



**CITY OF WALESKA  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
February 3, 2025**

**Present:** Mary Helen Lamb - Mayor  
Peter Brown - Councilmember  
Dennis Cochran - Pro Tem  
Eddie Blackwell - Councilmember  
Robyn Smith - Receptionist  
Chris Lumpkin - Water Maintenance  
John Meier - City Attorney  
Lamar Rogers - Turnipseed Engineers

**Absent:** Logan Patrick - Councilmember  
Michael Greene - Councilmember  
Kristi Bosch - Councilmember  
Kim Kirsch - City Clerk/City Manager

**Item 1: Call to Order**  
Mayor Mary Helen Lamb called the meeting to order, with a quorum present.

**Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance/Innovation**  
Mayor Lamb led the Pledge to the Flag

**Item 3: Five Minute Public Hearing**  
Mr. Holmes addressed the mayor and council about the \$250.00 lock-cutting fee and a \$50.00 late fee he was charged. After discussion it was decided that the \$250.00 and the \$50.00 fee would be removed from his account. A motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Brown, and approved by all members present.

This spurred on a conversation about our code of ordinance matching the message on our monthly bills and our water service application. Work needs to be done to make sure these three documents match. The city will communicate with our attorney and municode and the mayor and council will be kept informed.

**Item 4: Consideration to Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes January 27, 2025**

Mayor Mary Helen Lamb asked for a motion to approve the Regular Council Minutes for January 27, 2025. A motion was made by Councilmember Cochran, seconded by Councilmember Brown, and approved by all members present.

**Item 5: Tacie Jo Bracken – discuss city savings account status and employee sick time**

- Mrs. Bracken informed the council that we have a couple of small savings accounts from several years back. One is for \$10,500.00 at Regions Bank. The other is \$2,500.00 at United Community Bank. Mrs. Bracken asked the council if it would be okay for her to move those funds to the general fund account. Mr. Cochran remembers the reason for those accounts was to have a small “emergency fund”. These funds could be used for paying out accrued sick time if needed. There was discussion to table this until the next meeting when more of the council members can attend. A motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Brown, and approved by all members present.
- Mrs. Bracken discussed with the council how there is confusion about how many sick time accrual hours employees of the city can have. One source says 472 hours and another says 80 hours. There was also discussion that sick and vacation time be lumped into one PTO (paid time off) basket. It was decided to table this topic as well until more of the council can be present. A motion was made by Councilmember Blackwell, seconded by Councilmember Brown, and approved by all members present.

**Item 6: Jody with the Farmer’s Market – discuss this year’s schedule**

- Jody informed the council that the dates for the 2025 Farmer’s Market will be the first Thursday in May and run through the last Thursday in September. Mrs. Smith mentioned that the city will arrange for a porta-pot to be on location for folks working and attending the Farmer’s Market. It was also discussed that the Farmer’s Market is covered under the hold harmless clause of the City’s Insurance Policy. Mrs. Smith has verified that in years past. The hours will be from 9AM till 1PM.

**Item 7: Water System Report**

- Mr. Lumpkin updated the council on our ongoing research into water loss. He let the council know that Mr. Purcell with Kendall Supply had gone with him to look at the main meter at Reinhardt University that is now registering low when reads are done. Mr. Lumpkin and Mr. Purcell took the meter apart and flushed it. They took two separate reads to gauge the usage. That usage was only 80 gallons. Mr. Lumpkin will coordinate with Mr. Rodgers from Turnipseed Engineering to inspect

this meter next Friday. Mr. Lumpkin and Mr. Rodgers will update the council as to what they find and go from there.

- Mr. Lumpkin discussed Ammons Road. Years ago, a customer installed this line. Mr. Lumpkin is looking for clarification if this is now the city's line. Councilmember Cochran is of the opinion that this is now the city's line by default due to the time lapse since installation, and the city should be doing all the work that is necessary to this line. Mr. Meier suggested we need to have a recorded easement and an inspection. Mrs. Smith believes there is a contract somewhere that says this line is the property of the city. She will look for that contract or a blank contract to have the property owner sign that installed the line. Mr. Lumpkin will update the council at the next meeting.

**Item 8: City Manager's Report**

- Mrs. Smith handed out the monthly balance sheet for the council to review – no questions.
- Mrs. Smith informed the council that she spoke to Mr. Buice. He stated in the phone conversation that his wife had received the Easement Agreement signed them and mailed back to Mr. Meier about four months ago. Mr. Meier stated those were the documents that were signed incorrectly, not witnessed or notarized. Mrs. Smith said Mr. Buice was going to speak to his wife to verify and call her back but she had not heard back from either one of them. Mr. Meier stated he had sent the updated documents to Mrs. Kirsch for her to try and contact the Buice's for a correct signature and he had not heard back on that. Mr. Lumpkin advised the council that Mrs. Kirsch is out of town for training and the two of them will go to the Buice property and attempt to have Mrs. Buice sign the documents next week.

**Item 9: City Attorney's Report**

- Mr. Meier discussed two past due tax bills due to the owners passing away last year. He drew up a claim submittal for each property to be signed by Mrs. Kirsch and then he can submit it online. A couple of the council members are going to reach out to the families of these properties to verify they know the taxes are past due and feel like these funds will be paid at that time and the submittal of the attorney's forms will be unnecessary. Mrs. Kirsch will update the council at the next meeting.

**Item 10: Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Lamb informed the council that Mr. Carl Hawthorn had approached her about running a water line past the bridge on Highway 140 to Little Refuge Road for possible development. The developer he is working with will have 5 acre lots (give or take) and around 38 homes. At this time the city is not financially prepared for that large of

a project so as of now the answer would be no, we are not able to run a line to Little Refuge Road.

**Item 11: Council Remarks**

- Councilmember Brown notified the council that the homeowner of 175 Forest Glenn Drive is asking to be reimbursed for landscaping due to a water leak in the amount of \$2,395.00. The leak was in the right-of-way so therefore the city is not liable for repairs. Mr. Lumpkin volunteered to go to the property and replace the mulch. Mr. Lumpkin will update Mrs. Kirsch about this situation and they will update the council at the next meeting.
- Councilmember Cochran asked Mr. Rodgers what the status is on the water line for Highway 108. Mr. Rodgers will be out Friday to walk that line. He will keep the council updated as things progress.

**Item 12: Adjourn Regular Council Meeting**

APPROVED THIS 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF February, 2025.

Mary Helen Lamb  
Mary Helen Lamb, Mayor

Attest:  
Kim Kirsch  
Kim Kirsch, City Clerk