

CITY OF WEISER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
55 West Idaho Street
Weiser, ID 83672
Monday
DECEMBER 9, 2024
7:00 pm

Call to Order 7:00:23 PM

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins, and Katie von Brethorst

ABSENT: Marg Chipman.

STAFF: Randall Hibberd, Natasha McDaniel, Mike Campbell, Bill Taylor, Wayne Wallace and Sherri Breaux.

Guests: Theresa Rasmussen, Ginger Taylor, Blake Coats, Nate Marvin, Mary Thompson, Dylan Brown and Adeanna Jenkins via Zoom.

Invocation was given by Reverend Blake Coats. 7:00:38 PM

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ginger Taylor. 7:02:12 PM

Commission/Committee Reports:

7:02:41 PM- Sterling Blackwell, Economic Development Committee. Last month's mission was the Maverick sign along with letters they are preparing to send out to businesses in the area.

7:03:10 PM- Sterling Blackwell, Animal Shelter Group is in discussions with UPRR on a build site and earning funds to do that.

7:03:32 PM- Sterling Blackwell, Historical Preservation Committee put up lights on the Train Depot with the help of the City Electric Department and their bucket truck.

7:04:32 PM- Larry Hogg attended the Library Open House, the library looked great and everyone was having a good time.

7:05:1 PM- Larry Hogg attended the SREDA Annual Meeting, he reported that the housing information presentations were very interesting, showing historical sales records in the counties SREDA covers. The data is a good indicator of how we are doing compared to the surrounding communities and what the trend is for our community.

Department Reports were presented by Clerk McDaniel. 7:07:18 PM

MINUTES 7:11:09 PM

Motioned by Katie von Brethorst and seconded by Herb Haun to approve the minutes of one (1) Regular City Council Meeting on November 12, 2024, as presented and place them on file.

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins, and Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS 7:11:32 PM

Motioned by Mike Hopkins and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve the bills as reviewed by the Finance Committee and present them to the Treasurer to have warrants drawn for payment.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Katie von Brethorst, Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell,
and Mike Hopkins.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

(CDBG) CARES STATUS OF FUNDED ACTIVITIES PUBLIC HEARING.

OPENED AT: 7:12:12 PM

OPENING COMMENTS: Adeanna Jenkins, Region IV Development. The City of Weiser was awarded a \$250,000.00 grant to improve Memorial Park. This second Public Hearing is required to explain where the funds went and the whole process of the project. Adeanna then reviewed the entire scope of the job with the requirements of the grant, the time frames they were completed and the change order that occurred. Adeanna then covered the overall cost of the project and the breakdown of that cost per entity involved.

7:22:45 PM- Larry Hogg asked where the reduction of cost for the ping pong table came out of. Adeanna Jenkins, that reduction would be out of the Blue Cross Foundation Grant. Mayor Hibberd, we have those funds.

IN FAVOR OF: None. **7:25:23 PM**

UNDECIDED: None. **7:25:44 PM**

AGAINST: None. **7:25:49 PM**

CLOSING COMMENTS: None.

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT 7:25:57 PM

CONSIDER RESOLUTION #698 STATUS OF FUNDED ACTIVITIES (CDBG) CARES GRANT – Action Item. 7:26:06 PM

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Herb Haun to approve Resolution #698 the Status of Funded Activities (CDBG) Cares Grant.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Larry Hogg, Mike Hopkins, Sterling Blackwell, Herb Haun, and
Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION FOR THOMPSON SPECIAL USE IN THE AREA OF IMPACT –
Action Item. 7:27:00 PM**

Clerk McDaniel, this is for a Special Use to place a dwelling on a property that is in the Area of Impact. Because this request is for 4.9 acres, the County requires a Special Use to put a dwelling on it. The Council is just making a recommendation to the County P&Z. It will then go through the processing at the County P&Z level and then on to the County Commissioners. Comments and a short discussion followed. Larry Hogg stated that City P&Z were unanimous in their recommendation in favor of this request.

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve the Thompson Special Use Request in the Area of Impact. **7:29:11 PM**

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins and
Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

**CONSIDER COUNTY RECONSIDERATION OF USE OF PROPERTY AT 343 E MAIN
– Action Item. 7:30:05 PM**

7:30:41 PM- Larry Hogg, the County is basically requesting to put the prosecuting attorney office in a residential district. They point out that Article 10-7-1 permitted uses include police, fire and postal substations. They go on to say that since the prosecuting attorney is part of law enforcement, that it is part of a police substation. Larry read a definition of police substation and then the definition of law enforcement to the Council noting the glaring omission of the term prosecution, which is what the prosecuting attorney does. Larry then shared his thoughts about why our ordinance might include substations and his thoughts on why a prosecuting office would not benefit property values in a residential neighborhood.

7:38:01 PM- Herb Haun, the big question at the P&Z hearing was if the attorney office was omitted intentionally in our code or if it was considered as part of the group listed. I do not believe that question has really ever been answered. I think you could look at it either way. This property was for sale for some time, and nobody elected to buy it to turn it back into a home. I tend to believe the county has legs to stand on to use it as a legal office.

7:39:34 PM- Sterling Blackwell, we need to go back and clarify these gray areas we have in our codes. Sterling recommended approval with conditions for not allowing the development of a parking area in the back.

7:42:00 PM- Katie von Brethorst questioned why this was back in front of council and not a district court. Mayor Hibberd explained that this was the next step before going to district court. Katie then asked, if we grant a conditional use permit how do we know it's being used that way? Clerk McDaniel, our Ordinance Officer or Building Inspector can check on it at any time. Katie, if they don't feel that they need a Conditional Use Permit why are we hearing it again? Mayor Hibberd, they came to that conclusion after we denied it.

7:43:56 PM- Police Chief Carl Smith addressed Council Member Hogg's comments about investigations. Carl noted that they work constantly with the prosecutor on cases, and it would behoove us to have our prosecutor right across the street and benefit the City of Weiser Police Department greatly if they were in that building.

7:44:57 PM- Herb Haun added that he does not think parking will be an issue, as he has never seen more than three cars at the current Prosecutor's office, and he drives by it daily.

7:45:40 PM- Larry Hogg, I would like us to consider the rights of the adjacent property owners noting that at both the P&Z Public Hearing and the City Council Public Hearing one of the neighbors came and testified against it. We need to remember we represent everybody in the community and if we allow this in a residential area that sets precedence.

7:48:11 PM- Sterling Blackwell disclosed that Joe Vaughn who testified at the City Public Hearing sent him an e-mail where he said that his intent was not to create animosity and frustration and if the city felt it was something that needed to change, he would be OK with it. Sterling replied with his concerns about the alleyway, and he agreed that safety was also his concern. I don't know for this specific property, with McDonald's across the street, Jeb's on the corner and a duplex beside it, how much it changes things by having an attorney there. I absolutely think in other areas it does. The fact that it is off one of our main streets, that is an awareness I hope those property owners were aware of when they chose to purchase a house there.

7:51:09 PM- Larry Hogg, the difference is that McDonald's and Jeb's are on commercial property. This property just happens to be on the dividing line between commercial and residential. Herb Haun, I believe that a law office could be a pretty good neighbor.

7:52:25 PM- Sterling Blackwell inquired about what the motion should include. Clerk McDaniel, your motion can be whatever your determination might be, she then gave some examples. Sterling then asked the council what direction they wanted to go, then shared his thoughts.

7:54:15 PM- Larry Hogg doesn't think anything about the request has changed since we denied it. The county just doesn't think their request needs a special use permit.

7:55:28 PM- Katie von Brethorst, nothing has changed, our P&Z said no, and we said no. Mike Hopkins concurred.

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to deny the request by Washington County to reconsider our decision made on September 23rd, 2024, for the use of the property located at 343 E Main. **7:55:58 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Mike Hopkins, Katie von Brethorst and Larry Hogg.

NAYES: Herb Haun and Sterling Blackwell.

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER ANDERSON OVERAGE FOR COMMERCIAL PROJECT NOT TO EXCEED \$936.00 – Action Item. 7:56:43 PM

Mike Campbell, on the sewer project on E. Commercial when we came up to the service at 35 E Commercial there were line issues that required the contractor to purchase two six-inch 45-degree bends costing \$936.00.

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve Anderson Overage for Commercial Project not to exceed \$936.00. **7:58:03 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Larry Hogg, Herb Haun, Sterling Blackwell, Katie von Brethorst, and Mike Hopkins.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER 2025 LIQUOR, BEER, AND WINE LICENSES – Action Item. 7:58:33 PM

Police Chief Carl Smith recommended approval of the 2025 Liquor, Beer and Wine licenses as listed. Clerk McDaniel added that on January 15, 2025, at 10 AM at the Vendome Events Center the Idaho State Police will be doing a free Alcohol Beverage Seller/Server Training. All licensees, managers and employees of grocery stores, convenience stores, restaurants, bars, golf courses, etc. should attend. Police Chief Carl Smith added that it is a really good class.

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve the 2025 Liquor, Beer, and Wine Licenses as listed. **7:59:53 PM**

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins, and
Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER FEDERAL AVIATION ADMIN AND WEISER AIRPORT MOU – Action Item. 8:00:15 PM

Mike Campbell, the FAA would like to put a weather camera on our beacon at the Airport. They would maintain the system; we would supply the power for the camera under this MOU.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Herb Haun to approve the FAA Administration and Weiser Airport MOU. **8:01:09 PM**

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins and
Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION #697 IDAHO GEM GRANT APPLICATION – Action Item. 8:01:23 PM

Mike Campbell, these grants are provided through SREDA for businesses to extend city facilities. Parker & Parker RV Park applied for this grant to run a new water main under Hwy 95 and extend it to the end of their property. Unfortunately, it expired on December 16th. We talked to Treasure Valley Farms where they extended the sewer main underneath the railroad tracks at W 3rd. They filled out the application and it looks like it will be approved giving them a \$50,000.00 grant to help pay for the sewer line. We will sponsor the grant so the money will come to us to pay Treasure Valley Farms. We can run this through the Small Business Grant line-item. Discussion followed. Mike added that if we don't use the funds this year they will be lost, and Parker & Parker can reapply next year.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Herb Haun to approve Resolution #697 Idaho Gem Grant Application. **8:04:21 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Katie von Brethorst, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins, Larry
Hogg and Herb Haun.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

**CONSIDER WATER DEPARTMENT TRAILER QUOTE NOT TO EXCEED \$12,750.00
– Action Item. 8:04:42 PM**

Bill Taylor, Water Department Supervisor presented his request to purchase a 14-foot dump trailer from Hitch N Go Trailer Sales & Rentals, LLC for \$12,750.00. Discussion followed. Bill, it was not specifically budgeted for but there is room in the “other machinery” line item to purchase it.

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve the Water Department Trailer Quote from Hitch N Go Trailer Sales & Rentals, LLC not to exceed \$12,750.00. **8:07:18 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Herb Haun, Katie von Brethorst, Mike Hopkins, Larry Hogg and Sterling Blackwell.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT F-250 CREW QUOTE NOT TO EXCEED \$52,807.00 – Action Item. 8:07:47 PM

Mike Campbell, we budgeted \$55,000.00 to purchase this truck. Wayne Wallace, Electric Department Supervisor presented his request for an F-250, 4-door Crew Cab Truck not to exceed \$52,807.00, it will replace a 2007 truck.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Herb Haun to approve the Electric Departments F-250 Crew Cab Quote from Mountain Home Auto Ranch not to exceed \$52,807.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins, Larry Hogg, Katie von Brethorst and Herb Haun.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER FIRE DEPARTMENT TRANSFER OF FUNDS – Action Item. 8:09:41 PM

Mike Campbell presented to the Council his proposed plan to adjust the General Fund budget to bring the Fire Department line item up to \$289,729.00 to match what they asked for. Mike noted that this will not change the Net Total General Fund amount. Discussion followed.

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve the Fire Department Transfer of Funds. **8:12:19 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Mike Hopkins, Larry Hogg, Herb Haun, Sterling Blackwell and Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CONSIDER EXPENDITURE FOR MAVERICK WELCOME SIGN NOT TO EXCEED \$7,200.00 – Action Item. 8:12:48 PM

Mayor Hibberd explained that this is not a Maverick sign it is a Welcome to Weiser sign. Clerk McDaniel, in August 2023 when Maverick paid for their building permit, they agreed to pay for the third welcome sign coming in from the south. This is expending the \$6,000.00 they paid and the other \$1,200.00 would be the installation and materials to install the sign. Discussion followed about how the funds would be expended.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve the expenditure for the Maverick Welcome Sign not to exceed \$7,200.00. **8:14:39 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins, Katie von Brethorst and Herb Haun.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT – Action Item. 8:15:21 PM

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins and Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

THIS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:15:28 PM

Randall E Hibberd, Mayor

Natasha McDaniel, City Clerk