

CITY OF WEISER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
55 West Idaho Street
Weiser, ID 83672
Monday
FEBRUARY 12, 2024
7:00 pm

Call to Order [7:00:11 PM](#)

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Randall Hibberd, Natasha McDaniel, Mike Campbell, Margaret Taggart, Bill Taylor, Carl Smith, Jim Metzger and Sherri Breaux

Guests: Kurt Folke, John Aegerter, Father Gerald Funke, Dan Randleman, Jim Felton, Rhonda Hirata, Louise Duffy, John W Duffy, Phil Janquart and Liz Mowrey.

Invocation was given by Father Gerald Funke. [7:00:28 PM](#)

Pledge of Allegiance, was led by Jim Metzger. [7:02:10 PM](#)

Commission Reports:

[7:02:40 PM](#) – Marg Chipman, Library Report. Marg gave the January 2024 library circulation and use statistics. The Library is continuing to hold STEM and Art Activities every Friday.

[7:03:54 PM](#) - Sterling Blackwell, Economic Development Committee met they are working on a plan on how the Committee can work with businesses in the community. Their main focus has been to get Main Street going.

[7:05:36 PM](#) - Sterling Blackwell, Design Review Committee Report. They have reviewed the landscape design for a couple businesses looking to come in. The Committee would like to see what they can do to become an official step when businesses come in and want to develop something.

[7:06:33 PM](#) – Marg Chipman, Architectural Preservation Commission meeting report. They are currently working to get the Sunnyside School and Weiser Middle School Gym on the National Historic Register.

Committee Reports: None. [7:07:50 PM](#)

Department Reports were presented by Clerk McDaniel. [7:07:56 PM](#)

MINUTES [7:12:04 PM](#)

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Larry Hogg to approve the minutes of one (1) Regular City Council Meeting on January 8, 2024 as presented and place them on file.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

BILLS [7:12:20 PM](#)

Motioned by Mike Hopkins and seconded by Marg Chipman 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: Sterling Blackwell, Mike Hopkins, Katie von Brethorst, Herb Haun,
Marg Chipman and Larry Hogg.
NAYES: None
ABSTAINED: None
MOTION CARRIED.

7:12:53 PM – Mayor Hibberd, the third item on the agenda, Rose Advocates Yearly Update will be removed from tonight's agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACCEPT KURT FOLKE 2023 AUDIT REPORT – Action Item. 7:13:16 PM

Kurt Folke with Quest CPAs presented the City of Weiser's 2023 Audit Report to the Mayor and Council. The audit went very well and I appreciate your Finance Departments teamwork in getting all the documents together and to us. All the books and records are in good shape.

Pages 1-3: The Independent Auditor's Report. 7:14:17 PM

This report is saying that they have audited the financial statements, we believe they are accurate and we can rely upon them to make decisions. It's referred to as an Unmodified Opinion which is the best you can get.

Pages 41-42: Internal Controls and Compliance. 7:14:40 PM

This report says that while we are auditing we are also looking to make sure the City has the basic internal controls that it needs to protect its finances and make sure the information is accurate and the same for Compliance to Government Auditing Standards. Mr Folke gave some examples of both. If they find discrepancies during the audit they would be listed here under findings. There are no findings here this year.

Pages 43-45: Compliance for Each Major Program and Internal Control Over Compliance Requirements. 7:15:52 PM

This report is identifying the fact that the City has spent over \$750,000.00 of Federal monies over the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023, specifically due to the ARPA monies as well as some other grants. On page 40 there is a schedule that identifies Federal Funds that were spent by the City. That information gets submitted on to the Federal Audit Clearing House.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE: 7:17:40 PM

Governmental Funds: Page 9

Primarily financed through property taxes and revenue sharing.

General Fund: 7:18:37 PM

Net Change in Fund Balances, positive \$245,732.00
Investment Return of \$363,209 noted.
Ending Fund Balance \$3,602,150.00, a 14-15 month reserve.

Street Fund: 7:20:35 PM

Net Change in Fund Balance, positive \$139,853.00
Ending Fund Balance \$2,232,871.00. This will go up and down depending on project statuses.

Library Fund: 7:21:32 PM

Net Change in Fund Balance, negative (\$4,955.00-)
Ending Fund Balance \$431,198.00, almost a 2 year reserve.

Capital Maintenance Fund: 7:22:02 PM

Net Change in Fund Balance \$0.00, no activity in this fund.
Ending Fund Balance \$1,190,497.00

Non-Major Governmental Funds: Page 36

Tort Fund: 7:22:38 PM

Net Change in Fund Balance, negative \$36,672.00- this is an intentional decrease to lower the reserve.
Total Expenditures were \$141,819.00
Ending Fund Balance \$163,621.00, over a 12 month reserve still available.

Recreation Fund: 7:23:29 PM

Net Change in Fund Balance, positive \$2,045.00
Ending Fund Balance \$111,090.00, about a 7 month fund balance.

Airport Fund: 7:24:09 PM

Net Change in Fund Balance, positive \$93,089.00, received grant reimbursements from prior grants.
Ending Fund Balance \$279,455.00

Enterprise Funds: Page 14

Funds we charge a rate to cover our costs.

Water Fund: 7:26:08 PM

Change in Net Position, positive \$665,128.00, this has everything to do with the \$624,353.00 of ARPA money (Grant Revenue). If you subtract that, the Net Position would be \$40,775.00.
Ending Net Position, \$7,242,771.00

Sewer Fund: 7:27:01 PM

Change in Net Position, negative 76,926.00. Mike Campbell, this was due to a project delay that caused expenses to transfer into this budget. The Collections Grant Reimbursement was also part of it.
Ending Net Position, \$6,300,221.00

7:28:11 PM - Kurt Folke, we just need to watch this fund and make sure it doesn't show continued decreases.

Electric Fund: 7:28:26 PM

Change in Net Position, positive \$760,114.00. About 30% of that has to do with some rebates that we get through the system.
Miscellaneous Revenue (Rebates), \$275,362.00
Ending Net Position, \$4,659,684.00

Garbage Fund: 7:29:20 PM

Change in Net Position, positive \$42,422.00
Ending Net Position, \$1,335,243.00

7:29:27 PM – Kurt Folke, the Garbage Fund is doing fine from an operational standpoint. The City has an internal policy, it wants a certain size increase to be able to build up for the Sanitation Truck. Mike Campbell, we need to be in the \$75,000.00 range. Kurt, we need to watch the Garbage Fund and make sure it doesn't keep dropping in terms of rates.

7:30:56 PM – Larry Hogg, do the expenditures on page 14 include capital expenditures? Kurt Folke, they do, but indirectly. Go to page 12, Depreciable Net Capital Assets, it goes there and it gets depreciated each year over it's determined useful life. That depreciation gets shown back on page 14 under Depreciation Expense.

7:33:04 PM – Larry Hogg, the reason I ask is because we have a million and a half dollar project in the Water Fund specifically that was partially paid for in FY2022 and the rest will be in FY2023. That was suppose to last for 30 years, so 1/30th of that is included here when the check we had to write was actually more like between \$7,000.00 and \$700,000.00.

7:34:57 PM – Kirk Folke, you are exactly correct. In Full Accrual Accounting when you have a capital expense, anything that is above the capitalization threshold, on the financial statements you will not see the actual expense. For these four Full Accrual Accounting Funds you will only see the depreciation for many years to come, over it's useful life. However, for the modified governmental funds (General, Streets...) if you spend \$1,000,000.00 it shows up as an expense.

7:35:26 PM – Larry Hogg, asked Mr Folke to explain where we stand on the Pension Asset and Liability Schedule. Mr Folke explained using the top chart on page 34. Summarizing, FY2023 the

City of Weiser's Net Pension Liability is \$2,719,761.00 or our PERSI pension is 83.83% funded.

7:39:31 PM – Larry Hogg, on our balance sheet where does that show up? Kurt Folke referred to page 12, under the Liability Section; Long-Term Liabilities, Noncurrent (past 12 months) and Long-Term Liabilities, Current (Within 12 months). Larry, so the difference between that would be our liability for the pension fund, is that correct? Kurt Folke, page 25, Changes in long-term liabilities, breaks down what the long term liabilities are. Mr Folke then explained the breakdown on the chart.

7:43:25 PM – Marg Chipman, on page 34 you said PERSI is under funded, please explain. Mr Folke, pension plans as a rule of thumb are underfunded, I know that is a scary thought. That is why they came up with GASB 68 in 2014. Underfunded means, PERSI which collects all the contributions for the entire State, lets say that is \$20 billion. Then they have Actuaries that figure out how much is projected to be paid out to all current retirees upon their retirement, as a rule of thumb that might be more like \$25 billion. That has been the status quo, in fact the best two states in the nation are Idaho and Oregon because they have always been very conservative in their investments. If things get to unbalanced they jack up contribution rates or change the terms. Mayor Hibberd added that you also have to take into consideration that that \$20 billion is earning money and all of these people aren't going to retire at the same time.

7:46:22 PM

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to accept the 2023 Audit Report as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE POLICIES: Cost Saving & Accountability, Smoking & Vaping, General Safety, 90 Day Orientation Period, Political Neutrality, At Will Employment and Employee Separation & Termination – Action Item. 7:46:55 PM

Clerk McDaniel, noted the changes to the Cost Saving & Accountability Policy and the Smoking & Vaping policy.

7:49:25 PM

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Marg Chipman to approve the following policies: Cost Saving & Accountability, Smoking & Vaping, General Safety, 90 Day Orientation Period, Political Neutrality, At Will Employment and Employee Separation & Termination.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

ROSE ADVOCATES YEARLY UPDATE. Removed from agenda.

PAWN BROKER LICENSES 2024 – Action Item. 7:49:52 PM

Police Chief Carl Smith reviewed both applications and recommend that both be approved.

7:50:33 PM

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Mike Hopkins to approve the 2024 Pawn Broker License Applications for GSG Pawn LLC and Idaho Coin Exchange.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

PROPOSAL FOR SERVICES WITH CHADWICK AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC – Action Item.
7:50:47 PM Mayor Hibberd, this is a contract for attorney services. We will retain MSBT Law for our litigation services. Discussion follow.

Motioned by Marg Chipman and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve the proposal for services with Chadwick and Associates, PLLC. **7:54:31 PM**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN COMP PLAN RESOLUTION #684
Action Item. 7:54:56 PM

Clerk McDaniel, clarification, last month we should have passed the Comprehensive Plan with a resolution so this is basically signing Resolution #684 to the Comp Plan.

7:55:22 PM

Motioned by Larry Hogg and seconded by Katie von Brethorst to approve Resolution #684 and authorize the Mayor to sign it.

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN RESOLUTION #689 FOR THE
TRANSPORTATION PLAN – Action Item. 7:55:55 PM

Mike Campbell, we applied for a grant for a Transportation Plan, a Federal Grant through LHTAC. The City Council needs to sign the resolution saying you will pay your 7.34% if you receive the grant.

7:56:53 PM

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Herb Haun to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign Resolution #689 for the Transportation Plan.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MOTION CARRIED.

PROPOSED ANIMAL SHELTER AT AIRPORT (Proceed to County Planning & Zoning) –
Action Item. 7:57:36 PM

Dan Randleman, 855 E 9th, Weiser Idaho 83672. Dan Randleman presented information about the proposed physical location, basic building layout, an agenda for the project sequence and some probable challenges including a zoning change. Discussion followed.

8:11:29 PM – John Aegerter, 729 Jonathan Rd., Weiser Idaho 83672 presented information about the Weiser River Animal Shelter and Rescue as an organization, the property they want to build the shelter on and what they need the City to do to move this project forward.

8:17:48 PM – Jim Metzger, 2191 N River Rd, Payette ID 83661. Jim as the Weiser Airport Manager informed Council of changes that would have to be made and the advantages from his perspective about the proposed physical location for the Animal Shelter. Discussion followed.

8:21:46 PM

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve the proposed Animal Shelter Plans.

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Mike Hopkins, Sterling Blackwell, Marg Chipman and Katie von Brethorst
NAYES: None
ABSTAINED: None
MOTION CARRIED.

8:22:04 PM – Mayor Hibberd called for a motion to specifically move ahead with the rezone itself.

8:22:17 PM

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Herb Haun for the City to begin the rezone process.

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Mike Hopkins, Sterling Blackwell, Marg Chipman and Katie von Brethorst
NAYES: None
ABSTAINED: None
MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN WEST 9TH WATER EXTENSION KELLER AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – Action Item. [8:23:38 PM](#)

Mike Campbell, this agreement is to do the engineering and to get the permitting to run water main under the railroad tracks at the Corner of West Idaho at West 9th. Mike discussed the advantages of doing this. Discussion followed.

8:27:56 PM

Motioned by Herb Haun and seconded by Sterling Blackwell to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the West 9th Street Water Extension Agreement with Keller for Professional Services.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Larry Hogg, Sterling Blackwell, Marg Chipman, Mike Hopkins, Katie von Brethorst and Herb Haun
NAYES: None
ABSTAINED: None
MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT – Action Item. [8:28:26 PM](#)

Motioned by Sterling Blackwell and seconded by Mike Hopkins to adjourn.

AYES: Herb Haun, Larry Hogg, Mike Hopkins, Sterling Blackwell, Marg Chipman and Katie von Brethorst
NAYES: None
ABSTAINED: None
MOTION CARRIED.

THIS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT [8:28:35 PM](#)

Randall E Hibberd, Mayor

Natasha McDaniel, City Clerk