

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 15, 2025**

PRESENT: Baglio, Soderlund, Siver, Cook, De Jong, Attorney-Tori Kelm, Ken Johnson Maintenance, County Commissioner Stan Karwoski, Engineer-Marcus Johnson, and Clerk- Vickie Keating. Present via Zoom – Becky Becker and Cook family.

OATH OF OFFICE

Diane Baglio was sworn in as mayor of the City of Willernie, Kristine Cook and Andrew De Jong were sworn in as city council members.

County Commissioner Stan Karwoski congratulated the new board members and explained that he attends the first meeting of the year after elections to support the newly elected officials. This is his 23rd year as a commissioner and he tries to attend city meetings a few times a year to check in with the cities.

Commissioner Karwoski also handed out a service award for Mayor Parent, expressing gratitude for the years of service to the city.

Mayor Baglio thanked Stan for attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

De Jong requested adding municipal land/grants to his list under appointments and Ken report, board of review meeting and emergency class were added under new business.

After the additions were made to the agenda Soderlund moved to approve the agenda. Siver seconded the motion and the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 2024 MINUTES

Baglio explained the corrections to be made on the city computers and the additions that were necessary in the December minutes.

A motion to approve the minutes with the additions was made by Soderlund. Siver seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF

Allan Oyaas introduced himself as the officer on duty in Willernie. The previous officer was promoted so Officers Oyaas and Gibney will be attending the council meetings.

There was nothing new to report in the city.

Soderlund spoke earlier with the officer and asked the council to report any patterns of concern they notice in the city.

Baglio reminded the council and residents to call the sheriff's office if there are any problems.

De Jong asked if there is one person in charge of the contract with Willernie and Officer Oyaas explained six officers are in charge and they rotate shifts.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing on ordinances 1004.005 and 1004.016 began at 7:20 p.m.

Questions on the timeline of the cannabis restrictions were raised. It could be the summer of 2025, but nothing is definite at the state level as of today.

Soderlund inquired about having other ordinances in place at this time, however, Tori advised the council to pass this ordinance.

There were no more comments, so the public meeting closed at 7:24 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED AT 7:25 P.M.

ORDINANCE 1004.005 AND 1004.016

Soderlund moved to approve the above ordinances as read by Baglio. De Jong seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at the January meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

A motion to approve the following list was made by Soderlund. Siver seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Deputy Mayor – Soderlund

Parks & Building – Siver
Sewer & Water – Cook
Streets/Municipal Land and Grants – De Jong
Public Safety – Soderlund

Soderlund, as deputy mayor, will be added as a signer on the accounts for the City of Willernie, along with Mayor Baglio and clerk Vickie Keating. This will remove Barbara Parent as Mayor of the city and signer on the City of Willernie accounts.

CITY APPOINTMENTS

A motion to approve the city appointments was made by Soderlund. Siver seconded the motion, and the following were approved by the council.

Clerk-Treasurer – Vickie Keating
Building Inspector – Jack Kramer
Mechanical & Plumbing Inspector – John Manship/backup Jack Kramer
Official Bank – Midwestone
Newspaper – White Bear Press
Legal Firm – Galowitz Olson LLC
Auditor – Abdo, Eick and Myers
Cable Commission – Bev Friendt/Alternate Vickie Keating
Engineer – Bolton & Menk/Moore Engineering
Maintenance Representative – KEJ Enterprises

LIQUOR LICENSE APPROVAL

A motion to approve the following liquor licenses with the necessary paperwork was made by Soderlund, De Jong seconded the motion and passed.

Gordy's Steak House – On Sale and Sunday
Frigaard's – On Sale and Sunday
Wildwood Wine and Spirits – Off Sale

KEN REPORT

The city is running smoothly at this time. The truck did have some problems, but Ken fixed it last week.

Baglio complimented Ken on the plowing done Sunday and explained she had many positive comments from residents on the good job.

De Jong inquired about the timeline for the ploughing and Ken explained the ploughing began later due to the amount of snow falling. Ken watches the weather and decides when the ploughing should begin by measuring the amount of snow expected and how much is falling at the time.

Ken explained if it had been a Monday, the plough would have gone out earlier but since it was still snowing and it was a Sunday he waited until later.

WATER INCREASE

The water increase was tabled at the January meeting.

TECHNOLOGY POLICY

De Jong would like more time to review the document. The council tabled the policy until the February meeting.

EMERGENCY TRAINING

Siver attended the emergency training and learned some important facts about emergency situations if they should happen in the city. She recommends this training for any council members that are interested.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Baglio reminded the council about the Board of Review meeting in April and the training that is necessary for the council in order to hold this meeting.

Cook and De Jong will attend training before April.

CITY LOGO

Baglio presented the city logo; however, the vote was tabled until the February meeting.

REPORT ON CLYDE AND CRAIG

No new reports on Clyde and Craig at this time.

ORDINANCE UPDATE

Baglio asked about a review of the ordinance book and suggested the council review the changes, bring back suggestions next month.

De Jong is concerned about the fiscal responsibility concerning the ordinances and would like a special meeting to review the changes suggested in the ordinances.

YARDS IN VIOLATION

There was a complaint on 315 Stillwater Road – the complaint has been noted, and this address will continue to be reviewed.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Siver moved to approve the bills, Baglio seconded the motion and the bills were approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer