

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WALLACE, IDAHO
February 8, 2023

Mayor Mogensen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

Roll Call: Council members present: Elmer Mattila; Heather Branstetter; Michele Bisconer and Rick Shaffer. Council members absent: Dave DeRoos and Dean Cooper.

Flag Salute

Consent Agenda:

Council member Shaffer made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2023 meeting, accounts payable in the amount of \$97,447.29, transfers and the advanced payroll for March. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

Reports

Mayor:

Les Ryan is coming to look at the plumbing at the pool and city hall. The Mayor is scheduling a meeting with the Sheriff to discuss issues the city would like addressed. The unmaintained houses that were discussed at a prior meeting have been turned over to the city attorney.

Sheriff:

Council member Shaffer stated he is looking forward to his meeting with Sheriff Lindsey. A new deputy was assigned to the City. Council member Shaffer read the Sheriff's report submitted by Sheriff Lindsey stating that during the month of January the Shoshone County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to 105 calls for service within the city of Wallace. A report was attached. Council member Bisconer made the motion to approve the Sheriff's report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Mattila. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye; Carried.

Fire:

Mayor Mogensen read the Fire report submitted by Fire Chief John Miller stating that Shoshone County Fire District One personnel responded 13 times for medical emergencies and 2 fire response in Wallace for January 2023. Fire Chief Miller was in attendance. There is still an operational fire engine in the Wallace firehouse and they are going to continue cleanup of the upstairs living quarters. Council member Mattila made the motion to approve the Fire report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Shaffer. Roll Call Vote. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye; Carried.

Street:

Council member Shaffer stated the weather has been all over the place. Street crews are continuing to maintain the roads.

Finance:

Council member Bisconer read the Finance report submitted stating that the General fund has \$1,068,476.56; Street \$3,378.96; Library \$32,591.22; Parks & Rec. \$17,567.25; Insurance \$8,961.53; Sewer \$190,166.13 for a total of \$1,257,784.65. Wells Fargo Savings \$353,158.18 and Wallace Inn UDAG \$195,025.60. Council member Bisconer made a motion to approve the Finance report as submitted and read. Seconded by council member Branstetter. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye; Carried.

Library:

Council member Mattila submitted a report. He stated attendance at the library is down and Julie Magnuson has resigned from both library boards.

Parks and Recreation:

Council member Bisconer stated when the snow melts, they will begin working on installing equipment and sod at the Pine Street park. The Wallace Flower Project would like to paint the wall on the outside of the pool and install flower baskets.

Housing:

Council member Branstetter stated she is still working on the housing ordinance. People have reached out to her about the parking issues and electric vehicle charging stations. Discussion held on the status of the charging stations.

Business:

Consider Beer and Wine License for Wallace Petro LLC dba Wallace Super Stop - (*Action Item*) – All proper paperwork was submitted. Council member Shaffer made a motion to approve. Seconded by council member Bisconer. Roll Call. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye; Carried.

Consider Beer and Wine License for Wallace Petro LLC dba Fifth St. Hico- (*Action Item*) All proper paperwork was submitted. Council member Shaffer made a motion to approve. Seconded by council member Bisconer. Roll Call. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye; Carried.

Consider Street Closure for Depot Days - (*Action Item*) – Cindy Lien was present. She stated the application is the same as last years. Council member Bisconer made a motion to approve the street closure request. Seconded by council member Mattila. Roll Call. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye; Carried.

Confirmation of Library Trustees - (*Action Item*) Julie Magnuson addressed the council. There are two openings and the Board has put forth the names of Julie Beck and Sarah Murphy. Council member Bisconer stated she thought both would do a great job as trustees, so she moved to accept their nominations and appoint them to the Wallace Library Board of Trustees. Seconded by council member Shaffer. Roll Call. Branstetter Aye; Mattila Aye; Shaffer Aye; and Bisconer Aye; Carried. Council member Mattila stated he is a member of the library board.

Discuss upcoming swim year – Friends of the Wallace Pool – Jocelyn Bachman, secretary of Friends of the Pool, addressed the council. Ms. Bachman stated she did a walk through of the pool with a representative from Innovia, and noticed both urinals were broken. Friends of the Pool would like to sponsor free swimming this summer and they would like an idea as to when the pool will open, and if the city has considered writing grants to have a company come in and winterize the pool. Council member Bisconer stated opening the pool depends on when the city can get the toilets and boilers fixed. Council member Bisconer would love to see the pool open by mid-June, and also supports having an outside

company winterize the pool. Friends of the Pool would like to sponsor another wishlist, so they asked the city provide them with needed items. Discussion held on the creation of a recreation district.

Workshop re: updating personnel policy - (*Action Item*) Discussion held on leaving full time employees at 20 hours instead of changing to 30 hours. The City has two employees that are currently working 20 hours and this change would affect them greatly. Council member Bisconer, council member Branstetter and council member Mattila were in favor of keeping the policy as is. Next topic discussed was requiring hourly employees to physically work 40 hours to get overtime. As of now vacation and sick hours do not count toward 40 hours. Discussion held. It was decided to leave as is. The council then discussed staying with sick and vacation or moving to PTO. Council member Branstetter asked if it would be possible to incorporate what we have with certain benefits of PTO and call it PTO? The clerk stated her argument for keeping the current time off system in place is that it is working for the employees, and administratively all the tracking and reports are set up. Council member Shaffer stated the city needs to have something in place to monitor how much overtime/comp time employees are accruing and make sure they are using it. Council member Bisconer stated employees need to take time off for their mental health. Further discussion held on paying an employee for their sick time. It was decided to keep the policy as it. Council member Branstetter stated she is in favor of keeping it as is if it is working. Further discussion. Mayor Mogensen stated the city should be paying employees who have comp time at the end of the physical year... not allow them to carry it forward. If an employee has more than 10 days of vacation, they need to come to council to have it carried forward. Council member Bisconer thinks the council needs to be kept informed of any employees that have excessive vacation or comp. The clerk stated she would do a better job of keeping the council informed of where employees stand with sick/vacation/comp. Juneteenth was added as a federal holiday. Council member Mattila asked that at the next fiscal year the city consider increasing the pay for the library employees. Council member Bisconer stated a good way to help track of salaries is with a salary/hourly chart and base raises on performance. Mayor Mogensen feels the city needs to stay competitive. It was decided these items would be sent to the city attorney and the council would revisit next month.

Council member Shaffer made a motion to adjourn at 6:25. Seconded by council member Bisconer. All in favor.


Lynn Mogensen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kristina Larson, City Clerk/Treasurer