

Town of Wilkeson
Regular Council Meeting
August 23rd, 2023

ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 6:00- presided by, Mayor Sellers. Council members Farmer, Thawsh, Summers, and Sellers were present. Clerk Wellock was also present.

Motion made by council member Farmer to excuse council member Murphy, seconded by council member Summers and carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held August 9th, 2023
2. Approval of the bills for August 23rd, 2023, as budgeted.

Motion made by council member Farmer to approve consent agenda, seconded by council member Sellers voted on and carried.

CITIZENS PRESENT/ COMMENTS:

Dave Morrell- Pierce County Council Member, District 1- was in attendance to discuss District 1 ARPA Funding for small communities. He was able to negotiate lower cost sharing for the small communities within Pierce County. They were able to get projects funded and under contract in all the small communities within our district, including here in Wilkeson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Arch Log-** We need to finish stripping the log and choose a stain color before the weather turns.
2. **Noise Complaints 209 Church-** There are a few emails from a concerned neighbor wanting to go specifically on record with her complaints regarding R&H Truck Bodies. Many of the concerns that she listed are neighbor issues, and not for the town to get involved in. Resident was reminded that things take time, but the town is in fact moving forward as previously discussed.
3. **Bus Turn Around-** we have been working with Pierce County on the permitting for the Turn Around. We need to submit site plans and actual plans in order to move forward. The ecology block idea is not long term enough, however, it continues to be a concern for residents on Railroad Ave. The School District has been notified of our intention to pave, and that we are willing to allow them to pay later or make payments on this understanding that these things take time to budget and allocate funds.
4. **Cemetery Bids-** The bids are very close in price, Miken Dirtworkx was the lower bid. Motion made by council member Summers to accept the bid from Miken, seconded by council member Farmer and carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Town Hall Centennial-** invites have been sent out to several elected officials and other groups that have supported Wilkeson in recent years. There will be 2 groups. From 3-5 is invitation and 5:30- 7pm will be open house, and all are welcome to attend. There will be a live carving demonstration given by the Tenino Stone Cutters, there will be a story teller, from Tacoma depicting a woman who was sent through this area by the Railroad to paint the scenery. This is based on a diary that woman kept. The Model T Club is also coming and will park their vehicles for people to see. Food and drink will be offered. We will also have commemorative tokens that are valued for one beverage at a Wilkeson business, and for children, they can be redeemed for "Penny Candy" also offered at the local businesses. We are working with the local businesses here in town to ensure that they are involved in the night and we are working on those costs. We will need additional funds to complete the goals of

this. Motion made by council member Farmer for up to \$1500 for the Centennial, seconded by Bambi, voted on and carried.

MAYORS REPORT:

COUNCIL REPORTS

Parks & Trails/ Emergency Services, Krista Farmer- They have been working on the needs of the Towns Parks based on the allowed expenses listed in the RCO grant. They will have additional quantities after Friday when Mike and John are able to walk the parks and identify areas of need.

Community Development, Ashley Murphy- Absent

Cemetery & Emergency Services, Bambi Thawsh- council member Thawsh asked the council if they are ready to select one design out of the conceptual designs submitted. The council wants the push out/ grading to happen first and then to make more decisions. After paying for the grading and hydroseeding, there will be about 13k left for planting trees and shrubs.

Streets/Sidewalks, Bill Summers- Council member Summers discussed the need for an ordinance regarding small cell phone towers. He stated that if we do not have some sort of guideline for this, that they are able to be placed without permission, and do not have to have any kind of set design standard. Marie to follow up with Trisha at Milton for more information.

Utilities, Rick Sellers- The lift station at Rousher continues to be an issue. TSI was out at the lift station, exploring the needs for the panel upgrade. People are flushing things that should not be flushed at all. The pumps should be sufficient for this portion of the system, however, they are not meant to deal with rags and other items that are coming down the line and ragging up the system. We are going to cost out 2 new pumps for this lift station and notify the community that even items that claim to be flushable, are not. We should also consider allocating funds to have cameras run down our lines to check for areas that are deficient, and should also get our catch basins cleaned via vac truck. It would save a lot in labor and minimize the opportunity for on the job injuries by not doing the work manually.

ADJOURNMENT- Council member Sellers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 pm, seconded by council member Farmer, voted on and carried.