

**WAUSEON CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, February 2, 2026**

Mayor Huner called this meeting of the Wauseon City Council to order at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. She led the Pledge of Allegiance which was followed by a moment of silence. Roll was taken by the Clerk of Council. Present were Council President Chamberlin, Councilors Galbraith, Stickley, Simon, Tijerina, and Schneider, constituting a quorum.

COUNCIL HEARING

The Council Meeting was led into a public hearing pursuant to Article XI of the Charter on the removal of an elected official. The motion to go into public hearing was moved by Council Chamberlin and seconded by Council Galbraith.

No Discussion
6 yeas 0 nays
Motion carried

Mayor Huner and Attorney Bob Bohmer then read from the Wauseon Charter Section 11.01 for the process of removing an elected official from the City Council. Witnesses consisted of Sarah Heising, Chief Phil Kessler, Assistant Chief Jeremy Shirky, Human Resources Manager Michelle Wing, and Jamie Giguere. Each witness took an oath to tell the truth or risk the penalty of perjury. Each person explained their happenings and a discussion was had.

The motion to remove Harold Stickley under Wauseon Charter Section 11.01 was made by Council Galbraith and seconded by Council Simon.

Discussion: Council Tijerina stated that his decision was difficult and not taken lightly.

No Discussion
5 yeas 0 nays
Motion carried

Motion to end City Council Public hearing was made by Council Chamberlin and seconded by Council Schneider.

No Discussion
5 yeas 0 nays
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Huner asked for a motion to approve the prior meeting minutes and committee of the whole. Council Simon moved and seconded by Council Galbraith to approve the minutes as printed.

All in favor: *Motion Passed Unanimously*

PERSON WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Kevin Hite and Brandon Schantz addressed Council with questions and discussions were had along with Council members, both questioning the timing of the hearing and "why it took so long" to bring the allegations forward. Both attempted to compare to private industry. Mayor Huner explained to each of them that

Government entities are different and have different standards to follow, especially for the removal of an elected official. If this situation were an employee, they could have been dismissed immediately.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Simon provided a summary of the Tree Commission. Arbor day will be held at Reighard Park, there will be vendors and a speaker offering information on planting trees. No recommendations offered.

Council Schneider reports at the Utility/Finance Meeting. The EPA want 1.3 million to repair the Water Treatment Plant now and in 5-6 years 10 million GAC system installed. Thomas McWatters states that the administration will pursue discussions with the EPA regarding the installation of a GAC system at the Water Treatment Plant. A conference call with Terry Finn (attorney specializing in environmental), Tom McWatters and the EPA happened earlier in the day where EPA would like to see a letter of recommendation, timeline and budget. The Utility y Commission recommended to bypass the \$1.3 mill band-aid and go directly to the \$10 mill project and create the GAC system.

Motion to accept the recommendation of the joint meeting moved by Council Tijerina seconded by Council Chamberlin.

No Discussion
5 yeas 0 nays
Motion carried

Council Simon with the Utilities Department recommended increasing water rates 5 percent in March then 2 percent to help with the funding of the Water Treatment Plant's GAC system

Motion to accept Utilities recommendation was made by Council Chamberlin and seconded by Council Galbraith.

No Discussion
5 yeas 0 nays
Motion carried

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Phil Kessler, Fire Chief: The ambulance that was involved in an accident is back and running. The fire department has not had any problems or calls due to the weather.

Kevin Chittenden, Chief of Police: The D.A.R.E program for second graders will start February 3rd. Classes will be held one a week for 8 weeks. The Police Department will be supplied with new body cameras due to the body camera grant offered by the State.

Tom McWatters: Legislation Ordinance 2026-1, Resolution 2026-3 signed and certified copy for the Board.

FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION OR EMERGENCY

- a) **Ordinance 2026-1:** An Ordinance Directing the City Clerk to File a Copy of Proposed Charter Amendment Adding a New Section 6.10 to Create a Department of Building and Zoning for Placement

by the Board of Elections on the Ballot at the Next Regularly Scheduled Election; and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion to place Ordinance 2026-1 on emergency reading moved by Council Chamberlin and seconded by Council Simon.

No Discussion
5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion Carried

Motion to place Ordinance 2026-1 on final reading moved by Council Schneider and seconded by Council Tijerina.

No Discussion
5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion Carried

- b) **Resolution 2026-02:** A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into an Agreement with Fredericksen Engineering Services, LLC for engineering Services; and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion to place Resolution 2026-2 on emergency reading moved by Council Galbraith and seconded by Council Tijerina.

No Discussion
5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion Carried

Motion to place Resolution 2026-2 on final reading moved by Council Tijerina and seconded by Simon.

No Discussion
5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion Carried

- c) **Resolution 2026-3:** A Resolution Submitting to the Electors of the City of Wauseon the Question of an Additional Tax Levy for Parks and Recreational Purposes and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion to place Resolution 2026-3 on emergency reading moved by Council Schneider and seconded by Council Galbraith.

No Discussion
5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion Carried

Motion to place Resolution 2026-3 on final reading moved by Council Tijerina and seconded by Council Galbraith

No Discussion
5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion Carried

- d) **Resolution 2026-4:** A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Advertise for Bids for the HI Service Valve System Replacement at the Water Treatment Plant; Authorizing the Mayor to Accept the Lowest and Best Bid; and Authorizing the Mayor to Enter a Contract with the Lowest and Best Bidder; and Declaring an Emergency.

Motion to place Resolution 2026-4 on emergency reading moved by Council Chamberlin and seconded by Council Simon.

No Discussion
5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion Carried

Motion to place Resolution 2026-4 on final reading moved by Council Simon and seconded by Council Galbraith.

No Discussion
Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays
Motion carried

SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION OR EMERGENCY

There was no legislation for second reading.

THIRD READING OF LEGISLATION OR EMERGENCY

There is no legislation for third reading.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Chamberlin recommended new assignment for council members upon the removal of Council Stickley.

Motion to accept Council assignments moved by Council Tijerina and seconded by Council Simon.

No Discussion
5 yeas 0 nays
Motion Carried

Recommendation to offer vacant Council member seat to Sarah Heising, if not accepted then move to Kevin Hite, moved by Council Chamberlin seconded by Council Galbraith.

Discussion: Council members had a discussion.
5 yeas 0 nays
Motion carried

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

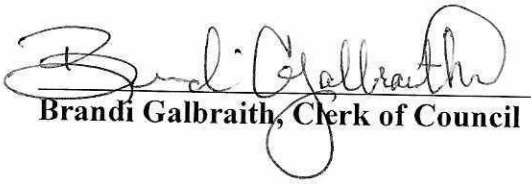
Council Schneider moved and seconded by Council Simon to approve and pay the bills as presented.

All in favor: *Motion Passed Unanimously*

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Huner asked for a motion to adjourn. Moved by Council Chamberlin and seconded by Councilor Simon to adjourn this meeting at 6:44 p.m.

All in favor: *Motion Passed Unanimously*


Brandi Galbraith, Clerk of Council


Shane Chamberlin, President of Council