

2206

December 03, 2024

**Regular Meeting:**

The Governing Body of the City of Wamego, Kansas, met in a Regular Session on Tuesday, December 03, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. in the City Commission Chambers at 430 Lincoln Avenue. Those present were Commissioners: Dwight Faulkner, Michele Jacobs, Clifford Baughman, William Ditto and Mayor Richard Weixelman.

The City Manager, Stacie Eichen, City Clerk, Shanda Jahnke, City Treasurer, Leslie Dugan and Jake Pugh, City Attorney, were also present.

The City Clerk presented the minutes of the regular meeting of the Governing Body held November 19, 2024. After careful reading and discussion thereof, it was moved by Commissioner Baughman and seconded by Commissioner Faulkner to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

The City Clerk submitted Appropriation Ordinance No. 1706 to the Governing Body for their consideration and approval. After careful review and discussion thereof, Commissioner Ditto moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman, to approve and adopt Appropriation Ordinance Number 1706. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Public Comments and Communications:**

The next regular work session will be December 17, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

**Wamego Hospital Board Annual Report:**

Jake Pugh, Chair of the Wamego Hospital Board, was present to give a brief annual report. He advised that the board has oversight of building, and the Wamego Hospital Association has oversight of the hospital operations and in contract with Ascension. The biggest project this year was the MRI project, followed by a re-keying project. The board is making a strategic plan for future projects to have additional services available. Commissioner Ditto asked for a breakdown of the board involving the hospital. Jake explained that the City Commission appoints the Wamego City Hospital board that consists of himself, Jaimee Hoobler, Lannie Bosse, John Hupe, Tom Fulmer and Frank Laubhan. The Wamego Hospital Association is composed of members representing the Wamego City Hospital Board and Ascension hospital in Manhattan. The WCH board appoints the members of WHA representing the WCH, currently those members are Merl Page, Lannie Bosse, Dwight Faulkner and Ryan Kueker. The Manhattan hospital appoints 5 and WHA contracts with Ascension to manage the Wamego hospital. The Governing Body thanked Jake and the board for their time and dedication.

**Wine Festival Request:**

Scott Kohl was present to request hosting the wine festival in the city park on May 10, 2025. The event this year had 14 wineries, 12 vendors and a food truck and was a great success. Prior to the meeting, Scott had submitted an alteration to the map, the city staff approved of the alteration. The setup and teardown would be the same as last year if approved. Commissioner Baughman moved; Commissioner Faulkner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

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**City Engineer Review:**

The City Manager reported that in the past engineering services were not included in most grant applications, recently that has changed. With that change several cities are putting out requests for qualifications for engineering services for 5 years to qualify for the grants. Commissioner Baughman moved, seconded by Commissioner Jacobs, to authorize the City of Wamego to officially request requests for qualifications for engineering services to bring back to a future meeting. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Highway 99 City Property Review:**

Stacie reminded the Governing Body of the land north on Highway 99 that was deeded to the city for a dog park. She requested action to allow the city attorney to start the process to deed the land back to the state. Commissioner Ditto moved to authorize the city attorney to start the process to give the land back to the state. Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Recreation Complex Concessions:**

The City Manager advised that in previous years the Friendship House had a contract for providing concessions for recreation events and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at the recreation complex. The Friendship House had given notice that they will no longer contract for those activities. After meeting with the Chamber of Commerce and the pyro crew, it was the City Manager's recommendation to go out for proposals for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration and have city staff provide concessions for school and recreation events. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July applications would come to the city with a fee while being directed by the Chamber for the event. Commissioner Faulkner moved, seconded by Commissioner Ditto, to approve the City Manager's recommendation. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Street Project Sewer Abatement:**

Stacie reported that another sewer line was discovered in the street project that is not hooked up correctly and will need to be replaced according to city codes. She reminded the Governing Body that this issue came up previously and the city paid the contractor to make the repair with the property paying the city over a 24-month period, that repair cost was less than half of this repair. Commissioner Jacobs moved to have the repair made with plan approval from the city by a licensed contractor of the property owners' choice, allowing a 24-month interest free repayment period, then allowing additional payments with the same interest rate as established utility extension loans for commercial accounts. Commissioner Faulkner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

**Board Appointments:**

The City Manager reported that the city had advertised board openings for the library, housing authority, planning commission and board of zoning appeals. Applications would come to a future meeting.

**Project Updates and Change Orders:**

Change order number 3 for the street project had been submitted in the amount of \$15,010, this was for a water/sewer change and to remove a box culvert that had been discovered. Commissioner Faulkner moved, seconded by Commissioner Baughman to approve change order number 3. Motion carried. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

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**Purchase Requests:**

Fire Chief Stultz presented at the work session information to purchase a second set of battery-operated rescue tools for the fire department from Weis Fire. This tool set would be a demo set in the amount of \$33,500.14 which is more than a 30% discount with a full warranty. Commissioner Jacobs moved, seconded by Commissioner Faulkner to approve purchasing the demo tools for \$33,500.14.

**City Manager and Other Reports - City Manager**

The city sales tax is down 4% however it appears that the city will still meet the budgeted amount, and the county sales tax is up 2.2%.

The library and housing authority minutes, financials and statistics were included in the meeting packet. The City Manager advised the Governing Body of several upcoming events should they choose to attend, those events were listed as the Annual Chamber Dinner, the Growth Summit, Ag Appreciation, KMU Day at the Capitol and Local Government Day at the Capitol.

At this time, Commissioner Weixelman moved to adjourn into executive session for twenty (20) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 6:55 P.M., Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0. The meeting was reconvened.

At this time, Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn into executive session for an additional fifteen (15) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 7:10 P.M., Commissioner Faulkner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0. The meeting was reconvened.

At this time, Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn into executive session for an additional twenty (20) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 7:30 P.M., Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0. The meeting was reconvened.

At this time, Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn into executive session for an additional fifteen (15) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 7:45 P.M., Commissioner Ditto seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0. The meeting was reconvened.

At this time, Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn into executive session for an additional fifteen (15) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 8:00 P.M., Commissioner Ditto seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0. The meeting was reconvened.

At this time, Commissioner Ditto moved to adjourn into executive session for an additional ten (10) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 8:10 P.M., Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0. The meeting was reconvened.

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At this time, Commissioner Baughman moved to adjourn into executive session for an additional fifteen (15) minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, the regular meeting would be reconvened at 8:26 P.M., Commissioner Baughman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye:5, Nay:0.

At 8:20 P.M., Commissioner Ditto left the executive session.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:26 P.M.

No further business appearing, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Richard Weixelman, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Shanda Jahnke, City Clerk