

Wasco City Council

Meeting Minutes

November 18th, 2025

Call to Order

Mayor McCurdy called to order the Regular session of the Wasco City Council at 6:30 PM.

The following persons were present: Mayor Beth McCurdy; Council members Julie McAllister-Wynne, Robert Anglin, Ben Altman, Ken DeGrange, and Bill Minter; City employees: Ian Melzer (City Clerk), Melissa Carlson (Assistant Clerk), Jessica Wheeler (Wasco Depot and Wasco School Events Center), Curtis Hollibaugh (City Maintenance)

Visitors: Dee Jackson-Ashley (Resident), Mary Bowen (Resident), Matt Bowen (Resident),

The following individuals attended remotely: Jaime Crawford (Bell Designs)

Flag Salute

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

- Ed Hodges of Curren McLeod cannot make it tonight, so that update will not be tabled for another meeting. Cnc. Altman will be meeting with him on Thursday.

Consent Agenda

- Cnc. McAllister-Wynne motioned to approve the October 21st, 2025 minutes.
 - Cnc. DeGrange seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.
- City Bills/Invoices
 - Crestline projects and the Accuity audits were added.
 - Mayor McCurdy asked about the Pioneer surveying.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne asked about Halloween spending.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne motioned to accept and pay the October/November bills.
 - Cnc. Altman seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, Minter
 - Cnc. DeGrange abstained.
 - Motion passed.

- Mayor McCurdy asked if the City of Wasco could make our annual donation to the food bank earlier than usual. It will be done.
- WSEC Bills/Invoices
 - See attached.
 - Mayor McCurdy explained the Food Bank needs to replace a freezer, and suggested the city makes the annual \$1,000 donation early.
 - Cnc. Altman motioned to accept the bills.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne seconded.
 - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs Altman, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne, DeGrange, Minter
 - Motion passed.

Visitors' Comments

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Public Hearing >>> Resolutions >>> Ordinances

Memorial Day/Depot/WSEC Report

- See attached.
- Halloween brought a lot of heavy rain and wind, but the turnout for Trunk-or-Treat and the Haunted Hallway was the greatest yet. Credit to Sherman Kids Zone and Cnc. Anglin.
- Jessica Wheeler asked if the HB5202 Fund could be used for lighting and sound upgrades in the auditorium. Proposals can be made. Curtains are needed for the sound paneling.
- Winterization needs to begin at the WSEC.
 - Maint. Tech Henricksen said there was an issue.
 - City Clerk Melzer says there is a water heater heating the upstairs boy's room that could be removed in the boiler room, which could be replaced with something more helpful.
- The wiring in the fitness center is ready.
- There is still money for the depot, but starting in January, the city should reach out to another two companies.
- The Sunday after Thanksgiving will be the tree lighting at the depot. Festivities will commence at 5 PM, Santa will arrive at 5:30.

Mayor's, Council, and City Staff Reports

Maintenance Report

- See attached.
- Maint. Tech Hollibaugh reported that Sandon was opened.
- Maint. Tech Hollibaugh wants to work on meter boxes with what currently exists.
- City Clerk Melzer reported that Ryan Asher had a tree removed from city property in May, costing \$1800. Asher mentioned he was told by a maintenance team member that partial reimbursement might be possible. Maint. Tech Hollibaugh clarified that no such

promise was made and there is no tree budget. Asher was advised to request reimbursement at a city council meeting. Cnc. Altman suggested thanking Mr. Asher for removing the tree.

- Maint. Tech Hollibaugh explained that only one bid came in for the fence that was destroyed last month.
 - City Clerk Melzer was waiting for an estimate to come in for Victim's Assistance. The estimate received was \$1,896.52 from Ismail. He asked if he should tell Victim's Assistance that the City was out \$2,000. So far, that is the only quote.
 - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne suggested having the guilty party do community service for the city. Cnc. DeGrange worried about potential lawsuits from a community service worker. CC Melzer explained that the city is insured for up to 25 volunteers and community service workers. CC Melzer stated that the plan was to have the guilty party clean gutters or pull weeds. Something relatively easy with few hazards. Cnc. McAllister-Wynne suggested not having him use ladders or city equipment.

City Hall Report

- City Clerk Melzer reported the 2025 audit has been finished, but it isn't finalized yet. There were deficiencies, as is usual.
- CC Melzer reported that Ruben Cleaveland has been working on the franchise agreement with Blue Mountain due to delinquency and mixed messages. The other cities have also been going after them. We are supposed to receive a 7% franchise fee. We can demand an audit, but we have to pay the cost of the audit. Cnc. DeGrange is concerned about lawyer fees.
- CC Melzer reported that the city is over budget on Crestline projects. Former estimates were around \$60-70,000. The city has paid >\$100,000, and a contract has never been signed.
- Several grants are coming through; the city was just awarded a grant for the water.

Council Reports

- Cnc. McAllister-Wynne asked about the ordinance emails. CC Melzer stated that the Four Cities' Meeting happened, and there was confusion about why the inter-governmental agreement was necessary. Cnc. McAllister-Wynne explained that the Justice of the Peace finds it necessary for enforcement of ordinances.
- Cnc. Minter asked for the Community Garden to be weeded. He further asked if there was news about when Pacific Power was going to separate power from the restroom and the depot.
 - Ask for volunteers in a newsletter or social media post.
 - Tyler will call Pacific Power to attempt to make contact with someone.
- Cnc. Anglin has updates on the sound system at the WSEC.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor McCurdy asked if the council wants to have a special catering thing for the December council meeting. Asst. City Clerk Carlson, Dee Jackson, CC Melzer, and Mayor McCurdy will meet to plan the party.

HB 5202 Community Development Funds

- None

Old/Unfinished Business

- **Capital Outlay Projects Update**
 - \$3,300 planned for installing flow meters. City Clerk Melzer is responsible for paying this. Updating plans for Clark Street sewer to include more. We will know more Thursday, when Cnc. Altman and CC Melzer meet with Bell Design.
 - Revised Meter RFB
 - Clark Street Sidewalk Replacement Westside - Pioneer Engineering
 - Welcome to Wasco Sign Design
 - We are allowed a landscaped entry sign at all 4 city limits entrances.
 - Wasco received the housing grant. Monday, there will be a meeting to go over what the money will be used for.
 - Signed a contract with Pioneer Engineering to replace a block of sidewalk on the southbound side of Clark Street in front of the Wasco Market and USPO. Surveying has begun.
- **Employee Policies Update**
 - Tabled for the December meeting.
- **General Updates**
 - Water Master Plan grant has been acquired. Does this need to be bidded out?
 - City of Wasco may need to pass a resolution for Bell Design to be the official engineer, rather than just vote. CC Melzer will reach out to VanKoten & Cleaveland.
 - Housing grant acquired. Meeting happening on Monday to scope and refine plans.
 - West side of Clark Street sidewalk in front of Wasco Market to be replaced by Pioneer Engineering. We should have costs and plans by the end of the year.
 - Clark Street Sewer Replacement
 - Sewer System Flow Meters
 - City of Wasco is allowed, per ODOT, a landscaped entry sign that we can design at all entry points.
 - Nothing new regarding generators. CC Melzer to reach out via email.
 - CC Melzer reported that a meeting happened via Zoom with the gentleman who did the hazardous materials survey and McKinsey from MCCED who is on their Brownsfield program. We need to continue with the remediation.
 - CC Melzer reported that he has the report from the materials in the WSEC for lead and asbestos. It is 91 pages. Basically every surface is covered in lead paint, which is then covered in modern latex paint. The outer stucco on the outside of the building is all asbestos.

New Business

- None

Adjournment

Mayor McCurdy adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Melissa Carlson, Asst. City Clerk

Signed _____

Signed _____