Police

- None

All in attendance voted to go into Executive Session was made by Spangler at 7:40 p.m., and seconded by Boch, with all members in agreement. The purpose of this executive session is personnel, as reflected in ORC 121.22. No action will follow.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



Council Clerk





Council President