

THE REGULAR BAKER CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE FALLON COUNTY COURTROOM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor; Steve Zachmann, Councilors; Pat Ehret, Brittany Hoversland, Tracey Goerndt, Mike Loutzenhiser, City Attorney; Rich Batterman, Police Chief; Justin LaCroix, Director of Public Works; Rod Morris, Fire Chief; Tom Bruha and Clerk Treasurer; Kevin Dukart.

GUESTS: Jason Griffith, Lacey Berg, Vaughn Zenko and C. B. Heiser.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Mayor Zachmann requested to add to the agenda; Baker Clean Up Days. No objection.

Motion by Pat Ehret, second by Tracey Goerndt to approve the Consent Agenda Minutes of March 22, 2023 and Claims for March 2023. Motion Carried. All Aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

Reviewed the lone bid for Park Maintenance for the upcoming year from Tod and Lisa Passmore. The approximate cost will be about \$71,000 for the entire year. Lisa had indicated they would provide a Certificate of Insurance to comply with the limits required in the bid.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve the Park Maintenance bid as submitted, contingent on providing of a proper Certificate of Insurance. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Attorney Batterman agreed to draft a contract for these services.

Vaughn Zenko and Lacey Berg were present to discuss the Food Forrest Grant Project. It was clarified that the city would donate the use of land for the project near the softball fields south of Baker Lake.

Attorney Batterman will draft an Interlocal Agreement between the city and SMART for the Food Forrest Project.

Clerk Dukart discussed a request for a donation for the Firework's Fund, previously the city donated \$500.00. Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to defer this matter until the next meeting to gather more information on the status of funds available for the fireworks display. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Members of Baker High School Senior Class requested to have the city place banners on the State Highway.

Brittany noted that this was originally done because of COVID. Mayor Zachmann stated the cost for the city to place and remove the banners is approximately \$1,200 in labor and equipment.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Pat Ehret that for this year, we request the Senior Class to contribute up to \$1,200 for this service. Motion Carried. All Aye.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT:

~~Rest~~ Rod reported that they have been working on potholes on mainly 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Streets West. These are only temporary repairs as the ground is not dry yet.

The crew repaired a water leak last week Friday until 11:00 p.m. on 1<sup>st</sup> Street West. The clamp was corroded at a service line. Rod asked if the city would consider paying for a meal for the crew in situations like this in the future?

Rod stated that he would like to prepare an ad to hire a temporary 32 hr. per week opening for this upcoming summer for consideration at the next meeting. The main duties will be street sweeping, mowing and weed spraying.

CLERK TREASURER INPUT:

The Employee Benefits Health Insurance renewal was available. The increase in the medical rate was 9%, which is the largest increase for quite some time.

MAYOR INPUT:

Steve noted that drivers have run over some of the cones that have been placed near the potholes and cautioned drivers to be aware of that.

Thank you to the city crew for their work on the water leak.

Steve reported that My City Pocket is inactive currently and he has been using Facebook for public notifications.

CITY ATTORNEY INPUT:

Rich reported that he's completed 3 trials in the past 3 weeks, so he is now catching up on other office work.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Pat Ehret – Is glad to be back.

Hoversland – Thank you to public works for repairing potholes. Thank you to Vaughn Zenko for his radio entertainment to the county, it is the end of an era.

Goerndt – none

Loutzenhiser – Thank you to the city crew for their hard work.

The following payroll was approved for payment:

3549 Pattie Ehret \$310.46, 3550 Brittany Hoversland \$346.31, 3551 MMIA health ins. \$20,457.65, PERD vendor liability \$2,336.69, MPERA vendor liability \$5,279.18, Nationwide Retirement emp w/h \$600.00, Dept. of Treasury IRS emp w/h \$9,239.10, MT Dept. of Revenue emp w/h \$1,767.28, ACH Deposits: Albert Batterman \$2,881.39, Thomas Bruha \$294.29, Brenda Dietz \$1,775.05, Larry Donnelly \$1,380.53, Kevin Dukart \$1,763.61, Tracey Goerndt \$260.46, Blayne Higgins \$1,338.85, Jill Hildebrand \$582.19, Justin LaCroix \$2,081.38, Michael Loutzenhiser \$339.56, Jaramie McClean \$1,437.45, Rodney Morris \$1,919.69, Theresa Myers \$963.91, Bryan Nevers \$1,819.97, Kyle Rogge \$1,962.26, Ashley Rost \$737.80, Cody Strandbakke \$1,809.23, Anna Straub \$1,486.23, Tyler Travis \$1,560.89, Sheena Veazey \$1,862.73, Steven Zachmann \$818.95.

Total payroll: \$63,153.84

The following claims were approved for payment as listed:

14956 Michael Rost purchase mineral interest \$100.00, 14957 Alpine Energy LLC royalty \$208.36, 14958 Baker Ace Hardware supplies \$106.28, 14959 Baker Drug supplies \$22.74, 14960 Baker Metal & Recycling supplies \$139.20, 14961 Baker Rural Fire Dist. ladder truck pymt. \$17,500.00, 14962 Bank of Baker zone & variance permit refund \$450.00, 14963 Batterman Law Office stipend \$2,000.00, 14964 Boss Office Products supplies \$1,451.37, 14965 Kevin Braun house demolition \$400.00, 14966 Brosz Engineering SID #36, 6<sup>th</sup> ST \$18,477.50, 14967 Carquest parts \$477.00, 14968 City of Baker petty cash postage, dep. Refund \$562.12, 14969 Crazy Mountain Inc. prepare 4<sup>th</sup> quarter taxes \$500.00, 14970 Direct Electric well #6 \$402.28, 14971 DNOW supplies \$9.90, 14972 Larry Donnelly safety boots reimbursement \$199.99, 14973 Kevin Dukart travel subsistence \$30.00, 14974 Energy Lab CCR & samples \$191.00, 14975 Fallon County Treasurer building maint., tipping fees \$5,757.74, 14976 Fallon County Water District collections \$4,852.96, 14977 Fallon Medical Complex pre-employment services \$220.00, 14978 Brenda Flint

services \$75.00, 14979 Galls Inc. supplies \$22.39, 14980 Griffith Steel repair shop door \$705.00, 14981 Blayne Higgins subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 14982 Joe Johnson Equipment parts \$89.87, 14983 Justin LaCroix subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 14984 Lang Properties LLC Jan. & Feb royalty \$312.55, 14985 LN Curtis supplies \$252.30, 14986 MDU utilities \$8,743.87, 14987 Mid-Rivers phone services \$1,045.17, 14988 Rod Morris travel reimbursement \$841.76, 14989 Bryan Nevers subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 14990 North Baker Water District collections \$14,246.20, 14991 PowerPlan parts \$2,413.57, 14992 Precision Parts & Supply parts \$1,369.72, 14993 Reynolds supplies \$50.17, 14994 Kyle Rogge meal per diem \$23.00, 14995 Rolling Rubber services \$66.31, 14996 Kathleen Rosencranz sub Judge mileage \$52.71, 14997 Runnings supplies \$172.67, 14998 Scout Energy Management Jan. & Feb. operating expense \$156.79, 14999 Cody Strandbakke subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 15000 The Badlands Patriot LLC publishing \$253.60, 15001 US Bank Voyager fuel \$5,755.49, 15002 US Postal Service stamps \$324.60, 15003 Verizon cell service \$209.20, 15004 VISA supplies & registration \$478.36.

Total claims: \$92,452.06

There having been no further business to come before the Baker City Council, Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Tracey Goerndt to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Motion Carried. All Aye.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk Treasurer