

City Council
February 28, 2023

Mayor Burkett called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Upon roll call the following members were present: Council member Smith, Rose (via Zoom), Burbank, Green, Arsanto, Sundstrom and Anderson.

Also present were: Mayor Burkett, City Administrator Brunell, City Engineer Miller, Public Works Director Banks, Police Chief Alfano, Fire Chief Skogen, Senior Center Program Coordinator Mickelson, Finance Director Hines, Director of Parks and Recreation Snodgrass and Deputy City Clerk Clark.

Mayor Burkett asked if there were any other additions, deletions, or changes to the agenda.

Council member Burbank moved to approve the agenda as presented. Council member Green seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Waste Connections/Murreys:

District Manager from Murreys Disposal, Josh Metcalf, updated Council on the current contract and that the current percentage is based off the Tacoma/Seattle/Bellevue geographical index.

Review of Planning Commission Work Plan:

Mel Garland who is the Planning Commission chair wanted to give an overview to Council for the upcoming year for Planning Commission. Most work this year that they will be focusing on is the comp plan. Planning Commission is also looking into creating wildlife habitats and reserve corridors for wildlife in the City. Planning and Building Director Terrell and Mel Garland answered any questions that the Council had.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Janice James – Ms. James wanted to explain to Council how Buckley Senior Center is a thriving community, a welcoming place for seniors and a safe place to meet. She would like to reallocate ARPA funds towards the senior center. The center is in great need of updating the bathrooms to ADA standards, the two freezers and fridge are extremely old, and the flooring right now proposes a tripping hazard for seniors.

Connie Bender – Ms. Bender stated that Council needs to think long and hard regarding the foothills trail restrooms next to the incoming parking lot. Ms. Bender handed out papers to Council regarding this.

Ann Trullinger – Ms. Trullinger is the director of the W.R. Senior Housing Services in Buckley and speaking for senior housing. She would like to build 10 more senior housing units, and as of right now the current senior housing wait list is at 45 and that is just because they stop it at 45 or there would be more. Ms. Trullinger is thankful for the money awarded for hiring a consultant and that consultant has already applied for a couple of grants. Senior housing would appreciate any amount from the ARPA funding to go towards architecture and engineering before they can move forward and get this done for seniors.

Todd McKellps – Mr. McKellps was speaking on behalf of the the farm on 410, but unfortunately Council realized this is outside of City limits and so ARPA funding cannot be spent, and he would need to contact Pierce County.

Robert Raceu - Mr. Raceu wanted to state the he is a big advocate for adding arcade games in the City.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Burkett stated that he had nothing to report tonight.

Transportation & Utilities:

Council member Arsanto shared the Committee notes from their meeting on February 21st. The following topics that were discussed are:

- Sewer Rates
- Jefferson Right of Way
- AMR Metering

Council Member Comments & Good of the Order:

Council member Green stated to Council that he met with Pierce County Regional Council kick off general assembly and that the 2023 work plan was discussed. Council member Green also updated that PCRC will be planning on having a presentation regarding the airport proposals and that he would like to encourage more folks from Wilkeson, Carbonado and surrounding areas to attend these meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council member Arsanto seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Engineering Services Proposal – Foothills Trail Crossing at Main Street
- Approve Minutes of September 13, 2022, City Council Meeting
- Approve Minutes of September 20, 2022, City Council Study Session
- Approve Minutes of October 4, 2022, City Council Study Session

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearing; Amending Sign Code

Mayor Burkett recessed the City Council meeting at 6:48 PM and entered into the Public Hearing.

Planning and Building Director Terrell let Council know that they did not try to change anything too much in the sign code. Planning tried to streamline and make as easy as possible to understand these changes.

Amy Boucher:

Wanted to let Council know that Buckley Downtown Association is thankful for Councils efforts to help revitalize downtown. They met with Planning Commission and Community Services regarding getting the murals done. Buckley Downtown Association would like to establish an arts commission and will also be looking into grants.

Carolyn Harding:

Is here on behalf of Hosford Construction and is in favor of sign code updates.

After public comment, Mayor Burkett closed the Public Hearing and opened the next public hearing at 7:04 PM.

Public Hearing: Quasi-Judicial Review

Mayor Burkett entered the Public Hearing at 7:04 PM.

City Attorney Olbrechts stated to Council that this could fix the problem of holding multiple hearings being held for the same development. Passing this could streamline for the Council and the hearing examiner. The hearing examiner will go off the Councils development regulations and there a few ways that Council could do this and if Council would like final approval.

Planning and Building Director spoke in favor of the quasi-judicial review and stated that her and Planning Commission will have quite a bit coming forward with comprehensive plan and especially regarding urban growth.

Mel Garland:

Speaking as a private citizen regarding this topic and is in favor of quasi-judicial.

After public comment Mayor Burkett closed the public hearing and opened the next public hearing at 7:44 PM.

Public Hearing: Parking Code

Mayor Burkett entered the Public Hearing at 7:44 PM.

Planning and Building Director Terrell stated that there is public and ADA spaces available and feels it would serve businesses better in downtown area to include on street parking that is close by. This could save businesses money and the ordinance if passed will reduce new parking requirements. Council member Smith agreed and said he does not want to punish any business by not supporting it.

After no public comment, Mayor Burkett closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Council meeting at 7:48 PM.

ORD No. 04-23: Amending BMC to Repeal and Replace the City's Sign Code

Council member Burbank moved to Approve ORD No. 04-23 Repealing and Replacing BMC 19.30 Sign Code. Council member Smith seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried 7/0.

ORD No. 05-23: Amending BMC 20.08.030 and Associated Chapters (Permitting)

Council member Arsanto moved to Approve ORD No. 05-23 Amending Buckley Municipal Code 20.08.030 and associated chapters to Delegate Major Permitting Decisions to the Hearing Examiner and Minor Permitting Decisions to City Staff. Council member Anderson seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried 6/1.

ORD No. 06-23: Amending BMC Parking Code in the Historic Commercial Zone and the Downtown Design District

Council member Smith moved to Approve ORD No. 06-23 Amending BMC Parking Code in the Historic Commercial Zone and the Downtown Design District. Council member Green seconded the motion. Upon roll call vote, motion carried 7/0.

STAFF REPORTS

City Administrator Update:

City Administrator Brunell spoke to Council regarding pickleball court locations and that at the last Council meeting Council discussed to enter into an agreement with Enumclaw Pickleball Association. City Administrator Brunell would like to hold two public hearings in March and Council agreed. Director of Parks and Recreation Snodgrass put together a chart to show expenses and revenue per year to operate a facility of this scope.

Finance Director Hines updated Council on the ARPA funding and stated that the program has been going on for two years now since we got the funds in 2021. Council will be discussing this further at the Council retreat in April and that Council has until the end of 2024 to commit the funds and the end of 2026 to spend the funds. In the Council packet is the original plan from the first time this went to Council and also where we have ended up with the different programs that Council has set up.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Amy Boucher - Ms. Boucher is from the Buckley Downtown Association and would like to see some of the ARPA funding to help with establishing an Arts Commission.

Connie Bender - Ms. Bender is not in favor of adding a pickleball court at this time until the basketball court and pickleball court is finished between Hwy 410 and River Ave.

Elizabeth Carter - Ms. Carter just wanted to add that Mr. McKellps does not represent the farm on 410.

Council member Smith moved to adjourn. Council member Arsanto seconded the motion. Motion carried.

With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.


Ronald Agnew
Mayor


Courtney Brunell
City Administrator

Prepared by: Jessica Clark, Deputy Clerk