# Wasco City Council

# Meeting Minutes

August 18,2026

**Call to Order**
Mayor McCurdy called to order the Regular session of the Wasco City Council at 6:32 PM.

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

Absent: Maintenance Department rep.

Visitors: Wasco Residents: Matt & Mary Bowen, Linda Cornie, Greg & Connie Greenwood, Jennifer Smith, Dee Ashley,

The following individuals attended remotely: None

**Flag Salute**

**Additions/Changes to the Agenda**
- None

**Consent Agenda**
  - Mayor McCurdy advised that the June / July minutes were incomplete and would be carried over to September for approval.
    - In favor: NO MOTION MADE
    - Motion: N/A
- Bills/invoices for city
  - See attached.
  - Cnc McAllister-Wynne would like to know who is authorized to purchase and what is the threshold amount not requiring authorization from council. Cnc. McAllister-Wynne expressed concern over seeing repetitive purchases of the same tools as well as consistent tool purchasing each month since tools typically have a longer shelf life. Cnc. DeGrange will have a conversation with maintenance dept.
  - Cnc. DeGrange motioned to pay the city bills as presented with questions regarding tools to be asked of maintenance.

        - Cnc. Minter seconded.
        - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs. Altman, DeGrange, Minter, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne
        - Motion passed.
- Bills/invoices for WSEC
    - See attached.
    - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne motioned to accept and pay the WSEC bills as presented.
        - Cnc. Altman seconded.
        - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs. Altman, DeGrange, Minter, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne
        - Motion passed.
    - City Clerk Melzer brought to council's attention that the visa card used by WSEC had been hacked and that he had contacted the bank to have it shut off. A new card had been ordered and received shortly after cancelling the compromised card.

**Visitors' Comments**

* Mayor McCurdy addressed the visitors and inquired what brought them to the city Council meeting and that she would go around the room and each person would have An opportunity to address the council.

- Connie & Greg Greenwood inquired why Brandon Welk's property was allowed to remain a mess and why he's not being held accountable to clean it up. Mayor McCurdy responded that the Ordinance Enforcement is on the agenda and that she is optimistic it will be cleaned up as the property is up for sale. Greg expressed thanks to volunteer Dee Ashley for maintaining the flowers at the Depot and City Hall and help with cleaning.
- Linda Cornie- present to oppose the water hour restriction and that she feels it is unfair that Wasco has the restriction and other cities in the county do not have such a restriction.
- Mayor McCurdy advised that this issue is on the agenda and hopefully will be resolved.
- Rod Patton expressed concern that the council did not follow rules of public meetings regarding the water restriction ordinance.
- Mayor McCurdy stated that they will be addressing this issue/concern.
- Danee Rankin had concerns regarding the lava rock used between the curb and sidewalk in front of the store and post office due to the instability of it and it being a trip hazard. She wanted to know if there was any way to change this to a smaller or different material.
- Cnc. Altman stated that it will be fixed at some point and that the rock used should have been smaller. The material is meant to be temporary to allow for future underground utilities.
- Tom Boraza(sp) stated that trees in the creek/along the creek pose hazards and wondered if there is any financial assistance to help take care of the situation.
- Cnc. Altman let him know that the city is working on a BLM Grant (Wildland Fire) currently and hopefully there will be funds to remove hazardous trees.
- Jennifer and Ray Smith came to thank the city for having all the pipe moved from the temporary storage area that was visually offensive.

- Brittany Wood—concern regarding the water restriction and the way an ordinance was created. Inquired whether council was receiving items for review in a timely manner as to have time to really discuss and put thought into them before deciding.

- Justin Miller, County Court Commissioner present to provide an update regarding water permit application by private citizen to provide water to contractors on solar project. Citizen has a ag water right and is applying for a commercial water right. Applicant's well is located approx.. 750 yards from the city's well. 259k gal per day and applicant is looking to sell approx.. 40% of that production.

  PCL could benefit from having an additional water source provided by a private citizen and it could take pressure off the city to increase water sales.
- Mayor McCurdy stated that the city would be happy to show support of this private citizen wanting to do water sales .
- Justin also stated that that PCL had been out of compliance with road permits and that the use of routes not approved had been used as well as driving infractions i.e. speeding. He stated that they are going to implement new onboarding and on site training so that they remain in compliance of their road agreement. If there are concerns with the contractors driving off route permitted roads, speed etc. contact Justin or the Road Master

**Public Hearing >>> Resolutions >>> Ordinances**

- **Reading of City of Wasco Ordinance NO. 366 to vacate alley (Welk /City of Wasco.**
- Public hearing commenced at 7:00 pm
- Cnc. Altman explained the situation and the reasoning for vacating the alley. ½ of the alley still needs to be vacated via this ordinance.. Cnc. Altman asked for public comments.
  - Ray Smith inquired why the city would not just maintain possession instead of division—per Cnc. Altman alleys are created by taking from Each lot so then when an alley is vacated the alley is divided and returned to the contributing lots.
- Per Cnc. Altman there are no liens on the property.
  - Brittany Wood asked how does the council know there are no liens. Cnc. Altman stated that it had been verified through the county clerk's office and that City Clerk Melzer had contacted the County Clerk and there were no liens found.
    - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne inquired about liens on the gas station and that portion of the property.
- Cnc. Altman motioned holding the hearing over to September 15th council meeting to allow time to confirm lien status on the lot with the gas station.
  - Cnc. McAllister seconded motion
  - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs. Altman, DeGrange, Minter, Anglin, McAllister-Wynne
  - Motion passed.
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  - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs. Altman, DeGrange, Minter

        - Motion passed.
- **Resolution 2026-06 to restrict watering hours**
    - Cnc. McAllister-Wynne expressed she was surprised to see this resolution and is not in support of it. Also, we should not be watering all day either.
        - Cnc. Altman made a motion to repeal Resolution 2026-06
        - Seconded by Cnc. Anglin
        - In Favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs. Altman, DeGrange, McCallister-Wynne, Minter and Anglin
        - Motion passed

**Memorial Day/Depot/WSEC Report**

- See attached
- Per Jessica it was a light month so she scaled back July and August hours to Wed/Thur
  Behind on cleaning and dealing with dead grass issue in which they are working on using timers for watering lawn. Tyler has been working on the waterline leak and trying to get it fixed prior to school starting.
  The pre-school is working on a second room.

**Mayor's, Council, and City Staff Reports**

City Hall Report

- City Clerk Ian Melzer needs to update the credit card info for several sites in which the compromised card was used for regular payments. He stated that the bank needs a copy of the minutes that reflect authorization given to him to act as an Administrator of the account and also a list of Authorized users. Currently there is not an Administrator listed or any authorized users .
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    - Cnc. Altman made a motion to designate City Clerk Ian Melzer as Administrator for credit cards (last four digits of account #s) 5920 and 0100 . Authorized users shall be: Ian Melzer, Curtis Hollibaugh, Tyler Henricksen and Jessica Wheeler for the same account numbers.
        - Cnc. Anglin seconded the motion.
        - In favor: Mayor McCurdy, Cncs. Altman, DeGrange, McCallister-Wynne, Minter and Anglin.
        - Motion passed.
- City Clerk Ian Melzer met with playground equipment rep.
  Rep said there are grants available and that their company would write the grant . City Clerk wasn't sure if this was some sort of conflict of interest. It was stated by Cnc. Altman the contractor would need to be made aware of bidding process.
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Maintenance Report

Tyler absent.

Council Reports

- Mayor McCurdy reported that she has a rough draft of a job description for a Grant writer. Council had discussions about requirements, hours and possible wage but no decisions made. She also shared that she had a conference call with League of Oregon Cities about grants.
- Cnc. McAllister Wynne expressed the need to get serious about the Nuisance Ordinance and enforcement. Need to get an IGA with court.
- Cnc.Anglin stated that the new sound proofing is working well. PCL & PGE both have had meetings there and zoom conferences and sound quality is much better and it has been booked for events/meetings twice a month since May.

HB 5202 Community Development Funds

- None.

**Old/Unfinished Business**

**New Business**

- Resolution opposing data centers from Cnc Anglin. Discussion regarding process to bring resolution to council. Council needs ample time to read and discuss before making any decisions etc. At this time the resolution would not be addressed as they had received it the same day as the meeting.

**Adjournment**

Mayor McCurdy adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM.

Minutes submitted by:

Signed Beth McCurdy - Mayor

Signed _____