

TO BE PUBLISHED

Minutes for the Woodburn City Council Meeting on December 19th, 2022:

The meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Cummins, Superintendent Walls as well as Council Members Sarrazine, Thompson, Gerig, and Watts. Chief Parker and Councilman Martin were not present. Kevin Bruns and Tony Manns with Beers Mallers were also present.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: The Superintendent gave an update on the clean closure lagoon project.

Mayor's Report: The Mayor gave an update on which projects would be considered for the 2023 Community Crossings Grant program application. Willie's Cafe II is now open for business.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the December 5th meeting. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to accept the minutes from the December 5th meeting as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all present in favor. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. The Clerk-Treasurer would like to change the water meter deposit amount from \$200 to \$250 starting in 2023. He would also like to see that an 'owner' is confirmed shortly after starting a new account. The primary way for this to be done will be through the Allen County GIS program, but could be confirmed via titlework and/or other documents. The reason for this change is because there have been multiple issues with renters presenting as owners, and then at a later date, skipping town with an outstanding balance that is never paid. After discussion, it was determined that this amount should be \$300, and that ownership should also be confirmed. This change will begin in 2023 and continue until changed, if ever that should occur.

Councilmen's Report: A resident inquired about a reduction to the sewer portion of his water bill as his backup sump pump had failed and had used considerable water that was not treated. He submitted this request via email as he was unable to attend tonight's meeting. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to adjust the sewer portion of his bill to reflect the average usage for all affected months, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all present in favor. Councilman Watts gave an update on the new homes being built in the Homestead Addition.

Audience: Kevin and Tony went over information regarding re-districting Council districts by the end of the year. It was suggested that it might be best to re-district to reflect a more balanced population by area. It was also confirmed that the City would like to change the voting methodology that had previously been established in 1982 that allows residents to vote for representatives from each district, not just from the district to which they belong. It would seem that while the 1982 Ordinance set this method, the Allen County Election Board had not previously implemented that method, at least not in recent memory, if ever. That being the case, residents should see no change from previous elections. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to read Ordinance 22-1415 (Re-Draw City of Woodburn Districts) in full, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all present in favor. Councilman Watts moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance 22-1415, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all present in favor. Councilman Watts moved to suspend the rules to waive any additional readings of Ordinance 22-1415

and to adopt as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Ordinance 22-1415 is ratified as presented. A resident came to the meeting to discuss the surcharge on out-of-city water rates. He has explained that he sees the City of Woodburn as a water district and he would like to see the cost surcharge be re-examined in the near future. The Clerk-Treasurer will get with Baker Tilly to discuss what this process looks like. A resident gave an update on New Allen Alliance and changes that are currently in process.

Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all present in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 9:01pm.

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