

CITY OF WEISER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
55 West Idaho Street
Weiser, ID 83672
Monday
MAY 11, 2026
7:00 pm

Call to Order 7:00:02 PM

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Larry Hogg, Katie von Brethorst, Lisa Horzen and Stephen Fenske.

ABSENT: John Srholec and Joseph Vaughn.

STAFF: Herb Haun, Natasha McDaniel, Mike Campbell, Ron McDaniel, Ken Anderson, Bill Taylor, Troy Krahn, Wayne Wallace and Sherri Breaux.

Guests: Dylan Brown, Layna Hafer, Bud Fisher and Lyndon Haines.

The Invocation was given by Reverend Lyndon Haines. 7:00:38 PM

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ken Anderson. 7:01:04 PM

Commission/Committee Reports:

7:01:42 PM – Katie von Brethorst, Public Safety Committee Report. Due to changes in legislation, they are having preliminary discussions on Fire Districts.

7:02:02 PM – Katie von Brethorst, Library Stats Report for April 2026.

7:03:24 PM – Larry Hogg, SREDA Report. Larry and Clerk McDaniel attended the Economic Alliance Breakfast put on by SREDA. Speakers included an economist from the state of Oregon and the Head of the Truckers Union from Idaho. Larry shared information regarding changing truck speed limits to 80 mph. Larry encouraged other Council Members to attend next year if they can.

Department Reports were presented by Clerk McDaniel. 7:05:22 PM

7:09:42 PM – John Srholec arrived at the meeting.

MINUTES 7:10:03 PM

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve the minutes of one (1) Regular City Council Meeting on April 13, 2026, as presented and place them on file.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Lisa Horzen, John Srholec, Larry Hogg, Katie von Brethorst and Stephen Fenske.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS 7:10:55 PM

Motioned by Katie von Brethorst and seconded by Larry Hogg 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: Stephen Fenske, Lisa Horzen, John Srholec, Katie von Brethorst and Larry Hogg.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

MAINSTREET TO PRESENT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Action Item.

7:11:36 PM.

Layna Hafer, 50 Lundberg PL, Weiser ID shared Weiser's Economic Development background for the past 30 years, stating that each Economic Board, including some very talented Executive Directors left a footprint of progress. Layna noted the purpose of The Economic Task Force created in 2015 by Mayor Diana Thomas. Layna noted not only the diversity of this 12-member Task Force but shared what they accomplished during their ten years of service and why they were so effective. Layna then explained SREDA's role in local economic development. Layna concluded that she hopes the information she shared tonight increased understanding about what a positive asset an Economic Development Board has been and can be to the City of Weiser.

7:21:51 PM – Mayor Haun asked Layna about an upcoming meeting at the Weiser School District Building. Layna Hafer, yes, on May 28th. Discussion followed about what perspective businesses want, the time frame businesses need information back, and the major contributing factors why we do not have the workforce needed especially for bigger businesses. Layna, identifying the needs is the first process and then eliminating what we don't want. Then you work with the state letting them know the needs and also run with leads from SREDA. Stephen Fenske asked how small businesses compete for employees when they can make more money nearby. Layna, quality of life and affordable housing.

7:28:11 PM – Mayor Haun added that a speaker at the AIC meeting last week stated that a small business in Weiser with 3 to 5 employees that fills one of our downtown buildings has the same economic impact as a 250-employee business in Boise. We don't need to set our goals for a mega employer, but on good small businesses.

7:30:10 PM – Layna Hafer explained that SREDA is a regional economic development organization in the Washington, Payette and Malheur County areas. Layna explained what they do, how they are funded and the asset they are to us.

SREDA PRESENTATION – Action Item. 7:31:40 PM

Jeff Carpenter, Executive Director of SREDA was not at meeting to present so Larry Hogg, Council representative to SREDA gave a brief address. SREDA gets businesses into the area, and we have to get them into our city. Larry stated that SREDA is in our budget to fund, and he believes it is money well spent.

PUBLIC HEARING YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL FEE INCREASE. 7:33:48 PM

OPENING COMMENTS: 7:34:07 PM

Ken Anderson, Recreation Director, 10 Hillside Dr., Weiser ID. explained why there is a need to increase the fees for youth tackle football from \$70 to \$100 for city youth and from \$75 to \$105 for county youth. Ken explained that because of new regulations on football it is now a requirement to replace helmets (\$115 and up) every ten years and recondition them (\$60) every two years whether they have been used or not. Our current fees no longer cover costs. Ken explained that grants have carried them through the past 3 or 4 years but that they cannot keep relying on that. Ken stated that he tries to replace 12 helmets per year. Ken also mentioned that it is difficult to get officials which causes that cost to increase. Ken added that with this increase if his wages were figured in, they would still be at about the break even point.

7:38:57 PM – Larry Hogg, is this increased equipment cost reflected in other sports as well? Ken Anderson, we have been able to maintain the costs in the other sports, but football has the most liability behind it and the equipment is more specialized and costs more.

IN FAVOR: None. **7:39:58 PM**

NEUTRAL: None. **7:40:10 PM**

OPPOSED: None. **7:40:19 PM**

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT 7:40:34 PM

RESOLUTION #712 YOUTH TACKLE FOOTBALL FEE RATE – Action Item. 7:40:37 PM

Larry Hogg stated that he understands the need to increase these fees. Kaie von Brethorst, do we know how many youth we have to send to Future Wolverines to get help with the fees? Ken Anderson, I want to say between \$800.00 to \$1,200.00. Mayor Haun added that the Future Wolverine fund is in good shape to handle this. John Srholec added his approval for the increase adding his expertise about the helmets and their expiration time frame. Ken noted that the Riddell representative gave him a heads up on shoulder pad restrictions coming up. Ken applied for and received a LOHR Grant and replaced \$10,000.00 worth of shoulder pads, upgrading all of those. John Srholec added that replacing 10-15 helmets per year is a healthy rotation.

7:44:39 PM - **Motioned by** Larry Hogg and seconded by Stephen Fenske to approve Resolution #712 increasing Youth Tackle Football Fees to \$100.00 for city youth and to \$105.00 for county youth.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: John Srholec, Katie von Brethorst, Larry Hogg, Stephen Fenske and Lisa Horzen.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARING WASHINGTON COUNTY TRANSFER SITE FEES. 7:46:07 PM

OPENING COMMENTS: 7:46:42 PM

City Clerk Natasha McDaniel, this resolution is to adopt some new fees we are running into when it comes to the Transfer Site. Clerk McDaniel explained what the City of Weiser adopt-a-truck program is and how it works. Clerk McDaniel noted that this is a free program that customers come in and sign up for. The document customers fill out has a list of the different loads that clearly explains what can be in each load and if any items have fees associated with them. Loads include categories such as household garbage, metal, clean brush, etc. the customer chooses one category. The first change in this program came when we could no longer allow construction materials due to new charges for them at the Transfer Site. They also recently increased the appliances with freon fee from \$15 to \$20 and added a fee of \$5 for a mattress and \$5 for a box spring. I am requesting permission to pass those new fees on to the customer when they come in and sign up for the truck. This request is so the Street Department does not have to continue to absorb those Transfer Site charges.

7:49:17 PM – Lisa Horzen asked how fees are collected. Clerk McDaniel, We try to collect the fees when they sign up but if we find it in the load and it is not paid for they cannot use the truck again until the fee is paid and we now have the capability to add it to their bill also. Another fee that is already in place is when there is a mixed load, this \$35 fee is to offset some of the cost for the Street Department to separate the load so it can be taken to the Transfer Site. Larry Hogg, are we collecting fees that the Transfer Site charges us. Clerk McDaniel affirmed.

IN FAVOR: None. 7:51:34 PM

NEUTRAL: None. 7:51:45 PM

OPPOSED: None. 7:51:51 PM

THIS PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT 7:51:58 PM

RESOLUTION #713 WASHINGTON COUNTY TRANSFER SITE FEES – Action Item.
7:52:02 PM

Larry Hogg, this is a great service, and it probably saves us time and money. Katie von Brethorst, we are just passing along costs that are being charged to us. Lisa Horzen and John Srholec both stated that the fees are minimal.

Motioned by Lisa Horzen and seconded by Larry Hogg to approve Resolution #713 Washington County Transfer Site Fees.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Katie von Brethorst, Stephen Fenske, John Srholec, Lisa Horzen and Larry Hogg.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

POLE YARD EXPENDITURES AUTHORIZATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$112,000 - Action Item. **7:54:07 PM**

Mike Campbell explained that instead of bringing this project to Council piece by piece we are asking for \$112,000.00 to get this project started. It is in the budget. This will be the final building and might require some finishes for the offices out of next year's budget.

7:55:54 PM – Larry Hogg, is this the total cost of the project? Mike Campbell, it is the total cost for this part of project which will include an office upstairs. Because we are doing as much of this project ourselves as possible we do not know if we can complete everything this year. We included funding in next year's budget to complete this project, if necessary.

7:58:00 PM – Katie von Brethorst, why do we have to hire electricians, don't we have electricians? Wayne Wallace, Electric Department Supervisor, 525 E Butterfield, Weiser ID. Wayne explained that they are linemen and not licensed certified electricians.

7:59:39 PM - **Motioned by** John Srholec and seconded by Larry Hogg to approve Pole Yard expenditures in the amount of \$112,000.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Katie von Brethorst, Stephen Fenske, Larry Hogg, Lisa Horzen and John Srholec.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN FOR WASTEWATER RATE STUDY – Action Item. **8:00:21 PM**

Mike Campbell, this study will include what our rates should be to cover future repair and replace. The 2025 City Audit showed that the Wastewater Department was in deficit so I believe it is a good idea to do a rate study that will look at our rates and connection fees. Discussion about impact fees vs connection fees followed. Mike stated that this is an engineered study that will also look at our aging infrastructure. Clerk McDaniel added that this will also give us solid information to back up any decision we make to increase rates. Mayor Haun, it's a way to be proactive instead of waiting until we are way behind and have to do a huge increase. Mike noted that this study will project five years out and after talking to the insurance you can look at the percentage of increase per year on that, add inflation costs to that and project costs out for about ten years.

8:04:25 PM – Larry Hogg, if we have an independent voice giving us some indication of what we can expect, then we can manage the budget a lot better.

8:05:34 PM – John Srholec, what is the estimated cost? Mike Campbell, about \$17,500.00. Discussion followed. Katie von Brethorst asked how long it will take? Mike, goal is before September 1st. Katie, did we budget for this? Mike, we did not but we have money in the budget to cover it. Clerk McDaniel clarified that the \$17,500.00 is for the professional services for the Wastewater Rate Study not the study itself.

8:07:55 PM - **Motioned** by Katie von Brethorst and seconded by Larry Hogg to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign for the Professional Service for the Wastewater Rate Study.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Larry Hogg, Stephen Fenske, Lisa Horzen, John Srholec and Katie von Brethorst.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

ACCEPT THE ARBOR DAY GRANT AWARDS LETTER – Action Item. 8:08:55 PM

Mike Campbell, every two years we apply for a tree grant through the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association (INLA). This year we received a \$350.00 grant to plant a tree somewhere in town for the Arbor Day Celebration.

8:10:26 PM - **Motioned** by Larry Hogg and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to accept the Arbor Day Grant Awards Letter in the amount of \$350.00 to plant a tree.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Lisa Horzen, Larry Hogg, Katie von Brethorst, John Srholec and Stephen Fenske.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

CITY WIDE BURN BAN UNLESS IN AN APPROVED FIRE PIT – Action Item. 8:11:11 PM

Vernon Bud Fisher, Weiser Fire District Fire Chief, 1021 County Rd 70, Weiser ID. Fire Chief Fisher stated that the County Burn Ban Ordinance starts on June 1st and ends October 20th. Chief Fisher requested that the City adopt the same Burn Ban dates with the exception of organized fire pits. The City Burn Pit on Mortimer's Island is exempt from the closed burning under the County's Ordinance that allows Government Entities like cities and counties to burn as part of their job(s).

8:14:42 PM – Mayor Haun, isn't it called a county wide burn ban starting June 1st? Chief Fisher, it is called county wide, but I believe the ordinance says it doesn't cover incorporated areas. Mayor Haun, do we need to come up with a burn ban to govern the City of Weiser? Chief Fisher, because it's a safety issue the city has power to govern burning. Discussion about burn pits followed, Chief Fisher stated that they are glad to inspect fire pits.

8:16:42 PM – Katie von Brethorst, do you know how many calls you took last year? Chief Fisher, last summer in three months we had four calls, but the report is not specific, it just says outside fire.

8:17:31 PM – Larry Hogg, does that report indicate that our citizens aren't burning too much. Chief Fisher, the Police respond to and often take care of a lot of these calls. Discussion continued. Chief Fisher, with houses being close together a little wind and a small grass fire can end up being a bad situation quickly.

8:18:55 PM – Larry Hogg, if we had a burn ban in place what happens if someone burns anyway? Chief Fisher, in the county they can get a citation and have to appear in court to tell them why they did it or as simple as we ask you to put it out and not do it again.

8:20:39 PM – John Srholec, do those burn ban dates vary year to year? Chief Fisher, the dates are fixed in the ordinance, but we can adjust them depending on the weather we get.

8:21:49 PM – Katie von Brethorst, do you go out through the whole county to look at fire pits when invited to do so? Chief Fisher, I take care of the fire district and the deputies take of the stuff not in the fire district. Chief Fisher reiterated that he would absolutely take care of the city. Katie asked what happens if a neighbor calls in when I am burning in my fire pit? Chief Fisher, if you call dispatch and let them know, then if your neighbor calls in they know it is OK. Burn pits are exempt from the burn ban in the county ordinance. Discussion continued. Chief Fisher, burn barrels are illegal in the State of Idaho.

8:23:37 PM – Larry Hogg, before we decide on this I would like to get Chief Krahn's input. Chief Krahn stated that the reason we have these ordinances is because sometimes we need to enforce something and right now we really do not have anything to charge them on so I would recommend adopting a city ordinance. Clerk McDaniel, anything that has a fee associated with it needs to be passed with an ordinance. Mike Campbell, I believe we already have something in place, it might need updated. Discussion on what to do followed. Everyone agreed that if we are going to ask the police to enforce something we need to give them the teeth to do so.

8:27:49 PM - **Motioned by** Lisa Horzen and seconded by John Srholec to adopt the County Burn Ban effective immediately.

8:28:22 PM – Stephen Fenske, there is a penalty involved so does that require prior notice? Larry Hogg, can we take a minute and read through the County Ordinance. While Council reviewed Mayor Haun thanked Troy Krahn for his 24 years of service.

8:29:46 PM – Lisa Horzen rescinded her motion noting that she should recuse herself from this vote.

8:29:56 PM – **Motioned by** John Srholec and seconded by Larry Hogg to adopt the County Burn Ban starting June 1st effective immediately pending review of our City Code and punishment.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Stephen Fenske, John Srholec, Katie von Brethorst and Larry Hogg.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT – Action Item. 8:32:22 PM

Motioned by Katie von Brethorst and seconded by Lisa Horzen to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Larry Hogg, Katie von Brethorst, Lisa Horzen, Stephen Fenske and John Srholec.

NAYES:

ABSTAINED:

MOTION CARRIED.

THIS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:32:29 PM

Herb Haun, Mayor

Natasha McDaniel, City Clerk

