



**WENATCHEE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Thursday, September 26, 2024**  
Wenatchee City Hall Council Chambers  
301 Yakima Street  
Wenatchee, WA 98801

**MINUTES**

*"To create community through responsive leadership and services for the citizens and visitors of the Apple Capital of the World."*

**5:15 p.m. Regular Meeting**

**1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call.** Mayor Mike Poirier called the regular meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Councilmember Keith Huffaker led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmember Chelsea Ewer joined the meeting via phone.

**2. Citizen Requests/Comments**

- (1) Christopher Blank, no address, addressed the Council with his concerns about harassment.
- (2) Unknown speaker (would not provide his name), no address, requested a safe spot for homeless people with tents like the RV Safe Park, with a dumpster.
- (3) Elizabeth Guzman, Malaga, addressed the Council with her concerns about safety near Locomotive Park and under the bridge.
- (4) Rafael Aguilar, 10 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Wenatchee, addressed the Council about his concerns of safety issues around the south end bridge.
- (5) Jose Rubio Lopez, no address, addressed the Council with his concerns about people being charged with crimes they didn't commit.
- (6) Mary Lewis, Malaga, no address, addressed the Council with her concerns about safety at the RV Safe Park and would like a tent city.
- (7) Ilka Honour, 3310 School Street, Wenatchee, addressed the Council with her concerns about the Locomotive Park area and drug use.
- (8) Glen Wilson, Malaga, no address, addressed the Council with his concerns about the RV Safe Park and would like a tent city.

[Unknown individual speaking loudly from the audience with profane language. The Mayor asked her to come forward but she refused. She then left the meeting.]

The Mayor asked for a brief pause of the meeting. He resumed the meeting and asked if anyone else wished to address the Council. There was no one else who wished to speak.

### 3. Consent Items

- *Motion to approve agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings.*

Vouchers:

Claim checks #301920 - #301964 in the amount of \$867,806.67 for September 5, 2024

Payroll distribution in the amount of \$1,677.99 for September 9, 2024

Claim checks #301965 through #302090 in the amount of \$1,820,000.42 for September 12, 2024

Claim checks #302091 through #302182 in the amount of \$2,539,669.68 for September 19, 2024

Payroll distribution in the amount of \$469,580.00 for September 20, 2024

Payroll distribution (retirees) in the amount of \$3,581.24 for September 30, 2024

- *Motion for City Council to accept the work performed by the contractor, The Pool Company, on the City Pool Liner and Plumbing Project, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Final Contract Voucher.*

*Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker to approve agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings, and for City Council to accept the work performed by the contractor, The Pool Company, on the City Pool Liner and Plumbing Project, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Final Contract Voucher. Councilmember Charlie Atkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

### 4. Presentations

- Wenatchee Foothills Day Proclamation read by Councilmember Top Rojanasthien and presented to Angela Morris with the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust who invited everyone to the Wenatchee Foothills Fest on October 5.

### 5. Action Items

#### A. Municipal Code Chapter 6A.18 Amendment

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director David Erickson presented the staff report. Councilmember Linda Herald told the Council that she recently went with David and the parks crews to the Locomotive Park area and it was disgusting.

*Motion by Councilmember Linda Herald to approve Ordinance No. 2024-21, amending Section 6A.18.020 of the Wenatchee City Code regarding the definition of City Property. Councilmember Jose Cuevas seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

**B. Confluence Parkway Project 2201.1**  
Partial Assignment of Franchise Rights and Obligation Agreements

City Engineer Jake Lewing presented the staff report.

*Motion by Councilmember Top Rojanasthien for City Council to authorize the City Administrator to execute Partial Assignment of Franchise Rights and Obligation Agreements for Chelan County PUD, Cascade Natural Gas, and Spectrum (Charter) franchise utilities with Kraemer Scarsella Brothers Joint Venture for the completion of Confluence Parkway Phase 1. Councilmember Charlie Atkinson seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

**C. Confluence Parkway Project 2201.3**  
Change Order #1 to Task Order CP North for Design Build Services with Kraemer Scarsella Brothers Joint Venture

City Engineer Jake Lewing presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

*Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to authorize the City Administrator to execute Change Order #1 to Task Order CP North with Kraemer Scarsella Brothers Joint Venture for the Confluence Parkway North project (Project No. 2201.3). Councilmember Travis Hornby seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

**D. City Project 2407 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Improvements**  
Consultant Agreement – Authorization to Execute

Project Engineer Hari Sharma presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

*Motion by Councilmember Travis Hornby for City Council to authorize the City Administrator to sign the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) Consultant Agreement with Perteet, Inc. to provide design services for City Project 2407, 9th Street Corridor Improvements. Councilmember Top Rojanasthien seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

**E. City Project 2213 – Millerdale Avenue Irrigation Canal Bridge**  
Consultant Agreement Supplement #1 – Authorization to Execute

Project Engineer Zachary Horton presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

*Motion by Councilmember Charlie Atkinson for City Council to amend the budget for City Project #2213 – Millerdale Ave Irrigation Canal Bridge, and authorize the City Administrator to execute Supplement #1 with KPG Psomas to provide additional design services for a sidewalk gap located at the intersection of Millerdale Avenue and Lambert*

Street, and right of way acquisition services for the entire project. Councilmember Keith Huffaker seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

- F. RH2 Engineering General Services Agreement  
Amendment No. 5 to Add Scope and Extend Contract Time

WWTP Supervisor Mike Hodgson presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Travis Hornby for City Council to amend the General Services Agreement contract for continuing to provide on-call design and programming support services with additional scope and authorize the City Administrator to sign the contract documents. Councilmember Linda Herald seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

- G. Ordinance No. 2024-22 – Amendments to the 2024 Budget

Finance Director Brad Posenjak presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to approve Ordinance No. 2024-22, amending the 2024 Budget as adopted by Ordinance No. 2023-22, as amended by Ordinance No. 2024-10, to revoke, recall or decrease all or a portion of total appropriations provided, and entering findings that this Ordinance is in the best interest of the City. Councilmember Linda Herald seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

At 6:12 p.m. the Mayor called for a 5 minute recess. The meeting resumed at 6:18 p.m.

## 6. Public Hearing Item

- H. Amendments to Wenatchee City Code Title 10 Zoning, Chapter 10.50 Signs and Chapter 10.72.050 Nonconforming Signs  
Presented by Assistant Community Development Director Stephen Neuenschwander and Community Development Director Glen DeVries

The Mayor called the public hearing to order and stated the ground rules.

**Ordinance 2024-20 was tabled at the September 12, 2024, public hearing. Public Hearing continued from the September 12, 2024, meeting to September 26, 2024.**

**Action Requested:** Motion to take from the table Ordinance No. 2024-20.

Motion by Councilmember Travis Hornby to take from the table Ordinance No. 2024-20. Councilmember Top Rojanasthien seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

Assistant Community Development Director Stephen Neuenschwander provided a summary.

The Mayor asked for public comment. The following individuals addressed the Council:

- (1) Dan Dhruva, Outfront Media, spoke in favor of the code update.
- (2) Russ Speidel, 1031 Grenz Street, Wenatchee, spoke against the code update.
- (3) Neal Schreibeis, with Lamar, requested the Council postpone the consideration of the updated code as his company would like to pursue something similar.

With no further comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Each Councilmember commented on the matter.

*Motion by Councilmember Travis Hornby for City Council to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-20, amending Wenatchee City Code Chapter 10.50 and Chapter 10.72 relating to digital billboards. Councilmember Top Rojanasthien seconded the motion. Motion failed (0-7).*

## **7. Presentation**

- Pavement Preservation Program Update.

Project Engineer Charlotte Mitchell provided a “State of the Streets” presentation which included projections to keep the roads at a PCI rating of “good” condition. At the current funding level it will be difficult to maintain the good rating. The major concern is a lack of funds. Finance Director Brad Posenjak provided a presentation which included different funding scenarios. Council supported the funding scenario of a .02% sales tax which would provide an estimated \$3 to \$4 million needed to continue moving forward with keeping the streets in good condition now and into the future. The sales tax would need to go to a public vote and a resolution would be brought back for Council in April. In the meantime, the Council expressed the need to have significant education and outreach for the public.

## **8. Reports**

a. Mayor’s Report. The Mayor reported on the following:

- (1) He recognized Councilmember Linda Herald for her hard work on the AWC Legislative Priorities committee and their recent recommendations.
- (2) It is that time of year to nominate someone for the Wenatchee Valley Uplift Awards. The Uplift Awards recognize individuals, groups or organizations in the Wenatchee Valley that are making significant contributions to the work of protecting civil rights, promoting social justice, or advancing diversity, equity and inclusion.
- (3) City Administrator Laura Gloria added that next week, October 3-5, is the Washington State Trails Conference.

- (4) She also announced that the City of Wenatchee is now on Instagram at [cityofwenatchee.gov](http://cityofwenatchee.gov).
- (5) The Opioid Abatement Council has sent out a call for projects to local agencies and programs fighting substance use disorder, with a focus on opioid and fentanyl use and addiction.

b. Reports/New Business of Council Committees

Councilmember Charlie Atkinson reported that he is attending the Wenatchee Police Department's Citizens Academy along with City Administrator Laura Gloria and City Staff Engineer Austin Slabaugh, and he highly recommends it.

Councilmember Linda Herald announced that the AWC Legislative Priorities Agenda has been finalized and at the top of the list is fiscal sustainability, behavioral health, housing, public safety, and infrastructure investment. She also reported that she attended a meeting with Community Development Director Glen DeVries and Ann Batdorf with Columbia Valley Community Health to discuss CVCH's new behavioral health clinic and other local programs available to those in need.

Councilmember Jose Cuevas reported that last Friday night he attended a soccer game between local law enforcement and the women's All Stars team. He stated that the Police Chief was an amazing athlete and goalkeeper. The women's team won.

**9. Announcements.** None.

**10. Close of Meeting**

*Councilmember Charlie Atkinson made a motion to close the meeting. Councilmember Keith Huffaker seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).*

The meeting ended at 7:30 p.m.



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Mike Poirier, Mayor



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Tammy L. McCord, City Clerk