

THE REGULAR BAKER CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS HELD WEDNESDAY MARCH 17, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE FALLON COUNTY COURTROOM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor; Clayton Hornung, Councilors; John Beach, Steve Fradenburgh, Rod Morris and JoDee Pratt, Director of Public Works; Don Hinman, Chief of Police; Randy Ketterling, Parks Director; Scott Rabbitt and Clerk Treasurer; Kevin Dukart.

ABSENT: City Attorney; Russell Culver.

GUESTS: LaRita Huether, Scott Veroye and Angel Wyrwas.

After the reading of the Minutes of the Meeting March 3, 2010 there was a Motion by Rod Morris, Second by JoDee Pratt to approve as read. Motion Carried. All Aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Committee that met to discuss the delivery of water and sewer services to the Keystone Pipeline Camp reported to the Council. The Committee recommended that either hauling or pipelines would be acceptable to the city, but due to the temporary nature of the camp all costs for installation of improvements or engineering would be the responsibility of Keystone. Montana Rural Water officials have advised that the City may charge a reasonable rate for the services that do not necessarily have to be what is charged to the customers who own the system.

Mayor Hornung asked the Water Rate Committee to schedule a meeting before the April 7 meeting to discuss a water and sewer rate increase proposal. Clerk Dukart will schedule the committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussed the Bid received for the Baker Hotel lot from Kelly and Angela Heiser. It was mentioned that we could also advertise again. It was noted that City has advertised for bids twice previously and that this should have allowed an opportunity for previous offers. Motion by Steve Fradenburgh, Second by John Beach to accept the bid from Kelly Heiser for \$10,000.00 for the property. John Beach, JoDee Pratt and Steve Fradenburgh voted Aye. Rod Morris voted Nay. Motion Carried.

The Council reviewed the draft of the Inter-Local Agreement for city use of the new fire hall. Several changes were suggested. Randy Hoenke will be at our next meeting so the changes should be presented to Russell Culver and the County Attorney prior that meeting.

Motion by Steve Fradenburgh, Second by JoDee Pratt to approve the Consultant Agreement with Innovative Environmental Consultants for lead based paint inspections for the Baker Housing Project. Motion Carried. All Aye.

Clerk Dukart reported on a proposal to call the remaining \$430,000.00 of SID # 33 Bonds. The proposal includes borrowing some of these funds from the Oil and Gas Severance Fund which would save the city approximately \$40,000.00 in interest costs over the remaining term of the Bond. The Council agreed to allow Clerk Dukart draft a Resolution to set this proposal up.

Kevin also reported on the excess funds available in the SID Revolving Fund. After discussion there was a Motion by Rod Morris, Second by John Beach to authorize a transfer of funds in SID Revolving not required by the Bond resolution to the General Fund. Motion Carried. All Aye.

CITIZENS INPUT:

Scott Veroye spoke about an ongoing problem of snow accumulation on his property caused by the neighboring storage business. Mr. Veroye produced photos of the area to better illustrate the problem. Randy stated they have been in contact with Mr. Veroye and will probably file a trespass charge in this instance. Further discussion occurred on the incident of a few residents who insist on dumping snow onto the streets or encroach onto neighboring properties.

Angel Wyrwas reported to the City Council that she did contact Mr. Bradley of Trans-Canada Pipeline Corp. He stated that his firm makes every effort to have a positive impact on the communities that are near their projects. He also stated that they are still awaiting approval from Montana, Nebraska and the President before they can begin any construction on the pipeline.

Angel also inquired about the back-up of water by the bridge on 1st Street South of the Post Office. Don stated that these culverts have not been cleaned recently. The County should be contacted to schedule that later this year.

PARKS DEPARTMENT INPUT:

Scott requested to purchase trees for the City Parks. The large trees cost about \$90.00 per tree. After discussion on survival rates there was a Motion by Steve Fradenburgh, Second by JoDee Pratt to approve \$2,500.00 for purchase of a variety of species and sizes of trees for the City Parks. Motion Carried. All Aye.

MAYOR INPUT:

Mayor Hornung reported that he has been in contact with Sam Chan of the Chinese Gardens. Sam stated that they will begin demolition which they did today. Don was on site to block off the city alley. There was however some concern on the method they are using for the demolition.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INPUT:

Don stated that he turned on the aerators at the lagoons. He also stated they are working on getting the street sweeper ready and hope to be sweeping within the next few weeks.

POLICE DEPARTMENT INPUT:

Randy stated that he has two abandoned vehicles that must be sold by Sheriff's sale. One is Toyota pickup and the other is a Honda 4 wheeler which was unclaimed when presumably stolen in Kansas. Scott Rabbitt would like to bid on the 4 wheeler for the parks. The council had no objection to the sale and proposal to bid on the vehicle.

Chief Ketterling stated that Minnesota has two individuals in custody for the burglary of Rexall Drug. It appears that the individuals will be prosecuted in South Dakota as they also were allegedly involved in crimes there also.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT INPUT:

Scott reported for Angie that they have 34 teams registered for the Baker Jam. He also stated that the ads are out for the Baseball Coaches.

CLERK TREASURER INPUT:

The February 2010 Financial Report was available for review.

Kevin reported that he had a RC & D Board Meeting tomorrow in Sidney. The Board will interview candidates to fill the Administrative Assistant position as well as work in the RC & D area, plan with Coordinator Bob Nansel. Kevin also stated that as he was unable to attend instructions necessary to retain his license for regulatory weed control. Kevin stated that he must re-test to retain this license.

The Sheriff's Office is ready to take the photos for City Identification Cards. They will be Wednesday March 24 from 8:30 – 5:00 P.M. Clerk Dukart agreed to get a memo to officials and employees.

CITY COUNCIL INPUT:

JoDee Pratt: Discussed semi-trucks on the streets. It was agreed that after April 1st the trucks should then be ticketed.

Steve Fradenburgh: None.

John Beach: None.

Rod Morris: None.

The following payroll claims approved for payment:

MPERA em w/h + city share \$2242.31 vendor liability, P.E.R.D. em w/h + city share \$1882.48 vendor liability, Dept Treasury federal, s/s w/h + city share \$6068.51 vendor liability, 363 Trent Harbaugh salary \$120.34, 364 Michael Loutzenhiser salary \$1047.97, 365 Dallas Newell salary \$289.76, 366 Kalli Wyrick salary \$319.59, 367 MT Dept Revenue em w/h \$1088.42, 368 Montana State Fund premium \$2682.75, 369 Nationwide Retirement em w/h + city share \$453.60, Semi-Monthly ACH salary \$16729.63.

Total Payroll: \$32,925.36

There being no further business to come before the Baker City Council at this time Motion by Rod Morris, Second by Steve Fradenburgh to adjourn at 9:03 P.M. Motion Carried. All Aye.

_____ Mayor _____ Clerk Treasurer