

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BAKER CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE FALLON COUNTY COURTROOM.

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

GUESTS: Cheryl Niemerg, Trish Rost, Karol Zachmann and Jason Griffith.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Trish Rost inquired about the condition of a new culvert near the Todd and Lisa Passmore residence.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Pat Ehret to approve the Consent Agenda, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 6, 2023 with two corrections. Motion Carried. All Aye.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Karol Zachmann requested permission to sponsor Christmas in the Park on Saturday, November 25th. They would like to have a tree as in the past, utilize fire pits, patio heaters and have the electrical panel checked at the gazebo. This is to be held at Steve McClain Park. They would begin decorating on the 11th and 18th. Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Pat Ehret to allow the use of the park for this purpose. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Tracey Goerndt to approve Pay Application #1, SID #36 Schedule I, Hardrives Construction gross amount of \$1,315,665.24. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve Pay Application #1, SID #36 Schedule III, Diamond J Construction gross amount \$1,008,282.30. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Pat Ehret, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve Pay Application #4, 6th ST Watermain Replacement Schedule IV, JK Excavation gross amount \$12,366.64. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Pat Ehret to approve Change Order #1, SID #36 Schedule III, Diamond J Construction, \$55,025.00 increase. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve Change Order #2, SID #36 Schedule I, Hardrives Construction \$85,277.35 increase. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve Resolution #753, a Resolution Amending Resolution #750 to Reflect Reduced Interest Payments SID # 36. Loutzenhiser, Goerndt, Ehret and Hoversland voted aye. Motion Carried.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to approve Resolution #754, a Resolution of the City of Baker Montana Canceling the November 7, 2023 General Election for Certain Municipal Officers. Loutzenhiser, Goerndt, Ehret and Hoversland voted aye. Motion Carried.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Pat Ehret to approve on call planning services with Peaks and Planning Consulting LLC effective October 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Pat Ehret to approve cost of flu shots for those employees and officials not covered by MMIA or other insurance benefits. Hoversland, Ehret, Loutzenhiser voted aye, and Goerndt voted nay. Motion Carried.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

Josh updated the Schedule III, 6th Street, they are planning to put the 1st paving lift this week depending on the weather.

Schedule I, chip seal, the contactor plans to be back next week to continue doing the fog seal, then work on the change order as scheduled to be completed prior to October 21st.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT:

Rod stated the estimate to replace the generator at the lagoon from RDO is going to be approximately \$10,000.

POLICE DEPT. INPUT:

Justin reported that they will assist with the Homecoming Parade and have been hosting the kindergarten class with the lunch with a Cop program this past week. The department has opened two large investigations.

CLERK TREASURER REPORT:

Kevin stated that the bond closure is scheduled for September 15th for \$3,100,000.00 and will invest funds in the Money Market account until needed for payments. The SID assessments have all been delivered to the assessment office.

MAYOR INPUT:

Steve stated that he is impressed with the chip seal and the fog seal to date. Steve thanked the Fallon County Times and KFLN assisting with public information on the project.

CITY ATTORNEY INPUT:

Rich was one of 400 attorneys who attended training in Billings last week for the State Bar Association convention. Rich stated that he is working with Kevin on potential zone changes to accessory structures in the residential areas. This will be sent to the Zoning Commission for public hearing prior to a recommendation to the City Council.

CITY COUNCIL INPUT:

Ehret – Thank you to Josh and to the contractors for their work on the street project.

Hoversland – Homecoming is next week. Thank you to Justin and the Police Dept. for their willingness to assist with the upcoming Homecoming Parade.

Goerndt – Commented on how nice the streets are turning out.

Loutzenhiser – Mike expressed appreciation to those who are working on the street project.

The following payroll was approved for payment:

PERD vendor liability \$2,892.38, MPERA vendor liability \$4,281.48, Nationwide Retirement emp w/h \$800.00, Dept. of Treasury emp w/h \$8,706.78, MT Dept. of Revenue emp w/h \$1,654.96, ACH deposits: Brenda Dietz \$1,818.55, Larry Donnelly \$1,771.73, Kevin Dukart \$1,451.30, Blayne Higgins \$1,554.76, Justin LaCroix \$2,364.91, Jaramie McLean \$1,637.54, Rodney Morris \$2,156.09, Bryan Nevers \$2,015.59, Kyle Rogge \$1,890.37, Ashley Rost \$897.89, Cody Strandbakke \$2,530.57, Tyler Travis \$1,902.86, Sheena Veazey \$2,227.57.

Total payroll \$43,055.33

There having been no further business to come before the Baker City Council at this time, Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Tracey Goerndt to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Motion Carried. All Aye.

_____ Mayor _____

_____ Clerk Treasurer