

CITY OF WEISER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
55 West Idaho Street
Weiser, ID 83672
Monday

MARCH 10, 2025

7:00 pm

Call to Order 7:00:25 PM

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Marg Chipman.

STAFF: Natasha McDaniel, Mike Campbell, Dave Loos, Troy Krahn, Ron McDaniel, Bill Taylor and Sherri Breaux.

Guests: Mark Little, Theresa Rasmussen, Ginger Taylor, Jim Harberd, Jenni Rodriguez, Gayla Stearns, Bo Stearns, Candice Elder, Rod Panike, Dan Randleman, Maria Negrete, John Aegerter, Rhonda Hirata, Jim Felton, Dylan Brown and Kelly Haun.

Invocation was given by Rod Panike. 7:00:46 PM

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rod Panike. 7:01:22 PM

Commission/Committee Reports:

7:01:53 PM Sterling Blackwell, Design Review Committee Report. They have finally received from the city attorney the draft ordinance stating the purpose of the committee and the committee is reviewing it. It should come before the Council next month.

7:03:02 PM Sterling Blackwell, Weiser Economic Development Committee Report. We are excited to get with ITD on the location for the final sign. Main Street is approaching businesses to fund the planting of flowers for their Flowerpot project.

7:03:44 PM Sterling Blackwell, Weiser River Animal Shelter and Rescue update. They continue to work hard and raise funds to open a community animal shelter and rescue facility. They have four individuals going to Los Vegas to a conference to learn all about developing and designing a humane society and the ways to run it. They are in the process of updating their bylaws and they have a number of different events happening to raise additional funds. At this time, they have been able to raise almost \$300,000.00 to go towards the purchase of a property.

7:05:28 PM Sterling Blackwell, Library Report. They had a birdhouse auction at the train depot and raised \$5,500.00. They continue to offer weekly tech classes on Thursdays and tech help on Tuesdays.

7:06:34 PM Larry Hogg, Zoning Committee Report. They met to discuss our storage container ordinance. They do not have any recommendation for a change to that ordinance at this time.

Department Reports were presented by Clerk McDaniel. 7:07:20 PM

MINUTES 7:11:46 PM

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Mike Hopkins to approve the minutes of one (1) Regular City Council Meeting on February 10, 2025, 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 7:12:25 PM

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

**WEISER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY – Action
Item. 7:13:20 PM**

7:13:32 PM – Sterling Blackwell requested permission to be recused due to a possible conflict of interest.

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to recuse Council Member Blackwell from this item.

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

7:14:30 PM – Madora Albertson, 11495 Hill Rd, Payette ID. Madora is the lead for WMH's Strategic Community Team. WMH is requesting permission to use City Park on May 14th from 3:30pm to 7:30pm for their annual Health Fair. On May 14th they are asking permission to place a bounce house and very large inflatable walk-through colon on the grass along with the vendor tables. They would also like to block off Court Street between 3rd and 4th Streets.

One May 13th in honor of their 75th Anniversary they will be handing out free shaved ice to the community at City Park. Clerk McDaniel noted that they can reserve City Park at the Rec Office for that event. Clerk McDaniel also noted that in the past we have not allowed the bounce house on the grass; after talking with Ron McDaniel and Mike Campbell we can minimize damage to the grass with a couple preventive procedures.

Motioned by Larry Hogg and Seconded by Mike Hopkins to approve Weiser Memorial Hospital's request to use City Property as outlined in their application. **7:20:32 PM**

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

NEGRETE REZONE REQUEST – PUBLIC HEARING: 7:21:37 PM

OPENING REMARKS: Maria Negrete, 1105 Dillon Dr, Weiser ID 83672. Maria and her husband purchased five acres, Lot A on E. 12th. They want to subdivide the lot so their son can build a house on their lot.

FOR: None. **7:25:07 PM**

AGAINST: None. **7:25:32 PM**

NEUTRAL:

7:25 47 PM – Bill Taylor, 1334 E 12th. I am for her building a house, my only concern would be if they subdivide the property and had multiple users on the property. Bill added that there is not an additional LID water connection for that parcel.

CLOSING REMARKS: **7:29:17 PM**

Maria Negrete, we are aware that we can only have one line for the water.

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT 7:30:15 PM

NEGRETE REZONE REQUEST – Action Item. 7:30:19 PM

Larry Hogg, we are making a recommendation to the County P&Z as part of the Impact Area. With testimony given, it seems to me that their request is appropriate.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Larry Hogg to accept the Negrete Rezone with the recommendation that the County move forward with the rezone. **7:31:47 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

**STEARNS SPECIAL USE REQUEST (IMPACT AREA) – PUBLIC HEARING:
7:32:26 PM**

OPENING REMARKS: **7:32:48 PM**

Gayla Stearns, 1554 Loafer Lane, Weiser ID 83672. They are looking at a lot on Quail Ln to relocate their Rustic Ranch Nursery. At their cost they have corrected the drainage issue that was a concern at the P&Z meeting.

7:33:40 PM – Larry Hogg, this property is zoned A-1, is there anything that would stop it from being used as farm ground? Gayla Stearns, it is my understanding that when Hwy 95 came in this property became unusable for farming for the owner Joe Randall. Larry Hogg asked what the size of the lot is and if there was a place for drainage water to go if they irrigated. Gayla, it is 2.27 acres. The County has installed a culvert along the highway.

FOR: None. **7:36:00 PM**

7:36:10 PM – Clerk McDaniel, just for clarification this is not a rezone, it is a Special Use Request.

7:36:20 PM – Candice Elder, 1589 Gentry Ln, Weiser ID 83672. As a Board Member of Main Street, we are excited that Rustic Ranch has found a place. As part of the Flowerpot Project, they have volunteered to train us in what plants to use and how to plant and care for them. I am here to support them.

7:37:21 PM – Rod Panike, 1217 County Road 70, Weiser ID 83672. They have done a nice job cleaning up the property and they went in and buried a pipeline to drain that entire area over to the culvert that carries it away. I just want you to know it is a good project and they have bent over backwards to meet all the requirements to make it feasible.

AGAINST: None. **7:38:14 PM**

NEUTRAL: None. **7:38:24 PM**

7:38:31 PM – Mike Campbell, if they used that property for farmland the tailwater would actually have to mix into the storm water catch from the road, so I don't know if you can actually use it for tailwater from irrigation, but I do know that culvert is for storm water.

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT **7:39:02 PM**

STEARNS SPECIAL USE REQUEST (IMPACT AREA) – Action Item. 7:39:07 PM

Larry Hogg, this property has not been farmed for many years, it is questionable if you could irrigate it due to the tailwater drainage and it is not feasible to farm a 2.27-acre parcel of ground. These characteristics of the property make their request for a special use permit applicable.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to accept and move forward with the Stearns Special Use Request. **7:40:30 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

PANIKE REZONE REQUEST FROM A-1 TO A-2 (IMPACT AREA) – PUBLIC HEARING. 7:41:50 PM

OPENING REMARKS: Rod Panike, 1217 County Road 70, Weiser ID 83672. This is a 55-acre piece of property a couple of miles north of town with a spot on it perfect for a house. My request is to rezone 1.75 acres from A-1 Ag to A-2 Ag so we can put a home on it at some point. It currently has a 40' x 80" machine shed on it to store my equipment. I purchased this property in 2006, and I have never farmed it. Part of it is a sagebrush hill and a lot of it has had gravel put on it, I have never irrigated it.

7:44:02 PM – Larry Hogg, do you also own the surrounding property? Rod Panike, my property actually runs clear down to Monroe Creek. Larry, the rest of it is A-1? Rod, it is all A-1.

FOR: None. **7:47:42 PM**

AGAINST: None. **7:48:04 PM**

NEUTRAL: None. **7:48:11 PM**

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT **7:48:19 PM**.

PANIKE REZONE REQUEST FROM A-1 TO A-2 (IMPACT AREA) – Action Item.
7:48:22 PM

Larry Hogg, again I think this is a reasonable request. First it is only 1.75 acres out of 55 acres, it is also reasonable to assume that if you owned that farm you would at some point want to have a home there. From testimony it has not been used for farming and if he has spread gravel on it, it probably won't be. It appears to me to be an acceptable use on that piece of ground.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Mike Hopkins to accept the Panike Rezone Request from A-1 to A-2 in the Impact Area and make recommendation to the County.

ROLL CALL VOTE: **7:49:52 PM**

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

WATER TAP/BASE RATE FEE SCHEDULE – PUBLIC HEARING: 7:50:21 PM

OPENING REMARKS: Bill Taylor, Water Department Supervisor. Our current water meter tap fee and base rate schedule only goes up to a 3-inch meter. We would like to create a tap fee and base rate schedule for meters 4-inch up to 8-inch. Clerk McDaniel, to clarify, it's not a rate increase, it is just scheduling a fee for those additional water meter sizes.

FOR: None. **7:52:07 PM**

AGAINST: None. **7:52:28 PM**

NEUTRAL: None. **7:52:32 PM**

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT **7:52:38 PM**

RESOLUTION #700 WATER TAP/BASE RATE FEE SCHEDULE – Action Item.

7:53:19 PM - Katie von Brethorst, what type of business or personal use would need a 6-inch water meter? Bill Taylor, currently our largest meter is a 3-inch. The hospital and jail both have 3-inch water meters. It would be a large business like a Fry Foods or this R.V. Park that would require a large amount of water. Mike Campbell added that the formula to get those numbers is the same all the way from ¾" to 8".

Motioned by Katie von Brethorst and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve Resolution #700 the Water Tap and Base Rate Fee Schedules. **7:54:52 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE: **7:55:11 PM**

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

ANIMAL SHELTER ADDED AS A PERMITTED USE TO INDUSTRIAL ZONE – PUBLIC HEARING. 7:55:28 PM

OPENING REMARKS: City Clerk Natasha McDaniel read the title section of Ordinance #1272. In our city codes an animal shelter is not allowed anywhere within the city limits. This Ordinance would add Animal Shelter as a permitted use in the Industrial Zone. The committee met and presented this to P&Z. P&Z was in favor of adding Animal Shelter but had some wording changes in 10-17-1-C. Clerk McDaniel read section C and noted the wording changes recommended by P&Z.

FOR:

7:58:42 PM - John Aegerter, 729 Jonathan Rd, Weiser ID 83672. I am in favor of this adjustment to the ordinance.

AGAINST: None. **7:59:02 PM**

NEUTRAL: None. **7:59:10 PM**

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT **7:59:18 PM**

ORDINANCE #1272 ANIMAL SHELTER ADDED AS A PERMITTED USE TO INDUSTRIAL ZONE – Action Item. 7:59:20 PM

7:59:44 PM – Larry Hogg opened a discussion for clarifying Ordinance #1272. Clerk McDaniel, it allows someone to put an animal shelter in any Industrial Zone then no other animal shelter can be placed in an Industrial Zone within a five-mile radius from them. Discussion continued. Clerk McDaniel noted the wording changes recommended by P&Z.

8:05:47 PM

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve Ordinance #1272 amended with the wording submitted by P&Z and officially adopt it next month.

ROLL CALL VOTE: **8:06:07 PM**

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN CWE AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING AT THE AIRPORT – Action Item. 8:06:24 PM

Mike Campbell, anytime you have an FAA Grant at the Airport the grant states that you have to have an independent fee estimate. This is where another engineering firm (Century West) confirms that your engineering firm (JUB) is not overcharging. The grant covers part of the cost for this, the city portion has been budgeted in the Airport budget.

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the CWE Agreement for engineering at the airport.

ROLL CALL VOTE: **8:07:58 PM**

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

REQUEST TO USE FULL BUDGETED AMOUNT FOR WASTEWATER CAMERA – Action Item. 8:08:30 PM

Herb Haun, Council Chair explained that every time Lonnie Chambers finds a camera, before he can get Council approval it is gone. What we would like to do is give him approval to spend up to the full budgeted amount so when he finds what he needs he can purchase it.

8:09:03 PM - Mike Campbell, we would check it out before we just bought something. Clerk McDaniel asked what the full budgeted amount was. Mike, \$130,000.00. If we have this full amount available we can buy a camera that is already mounted in a vehicle, either at auction or used. Discussion followed.

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve the expenditure of up to \$130,000.00 as budgeted, for the wastewater camera to be approved at the discretion of Mike Campbell.

ROLL CALL VOTE: **8:15:04 PM**

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE ZION'S PAYMENT UPON RECEIPT TO AVOID LATE FEE – Action Item. 8:15:48 PM

Council Member Katie von Brethorst asked to be recused from this item due to a possible conflict of interest.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Larry Hogg to recuse Council Member Katie von Brethorst to avoid a possible conflict of interest.

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

8:16:27 PM – Clerk McDaniel explained that a couple times a year the Zions credit card bill due date doesn't quite make the Council meeting but will be to late if we put it in second payables. This is to give the Treasurer (Margie Taggart) authorization to make that payment. The Council will always see that billing and payment, we just want to avoid late fees. Discussion followed.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Larry Hogg to approve Zion’s payment upon receipt to avoid late fee. **8:18:23 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

PRESENTATION OF FLY FISHERMAN’S MELLEN FAMILY FOUNDATION POND GRANT. 8:19:03 PM

Mark Little, Fruitland ID, Indianhead Fly Fishers member. They applied for a grant to perform ongoing maintenance at the Weiser Community Pond. Since the City already had a mechanism to do the maintenance, it just made sense to turn the money over to them to keep track of. Herb Haun asked if there were specific needs or repairs that needed done? Mark Little, there is ongoing maintenance on the aerators and pumps, there are aquatic weeds and things that need taken care of. Larry Hogg, what is the City’s responsibility? Mark Little, the City upkeep the pond, they do the work and buy the materials to do that. Clerk McDaniel added that instead of money coming out of the city budget it would come out of the \$20,000.00 donated to the city by the Fly Fisherman’s Club. Mike Campbell, we have a way to receive and expend this money in the budget.

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN AMENDMENT WITH KELLER ON 9TH STREET WATERLINE – Action Item. 8:24:30 PM

Mike Campbell, we approved the \$37,700.00 for the design of the line and helped to bid it. This amendment is to oversee construction and make sure it goes in the ground right. An Engineer being present to bore under the railroad tracks is a requirement of Union Pacific to verify it is being done correctly.

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an amendment with Keller on 9th Street Waterline. **8:26:20 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE: **8:26:31 PM**

AYES:

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION IDAHO CODE 74-206(1)(E,F) CONSIDER PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS, COMMUNICATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PENDING LITIGATION – Action Item. Did not need.

ADJOURNMENT – Action Item.

Motioned by Katie von Brethorst and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to adjourn.

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 8:27:15 PM

Randall E Hibberd, Mayor

Natasha McDaniel, City Clerk