

TO BE PUBLISHED

Minutes for the Woodburn City Council Meeting on June 5th, 2023:

The meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Clerk-Treasurer Cummins as well as Council Members Sarrazine, Martin, Gerig, Thompson, and Watts. Councilman Watts ran the meeting in the absence of the Mayor. Mayor Kelsey, Superintendent Walls, and Chief Parker were not present. Rachel Black with the Allen County Planning Department was also present.

Councilman Watts opened the public hearing for discussion regarding additional appropriations and transfers within funds for the 2023 calendar year at 7:07pm. After hearing discussion as to why this public hearing was to take place, and while hearing no comment from the public, the public hearing was then closed at 7:10pm.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report: Nothing to report.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the May 15th meeting. After discussion, Councilman Martin moved to accept the minutes from the May 15th meeting as presented, second by Councilman Gerig, all in favor. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor.

Councilmen's Report: After the public hearing took place, Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to read Resolution 23-273 (Transfers w/In Funds & Additional Appropriations) by title only, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Councilman Gerig moved to accept the first reading and adopt as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. Resolution 23-273 is adopted as presented. Councilman Martin wanted an update on the corner of Lynnwood and Ash regarding the storm drain that is damaged at that location. It was determined that this request will have to be addressed by the Superintendent directly. He would also like to see a white pickup be forced to move as it has not for some time, if possible. Councilwoman Thompson had a property for the code enforcement officer to investigate. It was suggested that the police department be involved in this request. Councilman Gerig had several questions about when these projects are going to be finished as well as what can be done with the backfill that has already been placed but is not good dirt. Councilman Watts suggested that a master list of complaints be compiled to be addressed prior to final payment of the project. The Clerk-Treasurer will maintain such a list at City Hall and add to it as is necessary.

Audience: Rachel described the reason for reading Resolution 23-274 (Approve 2023 Pay 2024 Compliance w/Statement of Benefits) and gave updates on the companies referenced within the resolution. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to read Resolution 23-274 by title only, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Councilwoman Thompson moved to accept the first reading and adopt as presented, second by Councilman Gerig, all in favor. Resolution 23-274 is adopted as presented. A resident brought a document to the Council about what is allowable and what is not allowable at the Dollar General location regarding zoning exceptions, which was written about 20 years

ago. She is arguing that the listed stipulations are not being enforced as the document describes. She is asking what needs to be done in order for the City to take care of this situation. After discussion, it was determined that additional consideration will take place in consultation with the Allen County Planning Department and that the City will choose to take action, if any, at that time and not before. Two representatives gave a presentation about LifeWise, which is a steering committee for the East Allen County School system for bible-based programs offered during the school day. This program would be voluntary to students with parental consent, but would be required to be held off of school property. They are asking for the City to consider allowing the program to use the land, or possibly purchase or rent a section of that land, for their purposes adjacent to the Woodburn Elementary School. After discussion, it was determined that the Council was mostly favorable of this collaboration, with the details to be discussed in further detail at the following meeting. This will allow Council to consider possibilities as well as the Mayor. A resident came to ask Council for an extension of time before being shut-off, which was scheduled for tomorrow. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to waive the late fees for the remainder of the year and allow until the end of the year to get the account balance paid in full, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. The Clerk-Treasurer explained to the resident what an approximate monthly payment amount would be in order for the balance to be paid in full by year end.

Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.

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