

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BAKER CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023 IN THE FALLON COUNTY COURTROOM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor; Steve Zachmann, Councilor; Mike Loutzenhiser, Brittany Hoversland, Tracey Goerndt via teleconference, City Attorney; Rich Batterman, Police Chief; Justin LaCroix, Public Works Foreman; Kyle Rogge and Clerk Treasurer; Kevin Dukart.

ABSENT: Councilor; Pat Ehret

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to approve the Consent Agenda Minutes of February 15, 2023 and Claims for February 2023 as listed. Motion Carried. All Aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

Clerk Dukart reported that Karol Zachmann, representing the Leaping Leprechaun Pub Crawl requested to amend the Facilities Use Agreement to include lift Open Container Ordinance on 2nd ST W from Montana to Railroad Avenues for the event. Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve the amendment. Motion Carried. All Aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to defer consideration of Resolution #743, a Resolution requesting distribution of Bridge and Road Safety Program funds until consideration of this matter is settled by the Montana Legislature. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Clerk Dukart presented the MMIA Employee Benefits renewal information. The anticipated medical rate increase is not final, but 10% to 13% has been quoted. Clerk Dukart requested to reduce the number of hours required to work per week to be eligible from 30 to 25 and to add the Orthodontic Benefit for \$1 per month per employee as a benefit. Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to approve the renewal for MMIA Employee Benefits, reduce required work time to 25 hours per week provided the employee will pay a prorated share of premium and to add the Orthodontic Benefit. Motion Carried. All Aye.

CLERK TREASURER INPUT:

Kevin reported on equipment upgrades to the city office; 1 computer for the Deputy Clerk, 1 printer for the City Clerk and 1 laptop for the purpose of meter reading.

The notice of the upcoming municipal election was also available.

Clerk Dukart thanked the City Council for the renewal of the Health Insurance Benefit, it is greatly appreciated.

MAYOR INPUT:

Steve thanked citizens for remaining positive during the harsh winter weather and the constant battle to keep the city streets in driving condition.

CITY ATTORNEY INPUT:

Rich reported that he took part in a criminal mediation, his first and was impressed with the outcome.

Rich has trials upcoming in Wolf Point, Billings and Baker within the next month due to this schedule he may not be available to attend the March 22nd meeting.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Hoversland – Hopes Pat is recovering and will be back to normal soon. Brittany thanked the public works for their snow removal efforts. Go Spartans!!

Goerndt – None

Loutzenhiser – Mike reported that Joe and Beth Epley and family will be moving from Baker and would like the city to recognize them for their community efforts. Thank you for snow plowing.

The following payroll was approved for payment:

3546 Pattie Ehret \$310.46, 3547 Brittany Hoversland \$346.31, PERD vendor liability \$2,296.91, MPERA vendor liability \$4,682.95, Nationwide Retirement emp w/h \$600.00, Dept. of Treasury emp w/h \$8,125.77, MT Dept. of Revenue emp w/h \$1,550.56, MMIA health ins. Vendor liability \$11,862.10, ACH deposits: Albert Batterman \$2,881.39, Thomas Bruha \$294.29, Brenda Dietz \$2,672.83, Larry Donnelly \$1,282.59, Kevin Dukart \$1,532.22, Tracey Goerndt \$260.46, Blayne Higgins \$1,816.20, Ryan James \$39.58, Justin LaCroix \$2,081.38, Michael Loutzenhiser \$339.56, Jaramie McLean \$1,071.33, Rodney Morris \$2,001.51, Theresa Myers \$1,085.08, Bryan Nevers \$1,751.73, Kyle Rogge \$1,391.82, Ashley Rost \$813.13, Cody Strandbakke \$1,067.02, Anna Straub \$1,486.23, Tyler Travis \$1,422.28, Sheena Veazey \$1,365.27, Steven Zachmann \$818.95.

Total payroll: \$57,249.93

The following claims were approved as listed:

14908 American Welding supplies \$21.78, 14909 Baker Ace Hardware supplies \$342.93, 14910 Bank of Baker supplies \$82.41, Batterman Law Office stipend \$2,000.00, 14912 Boss Office Products supplies \$1,189.69, 14913 Brosz Engineering SID #36, watermain, 6th ST paving, \$61,547.50, 14914 Carquest parts \$487.37, 14915 City of Baker petty cash dep refunds postage \$623.03, 14916 Denning, Downing & Associates services AFR, cap assets \$5,612.50, Kevin Dukart travel subsistence \$30.00, 14918 energy Lab water samples \$829.75, 14919 Fallon County Treasurer planning, building, tipping fees \$4,829.61, 14920 Fallon County Water District collections \$3,480.71, 14921 Fallon Medical Complex DOT physical \$220.00, 14922 Farmers Union tank rental \$75.00, 14923 Brenda Flint services \$75.00, 14924 Galls LLC supplies \$267.74, 14925 Hawkins Inc. supplies \$5,593.19, 14926 Blayne Higgins subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 14927 Insurance Store treasurer bond \$160.00, 14928 Joe Johnson Equipment repairs \$15,893.40, 14929 KLJ Engineering zoning sign \$88.67, 14930 Justin LaCroix subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 14931 Terry Lamberson payout final royalty \$3.34, 14932 Jaramie McLean safety boots reimbursement \$199.95, 14933 MDU utilities \$7,529.00, 14934 Mid-Rivers phone services \$1,048.06, MT DEQ outfall charge \$850.00, 14936 Bryan Nevers subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 14937 North Baker Water District collections \$18,356.06, 14938 Northwest Pipefittings parts \$8,359.18, 14939 PowerPlan parts & repairs \$3,551.45, 14940 Precision Parts & Supply parts \$287.30, 14941 Kyle Rogge per diem reimbursement \$60.00, 14942 Rolling Rubber repair \$50.00, 14943 Rost Construction building demo \$400.00, 14944 Runnings Supply Inc supplies \$301.93, 14945 Safety-Kleen supplies \$226.74, 14946 Sew What plaque \$69.55, 14947 Cody Strandbakke subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 14948 SWS Equipment parts \$731.86, 14949 The Badlands Patriot LLC publishing, supplies \$653.01, 14950 The Chemnet Consortium services \$180.00, 14951 US Bank Voyager fuel \$5,381.45, 14952 Utilities Underground Location locate requests \$12.74, 14953 Verizon Wireless cell services \$209.20, 14954 VISA registration \$199.67.

Total claims: \$152,844.09

There having been no further business to come before the Baker City Council at this time, Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Brittany Hoversland to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. Motion Carried. All Aye.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk Treasurer