

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BAKER CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD WEDNESDAY, October 18, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE FALLON COUNTY COURTROOM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor; Steve Zachmann, Councilors; Pat Ehret, Britany Hoversland, Tracey Goerndt and via telephone conference Mike Loutzenhiser, City Attorney; Rich Batterman, Director of Public Works; Rod Morris, City Engineer; Shannon Hewson, Deputy Clerk, Brenda Dietz.

ABSENT: Clerk Treasurer; Kevin Dukart & Police Chief; Justin LaCroix

GUESTS: Jason Griffith & Brad Mosher

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Mayor Zachmann requested to add to the agenda approval to advertise for a vacant public work's operator position. This item was approved to add.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Tracey Goerndt to approve the Consent Agenda, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 4, 2023 with one correction. Motion Carried. All Aye.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Zachmann informed the council of the proposal from Brosz Engineering to redo city utility mapping using GIS, which would include water and sewer lines.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Pat Ehret to approve the ARC GIS mapping system proposal from Brosz Engineering in the amount of \$18,000 the first year and \$2,000 per year following for a 5-year period. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Mayor Zachmann updated the council on the non-residency of Carson Beach, who serves on several city boards. Steve also commended Carson for his service on these boards.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Pat Ehret to declare positions on city boards held by Carson Beach vacant. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Steve reported that Fallon County has requested solid waste services from the City of Baker at their properties.

Rich inquired if a notification should be sent to G & G and make sure Fallon County has terminated their service with G & G Garbage.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Brittany Hoversland to accept the Interlocal Agreement with Fallon County for the city to provide solid waste disposal services. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to terminate the Interlocal Agreement for the Funding and Operation of the Fallon County Planning Board and Use of Planning Staff. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Mayor Zachmann informed all that Clerk Dukart will be responsible for setting up the board meetings, which he is currently doing and we now have a contract planner which is Forrest Sanderson.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Pat Ehret to allow EPEDC to assist with the application for a CDBG Planning grant to update the water system preliminary engineer report. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Rod requested to declare the 1991 Chevrolet, unit #17 and 2024 Chevrolet Silverado, unit #31, surplus property and requested to trade for a 2006 Chevrolet 1 ton for a cash difference of \$4,900. This would be to update to a 4-wheel drive vehicle with a new engine.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Pat Ehret to declare units #17 & #31 surplus and approve request to trade both vehicles for the 2006 Chevrolet for a difference of \$4,900 to be split between the water & sewer funds. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Brittany Hoversland to accept Pay App #2 for SID #36 Schedule III from Diamond J Construction in the amount of \$659,642.51. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Pat Ehret to hold Pay App #2 for Hardrives Construction until the November 1st meeting. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Tracy Goerndt, second by Brittany Hoversland to apply for Montana Community Foundation Community Investment Program Grant for replacement and improvement of restroom and RV water and wastewater station at Walt Kreager Park. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Mayor Zachmann would like to see a redesign with restroom doors on the south side of the building and move the RV dump to the north side of the property.

Steve requested to begin advertising for a vacant Public Works Operator position due to the resignation of Larry Donnelly. This position would require a CDL. Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to grant this request. Motion Carried. All Aye.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Shannon reported that Hardrives is working on Prairie Ave. on a failed portion of pavement. They have received the punch list and have some small areas to clean up.

Diamond J Construction, concrete is complete, and he will be meeting with them on Monday to go through the punch list.

Tracey inquired about the 2nd street area by the football field for possible failure.

Shannon stated that some pavement on this street was new when the storm drain was put in. Some areas will still need to be addressed later. Shannon reported that on SID #36 they are \$200,000 under for construction and \$80,000 under for engineering.

FIRE DEPT. INPUT:

Tom reported that the Fire Dept. went to local schools, daycares and the library for Fire Prevention Week. They have completed fire hydrant testing and have completed a list of necessary repairs for the city.

PUBLIC WORKS INPUT:

Rod reported that the crew have begun repairing and replacing hydrants on the previous mentioned list from the Fire Dept.

CLERK'S INPUT:

Brenda stated that the Sept. 2023 Financial Report & the Quarterly Investment Report were included in Councilors packets for review.

MAYOR'S INPUT:

Steve mentioned that it was nice to see the street project coming to an end. There, of course, will be those areas that will need to be addressed later.

Mayor Zachmann also informed the council that Wayne Mangold, representing Baker TV District board, requested a letter of support on behalf of the city in regarding updating local TV broadcasting equipment through a grant. They are also looking at the possibility of getting a

weather channel for the Baker area. The TV District will be asking other businesses and entities for additional letters of support.

CITY ATTORNEY INPUT:

Rich stated that there have been several DUI Plea Agreements, it has been very busy and law enforcement officers are doing a great job. Rich has also been in contact with Forrest Sanderson in regard to planning services, they discussed combining city boards. He will also be attending a conference in Helena on the 1st.

CITY COUNCIL INPUT:

Ehret – The streets look very nice.

Hoversland – None

Goerndt – Invited everyone to the Haunted Hayride this Saturday and next Saturday.

Loutzenhiser – Thanked everyone for their hard work.

The following payroll was approved for payment:

PERD vendor liability \$2,476.34, MPERA vendor liability \$3,409.16, Nationwide Retirement emp w/h \$800.00, Dept. of Treasury IRS emp w/h \$6,779.10, MT Dept. of Revenue emp w/h \$1,280.63, Unemployment Ins. vendor liability \$206.85, ACH Deposits: Brenda Dietz \$1,441.87, Larry Donnelly \$1,342.94, Kevin Dukart \$1,403.49, Blayne Higgins \$1,938.02, Justin LaCroix \$2,121.15, Jaramie McLean \$1,353.28, Rodney Morris \$1,966.97, Bryan Nevers \$1,285.51, Kyle Rogge \$1,388.82, Ashley Rost \$717.50, Cody Strandbakke \$1,992.57, Tyler Travis \$1,515.03, Sheena Veazey \$1,701.79.

Total payroll: \$35,121.02

There having been no further business to come before the Baker City Council at this time, Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Pat Ehret to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Motion Carried. All Aye.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk Treasurer