

Waitsburg City Council Meeting – November 20, 2024

Mayor Dunn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe called the roll. The following were present:

Mayor: Marty Dunn

Council Members: Jim Romine, Kevin House, Court Ruppenthal, Jillian Henze and Jennifer Bishop.

Others: on file at City Hall

Agenda Approval

With no changes to the agenda, agenda was approved and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – September 18, 2024 Regular Meeting

With no corrections, minutes were approved and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – September 30, 2024 Special Meeting

With no corrections, minutes were approved and passed unanimously

Public Comment

Joy Smith commented on the upkeep of the City compared to other small cities she visits.

New Business

a. Public Hearing

Public hearing covering 2025 City Property Taxes. City Staff gave an overview of the tax calculation, changes in Assessed Valuation and estimated levy per \$1000 assessed valuation for 2025. No public comment received. Mayor Dunn closed the hearing at 7:08

b. Resolution 783

Resolution adopting tax levy for 2025. With no more discussion. Council Member Romine moved to approve with Council member Ruppenthal seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

c. Public Hearing – 2025 City Budget

City Staff presented the 2025 City Budget as a part of the first of two public hearings on the matter. City Staff took questions from the Council before Mayor Dunn opened the public hearing to the public, with no comments submitted, Mayor Dunn closed the hearing at 7:25 pm.

d. Ordinance 1092

Ordinance amending the 2024 to account for some unanticipated revenues received by the City. With no discussion, Council member Romine moved to approve with Council member House seconding. Motion to approve the amendment was approved and passed unanimously.

e. Fairgrounds Restrooms/Inner Rail

City Staff provided some background information and briefed the public in attendance regarding demolition of the restroom facility at the fairgrounds. City Council heard from a few members of the public, Park and Recreation District representatives. Mayor Dunn closed the discussion of the

restrooms by telling those in attendance that he gave staff the go-ahead to proceed with the demolition work.

City Staff and Council members discussed the inner rail and the removal estimates received by the City. City staff recommended removing the inner rail to save maintenance time and costs for public works employees. With no more discussion, Council member Romine moved to proceed with removal of the inner rail with Council member House seconding. Motion to remove the inner rail was approved and passed unanimously.

f. Legal services agreement

Updated agreement with Hawkins Law relating to the City's legal services agreement. With no more discussion, Council member Henze moved to approve with Council member Ruppenthal seconding. Motion to approve was approved and passed unanimously.

g. Insurance Premium Finance Quote

Discussion item related to the possibility of the City financing its 2025 City Insurance premium in order to keep some fund available in the first quarter to cover some potential expenses.

Discussion only, no action taken

h. Flood Response Plan Review

Annual review of the City Flood Response Plan. Discussion only, no action taken.

Unfinished Business

a. Ordinance 1091

Ordinance establishing regulations governing short-term rentals. Discussion revolved around changes to the ordinance from the referral to the Planning Commission. With no more discussion, Council member House moved to approve with Council member Romine seconding. Motion to approve the agreement was approved and passed unanimously.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Dunn offered his condolences to the Baker Family.

Council Reports

Council Member Bishop reported on Library story walk and historical display.

Council Member Henze reported on Planning Commission activities, upcoming pool fund raising event, hometown Christmas Parade and the testing of the Flood siren.

Council Member Ruppenthal informed the Council about the Everbridge response to the flood siren test.

City Clerk Report

City Clerk Randy Hinchliffe reported on a variety of day-to-day operational items.

Approval of Bills

With no questions related to the City's obligations, Council Member Henze moved to approve with Council Ruppenthal seconding. Motion to approve the bills was approved and passed unanimously.

October Payroll Clearing (Warrants 28082 - 28091)	\$23,767.91
-Includes direct deposit run on 10/29/2024 for \$10,417.33	
November Payroll Clearing (Warrants 28092 - 28102)	\$24,783.77
-Includes direct deposit run on 11/13/2024 for \$10,783.77	
November Claims Clearing Vouchers (Warrants 28103 – 28131)	<u>\$153,197.95</u>
	Total \$201,749.63

Executive Session

City Council went into executive session under RCW 42.30.110 1 (i) for approximately 15 minutes. Mayor Dunn closed reconvened the regular meeting at 9:07pm.

Adjournment of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Approved: 12/20/2024 Attest:

Mayor

City Clerk