

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WALLACE, IDAHO
October 26, 2023

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

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

Flag Salute

Consent Agenda:

Council member Mattila made the motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2023 meeting, accounts payable for August in the amount of \$103,955.44, transfers and the advanced payroll for October. Seconded by Council member Matrisciano. All in favor. Carried.

Reports

Mayor:

The Mayor stated she is working on getting the windows replaced at city hall.

Sheriff:

No Report given.

Fire:

Council member Bisconer read the Fire report submitted by Fire Chief John Miller stating that Shoshone County Fire District One personnel responded 19 times for medical emergencies and 3 fire response in Wallace September 2023. Further discussion held. Council member Branstetter made the motion to approve the Fire report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. All in favor. Carried.

Street:

Council member Shaffer was absent. Discussion held on residents putting their leaves in the street. The Mayor stated the City provides dumpsters and people need to put their leaves in those. The City is not responsible for the leaves in people's yards.

Finance:

Council member Matrisciano read the Finance report submitted stating that the General fund has \$1,397,292.38; Street \$-85,617.14; Library \$4,647.91; Parks & Rec. \$-65,497.25; Insurance \$-3,870.49; Sewer \$256,506.32; USDA \$50.00 for a total of \$1,503,511.73. Savings \$33,946.88, Mt. West CD \$200,000, Wallace Inn UDAG CD \$195,143.46 It was noted that the end-of-year transfers have not been done. Council member Mattila made a motion to approve the Finance report as submitted and read. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. All in favor. Carried.

Library:

Council member Mattila stated the WWI rock monument was put back in its place. The repairs to the wall and basement door are still on going. Pictures of the project were submitted by council member Mattila. There are a few items Annette would like taken care of before the winter months.

Parks and Recreation:

This summer the pool had 5,266 swimmers. Ninety – nine kids took swim lessons and 15 people took private lessons. Clubhouse floors were painted with a non-skid paint. The pool is winterized. Council member Bisconer is still working on the light project at the Depot.

Housing :

Council member Branstetter stated she met with Bobby Jo, Kellogg city clerk, regarding how to implement the occupancy tax.

Business:

Discuss requiring business licenses – Ben Allen, city attorney (*Action Item*) – Mr. Allen addressed the council. Fire Chief Miller had to leave the meeting, so Mr. Allen proceeded without him. He stated that the fire chief has expressed issues he is having monitoring the types of occupancy that are occurring within buildings in the city, and assuring that those establishments are safe. When the buildings change hands and change business types the fire chief wants to ensure that the patrons and surrounding establishments are safe. According to Wallace City Code, this responsibility falls on the fire chief. This brought up the question, “How are we best able to identify when these sorts of changes are occurring within structures...” One idea that was identified was the issuance of a business license. The language is already in the code. Mr. Allen is not saying the City should implement a business license, but he is bringing forth an issue that has been identified and impacts public health and safety and is suggesting one idea or thought to “get the wheels turning”. Discussion held on whether a business license would be used to monitor short term rentals. Council member Bisconer suggested a business registration that business owners would be required to update once a year. Mr. Allen stated the benefits that a license gives is the backbone for repercussion of non-compliance which is what the fire chief is looking for. How do we get people to notify us? Council member Matrisciano suggested a letter be sent to business owners with an explanation of why this is being implemented. Further discussion held on how to notify the fire chief and ensure that people are complying with the notification requirements. Again, Mr. Allen stated that a business license is just one idea, but there may be others. Further discussion held. Council member Branstetter supports the idea of a business license, and stated it could help preserve some of the buildings. She went on to summarize a letter received from Mr. Bosen regarding different issues associated with implementing a business license. Council member Bisconer stated that there should be an explanation given to business owners as to why this is being implemented and only charge a nominal fee. Discussion held on how to keep costs minimal to businesses. Council member Branstetter suggested it be called a “business registration”. Council member Bisconer made a motion to table this item for the next two months to have a more in-depth discussion in December on how the council wants to pursue. Council member Matrisciano seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

Consider installation of three portable toilets in the downtown shopping district (*Action Item*) – Shauna Hillman addressed the council. The portable toilet that was used as the “guinea pig” was a success. The merchants are willing to pay for others if the city allows them to place them. She would like them placed in the Cedar St. alley by Past and Present, another close to the Bordello and the last one to the Barnard Stockbridge museum. Council member Branstetter made a motion to approve a total of three toilets in/near the downtown to ease the burden of restrooms on merchants with locations to be determined. The toilets would be installed from April 15th to October 15th. Further discussion held on locations. Seconded by council member Mattila. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

Blues Fest Street Closure Request – June 28, 2024 – Alex Cook (*Action Item*) – Mr. Cook addressed the council. He is requesting a street closure for a “New Faves Fest – Fashion Friday”. The event will include a fashion show and music. Council member Branstetter made a motion to approve the street closure on June 28th from 5:00 PM to 1:00 AM on Cedar St from 5th to Hansen’s and on 6th from the alley north of Cedar

to the alley south of Cedar. Mayor Mogensen asked if the gravel parking lot was being requested for parking, and Mr. Cook confirmed it was. Discussion regarding parking. Council member Bisconer encouraged the group to do a better job blocking off streets than what they did for Blues Fest. Council member repeated her motion to approve the street closure on June 28th from 5:00 PM to 1:00 AM on Cedar St from 5th to Hansen's and on 6th from the alley north of Cedar to the alley south of Cedar and the gravel parking lot. Council member Matrisciano seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

Blues Fest Street Closure Request – July 5 – 10, 2024 – Alex Cook (Action Item) – Mr. Cooks stated they are “stealing” Washington and are bringing it to Idaho. Discussion of various events that will be held. The council decided that there are too many questions on the application, so they asked Mr. Cook to resubmit a clear application and come to a future meeting. Council member Bisconer made a motion to table this application until the November meeting. Council member Matrisciano seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried. Further discussion held on putting a Ferris wheel at the Depot.

Blues Fest Street Closure Request – July 11 – 14, 2024 – Alex Cook (Action Item) – Mr. Cook addressed the council. All music will be at the school. He is asking for use of the gravel lot and the closure of Cedar from 5th to 7th. Council member Branstetter made a motion to approve the street closure request for Blues Fest July 11th - July 14th for the parking lot, with the understanding that someone will be there helping out, and from 5:00 PM on July 12 to midnight July 14 on Cedar Street between 5th and 7th and the alleys south of Cedar. Council member Matrisciano seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

Consider Ordinance 2023-03 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WALLACE, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, ESTABLISHING A NEW TITLE III, CHAPTER §30.11 BANKING SERVICES, TO APPROVE A CHANGE IN BANKING SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN CITY OFFICIALS AS DESIGNATED SIGNERS; DECLARING ORDINANCE SEVERABLE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Action Item) - Council member Branstetter made a motion to read Ordinance 2023-03 by title only. Council member Bisconer seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried. Mayor Mogensen read the ordinance by title only. **Consider Ordinance 2023-03 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WALLACE, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, ESTABLISHING A NEW TITLE III, CHAPTER §30.11 BANKING SERVICES, TO APPROVE A CHANGE IN BANKING SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN CITY OFFICIALS AS DESIGNATED SIGNERS; DECLARING ORDINANCE SEVERABLE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.** Council member Branstetter made a motion to suspend the rule that requires the ordinance be read on three separate occasions. Council member Mattila seconded it. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried. Council member Branstetter made a motion that Ordinance 2023-03 be passed by being read by title only. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

Consider Resolution 2023 -217 - Transfer bank accounts from US Bank to Mountain West (Action Item) – Council member Branstetter made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-217 which states the city is moving its money from US Bank to Mountain West and designating the signors as Lynn Mogensen, Michele Bisconer, Kristina Larson and Amanda Trogden. Seconded by council member Mattila. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

Donations for use of parking lot across from the Visitor Center – Elmer Mattila – Council member Mattila showed pictures, and a video, and stated that throughout the year recreation vehicles use the lot

across from the visitor center. Elmer reached out to ITD and was told there would be no issue with putting a donation box as long as it was in the City's right-a-way. Discussion held on design of box and sign, and location of donation box. Council member Mattila stated the donations could be kept in a special fund and the city could decide how to use the funds. Council member Branstetter suggested putting the funds toward sidewalk repairs.

Discuss changes to sick/vacation/comp portions of personnel policy - (*Action Item*) – Discussion held on how many sick days a year is reasonable for employees. Council member Bisconer suggested between 12-15 days a year, but there should be a cap on it. Council member Matrisciano suggested that sick time be capped at 30 days. Mr. Allen spoke about FMLA and how it applies to the City. In regards to comp time, that will be paid out to the employee. They will not be allowed to carry it forward. Council member Branstetter suggested the carry forward for vacation should be 15 days. Council member Branstetter made a motion to stay with the current policy and pay out comp time, for vacation raise the carry forward to 15 days or 120 hours and for sick time cap at 30 days or 240 hours and allow 12 days instead of 6 days a year and make all changes retroactive to October 1, 2023. Seconded by council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.


Approve carry forward of vacation and compensation time for City employees - (*Action Item*) Council member Branstetter made a motion to carry forward the vacation days and encourage Employee 1 to use those days this year. Seconded by Council member Bisconer. Roll Call Vote. Matrisciano Aye; Mattila Aye; Branstetter Aye, and Bisconer Aye. Carried.

There being no further business to come before the council, Council member Branstetter made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Council member Mattila. All in Favor. Carried.



Lynn Mogensen, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristina Larson
City Clerk/Treasurer