

**City Council**  
**August 22, 2023**

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

Upon roll call the following members were present: Smith, Rose, Burbank, Green, Arsanto, Tremblay, and Anderson

Also present were: City Administrator Brunell, Public Works Director Banks (via Zoom), Fire Chief Skogen, City Engineer Miller (via Zoom), Director of Parks & Recreation Snodgrass (via Zoom), and City Clerk Percival

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

**City Administrator Brunell shared that we need to Amend the Agenda to remove the swearing in of Firefighter Smith.**

**Council member Smith moved to approve the agenda as amended. Council member Green seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Council member Smith moved to appoint Charles Martin to fill the vacancy on the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission. Council member Rose seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Mayor Burkett stated that there are two vacancies on Planning Commission and he has received three applications. His recommendation is to appoint Robert Wohfeil and Ashley Fererro.

**Council member Smith moved to approve Mayor Burkett's recommendations to fill the Planning Commission vacancies. Council member Rose seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

**Mayor's Comments...**

**Carolyn Harding** – Ms. Harding shared that she is the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and there is strong opposition from the Chamber of the City implementing a B&O tax.

**Jasmine Tran** – Ms. Tran shared some Buckley Library news. She said the summer reading program is going great and they had approximately 50-60 kids for story time.

She also shared that you soon will see some work being done at the library and new landscaping will be installed.

**Connie Bender** – Ms. Bender shared her concerns regarding the possible B&O tax. Ms. Bender also shared that no money should be taken away from Police or Fire to balance the budget.

**Ali Santman**- Ms. Santman shared that she is the President of the Chamber and also a business owner in Buckley. She stated that she had sent a letter out to Council and was going to read that aloud now. She shared concerns over the City implementing a B&O tax. She also stated that the Council has always been supportive of the businesses and they are still dealing with the effects of COVID and are unable to afford another tax.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Administration, Finance & Public Safety:**

Council member Smith shared that the Committee met on August 14<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following items:

- Recruitment update
- Special Event update
- City Hall remodel
- Police recruitment update
- Request from South Prairie about possibly contracting for Fire service.

### **Transportation & Utilities:**

Council member Arsanto reported that the Committee met on August 15<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following topics:

- Recruitment Status Update
- Hinkleman Road Contaminated Soil Update
- WWTP Outfall Mixing Zone Study – Professional Services
- Completion of Water System Leak Survey
- Consolidated Utilities Project Status Update
- City Hall Remodel

### **Council Member Comments & Good of the Order:**

Council member Green shared that when he was first appointed to Council, the Council passed a Resolution to allow him to continue to serve as a Volunteer Firefighter and unfortunately he has had to make the tough decision to resign from his Fire service. He wanted to thank the Chief and the entire department for their support.

Council member Smith stated that we have heard from citizens and business owners regarding a possible B&O tax and he shared that this is being presented as an option from staff, not from Council. He shared that the Council is open to other options to help pay for City services. He also shared that he would never support any cuts to Police or Fire. He also brought up the City Hall remodel and shared that we have to have staff to support and serve and we are running out of room. He shared that he doesn't feel the City is proposing to build the Taj Mahal but just a building that can be a one stop for citizens without having to go to multiple buildings for some services.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- a) Engineering Services Proposal Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Outfall Mixing Zone Study
- b) Approve minutes of April 11, 2023, City Council Meeting
- c) Approve minutes of May 9, 2023, City Council Meeting
- d) Claim check numbers 66419 through 66481 in the amount of \$148,041.28 for July 27, 2023, through August 7, 2023; and payroll check numbers 40516 through 40545 in the amount of \$121,140.71 and ACH Payroll in the amount of \$429,482.14 for August 8, 2023 through August 21, 2023; and claim check numbers 66482 through 66540 and 66955 in the amount of \$180,915.79 for August 8, 2023, through August 21, 2023.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

#### **RES No. 23-11: Amending the City Taxes, Rates, and Fees Schedule (Revision #36)**

**Council member Burbank moved to Approve RES No. 23-11 Amending the City Taxes, Rates, and Fees Schedule (Revision #36). Council member Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

#### **Design Contract for the Second Addition of City Hall with Gray and Osborne Engineering and Tovani Hart Architects for up to \$100,000.**

**Council member Smith moved to Approve the Design Contract for the Second Addition of City Hall, not to exceed \$100,000. Council member Green seconded the motion. Motion failed.**

### **STAFF REPORTS**

**City Administrator Brunell –** Ms. Brunell shared information on legislative priorities for Council to review and stated that this will be brought back in October for further discussion.



Council member Tremblay shared that PCRC also creates a list of legislative priorities and he feels that we should roll ours into theirs.

Council member Green stated that there is definitely some overlap between PCRC's and the City and he strongly supports the legislation for Public Safety.

Council member Smith shared that he is in support of a meeting to look at the possible Public Safety legislation and supporting those.

Ms. Brunell also shared that B&O tax scenarios will be at the next Study Session along with the Housing Action Plan which needs to be adopted by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

**Amy Boucher** – Ms. Boucher stated that she was speaking on behalf of the Buckley Downtown Association in regards to the City Hall remodel. She would like to make sure that historic preservation is considered. She thanked the Council for their support of the summer series. The last Hometown Market will be on August 31<sup>st</sup>. She shared that the car show was a great success and it was wonderful to see a lot of the City's youth there.

**Karli Britt** – Ms. Britt shared that she owns Salon 790 and wanted to share her concern regarding a possible B&O tax. She shared that this is not supportive in bringing new businesses to Buckley.

**Matt McCollum** – Mr. McCollum shared that he walks around town and people think we should build a new City Hall.

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

**With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.**

  
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City Administrator

  
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Mayor

Prepared by: Treva Percival, City Clerk