

THE LEADER-NEWS

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City of Wilton approves public comment policy

Individuals will be allotted 3 minutes to make comments

BY KELLI AMELING
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

City leaders in Wilton updated their public comment policy to meet new legislation passed during the 69th Legislative Assembly.

During the Oct. 5 City Commission meeting held at Wilton City Hall, the commissioners discussed and approved a public comment policy.

The policy was set in place to meet state requirements.

Century Code

According to North Dakota Century Code 44-04-19, all meetings of public entity must be open to the public, except as otherwise provided by law.

“Public entities are required to include a public comment opportunity during their regular meetings, with specific guidelines on the format and limitations of comments,” the statute stated. “The bill aims to enhance public participation and transparency in local government meetings while maintaining an orderly and productive meeting environment.”

Public comment policy

The new policy stated the public comment agenda item will be first non-procedural agenda item at all regular meetings of the city of Wilton.

“To provide public comment, each individual must submit a speaker card prior to the meeting being called to order that includes the individuals name, address, the agenda item from the current meeting agenda or the previous meeting agenda that the individual is addressing,” the policy stated.

Missing information will disqualify the individual from speaking at the meeting.

Each person who qualifies to speak will get 3 minutes to make their comments, and the speaker will be notified when that 3 minutes has expired.

The total public comment period will be limited to 30 minutes total, “regardless of how many individuals have submitted speaker cards.”

Individuals are unable to allot their time to other people.

“Individuals will be called on to present public comments in the order that speaker cards were submitted,” the policy stated.

All comments must include:

Address the agenda item identified on the speaker card

City cont. on 8



LEADER-NEWS | PHAIDRA YUNKER

The sheriff reveals “whodunnit” to the gathered townsfolk during Wilton Public School’s performance of *The Day the Internet Died*. The one-act comedy, directed by Lia Buechele and Hannah Sloka, was staged before about 60 people.



The mayor and sheriff break the news to frustrated townsfolk that the internet has gone dark during Wilton Public School’s performance of *The Day the Internet Died* Thursday, Nov. 6. The one-act comedy, directed by Lia Buechele and Hannah Sloka, drew laughs from about 60 attendees.

Logged-off laughs

Wilton cast performs one-act

BY PHAIDRA YUNKER
REPORTER

About 60 people attended Wilton Public School’s performance of *The Day the Internet Died* by Ian McWethy and Jason Pizarella on Thursday, Nov. 6. The play was directed by Lia Buechele and Hannah Sloka.

Parents of the cast served

dinner before the show.

The cast and crew included Raina Backman, Calissa Cleveland, Carter Cleveland, Piper Grossman, Caleb Jans, Reed Perrson, Matthew Quinn, Stella Rust, Brodie Snyder, Lily Solberg, Brooklyn Steinert, Emma Vesey and Nora Vesey.

The group will perform the play at the North Dakota Class B One-Act Play

regional competition in Hazen on Nov. 12. The North Dakota High School Activities Association sponsors the contest, which allows schools across the state to present one-act productions before judges. Top performances advance to the state festival.

More photos from Thursday’s performance are on page 9.



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