

THE REGULAR BAKER CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024 IN THE FALLON COUNTY COURTROOM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor; Steve Zachmann, Councilors; Nancy Strain, Randy Morris, Mike Loutzenhiser, City Attorney; Rich Batterman, Chief of Police, Justin LaCroix, Fire Chief; Tom Bruha, City Engineer; Rylan Limesand and Clerk Treasurer; Kevin Dukart.

ABSENT: Councilor; Pat Ehret

GUESTS: Eli Ravage

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Zachmann welcomed two new council members, Nancy Strain and Randy Morris.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to approve the Consent Agenda Minutes of December 20, 2023 and Claims for December 2023 as listed. Motion Carried. All Aye.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Randy Morris to approve a quote from Dakota Playground to replace the tunnel slide in Steve McClain Park for \$7,868.25. Clerk Dukart reported that the manufacturer of the slide requires the replacement is exclusive to distributor of this territory. Motion Carried. All Aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to approve Change Order #2, Diamond J Construction 2023 Schedule III, SID #36 increase of \$14,000 to replace erosion control on 6th St. West. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to approve Pay Application #3, Diamond J Construction 2023 Schedule III, SID #36 Street Reconstruction for \$90,893.58 and substantial completion. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to approve Change Order #3F, Diamond J Construction 2022 Watermain Replacement final quantities of \$17,791.00. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to approve Pay Application #7F, Diamond J Construction Watermain Replacement Project \$55,526.00 and substantial completion. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to approve renewal of the Fallon County Water and Sewer District Water and Wastewater Service Agreement. Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to amend the agreement to set the term of the agreement for 5 years. Amended Motion Passed. All Aye. Main Motion Passed. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to approve the renewal for the North Baker Water and Sewer District Water and Wastewater Service Agreement for 5-year extension. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Randy Morris to increase the interest for accrual on utility deposits from 1% to 3%. Motion Carried. All Aye.

PLANNING INPUT:

Clerk Dukart reported that he met with Forrest Sanderson who held the public hearing for Fallon County on the update to the Subdivision Regulations. Further information will be forthcoming for the city to hold a public hearing on the proposal to update the regulations as well.

POLICE DEPT. INPUT:

Justin cautioned all to drive carefully as the snow has caused the streets to become icy.

CLERK TREASURER INPUT:

Kevin reported on the matter of legislative action regarding changes to the City Zone Code. City Planner, Forrest Sanderson, is working on code changes for the City of Laurel and stated that when that is complete, he will be in contact with Baker on proposed changes. There is a court action to stay several of the legislation changes as well. It is unknown what affect the stay will have on local zone code changes.

MAYOR INPUT:

Mayor Zachmann wished all a Happy New Year. Steve also noted that at a previous meeting Michelle Moser of Public Health attended regarding restricting use of tobacco products in public places. This is a matter for the council to consider.

CITY ATTORNEY INPUT:

Rich reported that he has hired a new staff member at his office. He wished all a Happy New Year.

COUNCIL INPUT:

Strain – Nancy noted that the Fallon County Times has the meeting dates as the 1st and 2nd Wednesday this January. Clerk Dukart stated he will notify the paper to assure the dates are clarified to the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

Morris – None

Loutzenhiser – Mike reported that the sign at the corner of Railroad Ave. and Main St. is down. Welcome to Randy and Nancy. Happy New Year.

The following payroll was approved for payment:

3576 Pattie Ehret \$310.46, 3577 Brittany Hoversland \$346.31, PERD vendor liability \$2,487.54, MPERA vendor liability \$4,752.87, Nationwide Retirement emp w/h \$700.00, Dept. of Treasury emp w/h \$8,316.19, MT Dept. of Revenue emp w/h \$1,586.49, MMIA vendor liability \$14,594.95, ACH Deposits: Albert Batterman \$2,962.84, Thomas Bruha \$294.29, Brenda Dietz \$1,563.17, Kevin Dukart \$3,361.00, Tracey Goerndt \$260.46, Blayne Higgins \$1,342.19, Jill Hildebrand \$621.23, Justin LaCroix \$2,121.15, Michael Loutzenhiser \$339.56, Jaramie McLean \$1,353.28, Rodney Morris \$1,663.36, Theresa Myers \$946.14, Bryan Nevers \$1,768.93, Kyle Rogge \$1,388.82, Ashley Rost \$717.49, Cody Strandbakke \$1,999.58, Anna Straub \$1,521.09, Tyler Travis \$1,461.47, Sheena Veazey \$1,627.64, Steven Zachmann \$818.95.

Total payroll: \$61,227.45

The following claims were approved for payment as listed:

1280e Dept. of Revenue 1% contractor w/h \$555.26, 1281e Dept. of Revenue 1% contractor w/h \$918.12, 15451 Bank of Baker SID #36 pymt \$422,627.93, 15452 Alpine Energy gas royalty \$178.16, 15453 Melanie Brown gas royalty \$20.28, 15454 Connie K Collins gas royalty \$2.83, 15455 Holly Lund Daniels gas royalty \$6.35, 15456 Jerome Dickman gas royalty \$2.83, 15457 Susan F Dow gas royalty \$309.23, 15458 Laurie Findlater gas royalty \$309.23, 15459 Valerie Frericks gas royalty \$2.83, 15460 Lori Hansen gas royalty \$20.28, 15461 Peggy Hayek gas royalty \$19.04, 15462 Katherine Rae Lacy gas royalty \$4.31, 15463 Monty Lang gas royalty \$2028, 15464 Lang Properties gas royalty \$178.16, 15465 Calvin H & Anna M Lund gas royalty \$19.04, 15466 Roderick Jon Lund gas royalty \$6.35, 15467 Patricia L Madler gas royalty \$5.44, 15468 Thomas R & Ceclia L O'Connor gas royalty \$14.28, 15469 William D & Barbara J O'Connor gas royalty \$14.28, 15470 Michael Rost gas royalty \$.96, 15471 Carol Schoenbeck gas royalty \$5.44, 15472 Frederick A Schoenbeck gas royalty \$5.44, 15473 George Schoenbeck gas royalty \$5.44, 15474 John L

Schoenbeck gas royalty \$5.44, 15475 Richard Schoenbeck gas royalty \$5.44, 15476 scout Energy Management gas royalty \$42.84, 15477 Peggy Smith gas royalty \$2.83, 15478 Paula Rost Smith gas royalty \$1.81, 15479 Jennifer Soehren gas royalty\$1.81, 15480 American Legion hall rent \$100.00, 15481 Baker Chamber of Commerce 2024 membership dues \$375.00, 15482 Baker Drug supplies \$43.86, 15483 Baker Metal supplies \$64.50, 15484 Baker Rural Fire Dist. truck pymt. \$17,500.00, 15485 Batterman Law Office stipend \$2,000.00, 15486 Boss Office Products supplies \$339.88, 15487 Carquest parts \$238.50, 15488 City of Baker petty cash-postage, dep refunds \$724.30, 15489 CivicPlus supplementation subscription \$1,052.00, 15490 Creative Product Source supplies \$382.54, 15491 Dana Safety Supply police console \$900.46, 15492 Michael & Tiffany Davis refund SID #36 \$952.13, 15493 Diamond J Construction pay app #7F main to wells project \$54,970.74, 15494 Diamond J Construction pay app #3 SID #36 \$90,893.58, 15495 Direct Electric repairs \$371.00, 15496 Kevin Dukart travel subsistence \$30.00, 15497 Energy Lab samples \$199.00, 15498 Fallon County Treasurer building maintenance, tipping, loan pymt \$148,550.71, Fallon County Water District collections \$4,427.96, 15500 Brenda Flint services \$75.00, 15501 Gamma Beta holiday meal \$400.00, 15502 Hawkins Inc. supplies \$120.30, 15503 Blayne Higgins subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 15504 interstate Power Systems repairs 2015 Peterbilt \$1,208.83, 15505 Justin LaCroix subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 15506 Justin LaCroix travel per diem – Las Vegas training \$1,897.61, 15507 Masters Telecom LLC, fax lines \$325.50, 15508 MDU utilities \$8,731.25, 15509 Mid-Rivers Telephone phone services \$912.33, 15510 Mike’s Plumbing winterize parks \$1,625.00, 15511 Rod Morris safety boot reimbursement \$195.95, 15512 MT Volunteer Firefighter Assoc. annual dues \$65.00, 15513 Bryan Nevers, subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 15514 Bryan Nevers travel per diem – Las Vegas training \$1,425.56, 15515 North Baker Water District collections \$14,274.47, 15516 Northside Truck & Auto parts \$636.47, 15517 Northwest Pipe Fittings parts \$741.29, 15518 Lisa Passmore park maintenance \$1,470.00, 15519 PowerPlan service repair – skid steer & supplies \$7,602.64, 15520 Precision Parts & Supply parts \$949.28, 15521 Reynolds supplies \$86.42, 15522 Rolling Rubber 2 tires-garbage truck \$1,133.08, 15523 Scout Energy Management Nov. operating expense \$79.41, 15524 SMART Main ST Pocket Park Grant withdrawal \$45,050.00, 15525 Cody Strandbakke subsistence/animal control \$183.33, 15526 SWS Equipment parts – garbage truck \$700.77, 15527 US Bank Voyager fuel \$2,620.16, 15528 USPS permit fee \$310.00, 15529 Utilities Underground Locations faxed locate requests \$10.92, 15530 VISA shop-postage, parts & supplies \$791.25, 15531 VISA PD-postage & supplies \$468.61.

Total claims: \$844,068.54

There having been no further business to come before the Baker City council at this time, Motion by Mike Loutzenhiser, second by Nancy Strain to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Motion Carried. All Aye.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk Treasurer