

Wall Lake City Council met in council chambers at 5:30 p.m. presided by Mayor Rohlf.

Councilmen present: Steinkamp, Riedell, Schroeder, Nuetzman and Bieret.

Visitors: Jim Wissler, John Meister, Jason and Shawn from MSA and Curtis Bloes.

Steinkamp made the motion to approve the agenda. Schroeder seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Schroeder made the motion to approve the minutes of the December 8th meeting as presented. Nuetzman seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Steinkamp made the motion to pay the bills as presented. Schroeder seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Public Forum: Wissler spoke to council about the resurfacing of the roads, talking to legislators about property tax reform and downsizing the jail and trying again in the future.

Discuss/Approve Sadie Jacobsen discussing future event opportunities: Sadie spoke with Schroeder about city park playground improvements. Schroeder informed the council that a group is forming to address improvements. The Clerk told the council that Wall Lake's Sesquicentennial is in 2027 so a celebration is important. The Clerk told council to start thinking about special events for the celebration.

Discuss/Approve MSA Engineering sewer project presentation: MSA presented to the council regarding the sewer project.

Discuss/Approve Fire Department Grant: Riedell made the motion to write a check to the WL Fire Department for \$28,629.42 for bunker gear. Nuetzman seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Business and Operations Update

- Election Results- The Clerk reported that Rohlf, Nuetzman and Bieret had the most votes. Bieret was welcomed to the city council.
- Letter from JEO Engineering: JEO Engineering is not interested in the project.
- Proposal from Alfred Engineering: Alfred Engineering would give an estimate at a cost to the city.

Discuss/Approve First Look Budget: The Clerk is continuing to work on the Budget. The first draft is due end of January, the proposed tax rate is due end of February. Reviewing and fine tuning the budget occurs in March and the budget gets finalized in April. Our valuation has gone up 10.52% from last year. Last year the city had a total 31 million total valuation. This

year our valuation is 34 million. This means if we ask for the same dollar amount as FY 2026 the levy rate will decrease from 11.51 to 11.26.

Discuss/Approve Resolution 2026-05; a resolution setting 2026 wages: Schroeder made the motion to approve Resolution 2026-05. Nuetzman seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve Resolution 2026-01; a resolution accepting the sealed bid for 303 Summit Street and setting a public hearing date for the sale of property: Nuetzman made the motion to approve Resolution 2026-01. Steinkamp seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve Resolution 2026-02; a resolution approving the LOSAP Program, service provider and authorized agent for the program: Riedell made the motion to approve Resolution 2026-02 and approve 3-year period to vest. Schroeder seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve December employee vacation, utility rec., budget status, clerks report: Bank account balances, checks, receipts, proprietary accounts, and taxes were discussed. During the presentation council asked questions. Riedell made the motion to approve the December Clerk's report. Steinkamp seconded. Riedell made the motion to approve the December Clerk's report. Steinkamp seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve Natural Gas Public Awareness survey giveaway: The Clerk would like to give away a combination smoke/carbon monoxide detector to people who turn in a completed survey. Nuetzman made the motion to spend \$2000 on detectors and when they're gone they're gone. Bieret seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve REC roof and siding project: Nuetzman made the motion to approve the cost of the exterior coverage for the REC. Steinkamp seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried. The Clerk would like to do the same for the other sides of the REC in the future.

Discuss/Approve community park utility bill: Nuetzman feels the owners of the park took that on and he does not think the citizens of Wall Lake should have to pay for the utilities. Steinkamp made the motion to not pay the utility bill for Community Park. Riedell seconded. Ayes: 4. Nuetzman Abstain 1. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve bucket truck repair or trade-in: Nuetzman reported that the guys that use the truck like it and would like to get it repaired rather than purchase another truck. Nuetzman made the motion to approve the bucket truck repairs. Schroeder seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Discuss/Approve Letter to constituents about the Endowment: The Clerk had the council review an Endowment Fund letter to be mailed out to residents seeking support. Endowment funds can only be used for beautification projects in the city.

Discuss/Approve zoning ordinance update: The Clerk read a rough draft of a zoning ordinance regarding shouses. Building permits for shouses would need to include a rendering or drawing of the building. The Clerk asked council if living space should be considered in an ordinance. Schroeder would like to table this and discuss the ordinance changes regarding shouses further. The Clerk would like to change the setback when constructing a building 3 ft. from an alley. The Council and Clerk discussed 5 ft. from the alley.

Discuss/Approve Twilight Acres Emergency Housing Agreement: Schroeder made the motion to approve the TWA Emergency Housing Agreement. Nuetzman seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Riedell made the motion to adjourn. Steinkamp seconded. Ayes: All. Motion carried.

Attest

Lynn Grosely
Deputy Clerk

