

THE REGULAR BAKER CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 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 via telephone, Fire Chief; Tom Bruha, Director of Public Works; Rod Morris, Police Chief; Justin LaCroix and Clerk Treasurer; Kevin Dukart.

GUESTS: Randy Morris, Nancy Strain, Tina Rost, Tricia Rost, Eli Ravage and Kazden Hoversland.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Patricia Rost thanked Tracey Goerndt and Brittany Hoversland for their past service to the City of Baker.

Mayor Zachmann performed the Oath of Office for Councilors Nancy Strain and Randy Morris.

Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to approve the Consent Agenda the Minutes of December 6, 2023. Motion Carried. All Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

The holiday party is scheduled for Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 5:30 social hour, 6:30 meal at the American Legion Club. Final cost estimates are \$45 per plate with \$200 for door prizes. Depending on the number of attendees, the price per plate may be less. Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to approve this cost for a holiday party. Motion Carried. All Aye.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Council viewed a quote from Dakota Playground to replace the tunnel slide which is damaged located at Steve McClain Park. Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve the quote for Dakota Playground at \$7,868.25. Councilor Goerndt asked if this needs to be replaced with new, and if grants would be available or other sources of funding? Mike rescinded his motion. Motion by Tracey Goerndt, second by Mike Loutzenhiser to table this item until more information can be gathered or options for alternative sources of funding. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Brittany Hoversland to approve the Amended Plat for Barth Rentals LLC, Savage Addition, Block 17, Lot 7AP. Motion Carried. All Aye.

**FIRE DEPT. INPUT:**

Tom thanked the City Council for the funds for the Volunteer Fire Dept. Christmas Party.

**POLICE DEPT. INPUT:**

Justin expressed his thank you to Tracey and Brittany for serving on the City Council.

**CLERK TREASURER INPUT:**

The Financial Report for November 2023 was available for review.

**MAYOR INPUT:**

Steve announced that the city was not successful in being awarded a grant for the replacement of the Walt Kreager Park Restroom. Thank you to Tracey for her questions on subject matter during her term on the City Council and to Brittany for her knowledge of government proceedings.

**CITY ATTORNEY INPUT:**

Thank you for the Baker bucks, Thank you to Tracey and Brittany and welcome to Nancy and Randy. Rich stated it was a pleasure to work with all city officials employees this past year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Ehret – Thank you for the Baker bucks, sorry to lose Tracey and Brittany as council members. Have a safe Christmas.

Hoversland – Thankful for the education on sewer, water and street repair matters these past 4 years. Thank you to Tom, Justin and Rod for their leadership. Merry Grizmas.

Goerndt – Thank you to all the city employees and officials that she has worked with over the past 4 years. Good luck to Nancy and Randy. Merry Christmas and thank you for the Baker bucks.

Loutzenhiser – Thank you to all the city workers and dept. heads for their hard work. Thank you for the Baker bucks and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The following payroll was approved for payment:

Dept. of Treasury IRS emp w/h \$6,654.05, MPERA vendor liability \$3,337.06, PERD vendor liability \$2,435.43, MT Dept. of Revenue emp w/h \$1,280.54, MT State Fund vendor liability \$3,539.06, Nationwide Retirement emp w/h \$700.00, ACH Deposits: Brenda Dietz \$1,733.88, Kevin Dukart \$1,709.17, Blayne Higgins \$2,007.71, Justin LaCroix \$2,121.15, Jaramie McLean \$1,477.46, Rodney Morris \$1,663.35, Bryan Nevers \$1,463.80, Kyle Rogge \$1,710.97, Ashley Rost \$795.12, Cody Strandbakke \$2,027.33, Tyler Travis \$1,764.93, Sheena Veazey \$1,561.71.

Total payroll: \$37,982.72

There having been no further business to come before the Baker City Council at this time, Motion by Brittany Hoversland, second by Tracey Goerndt to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion Carried. All Aye.

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