

**CITY COUNCIL  
STUDY SESSION  
December 5, 2023**

**ATTENDEES:** Council members Rose (via Zoom), Arsanto, Tremblay, Smith, Burbank and Green.

Also in attendance were Mayor Burkett, City Administrator Brunell, Finance Director Hines, City Clerk Percival, Public Works Director Banks, Asst. Fire Chief Olson, Police Records Clerk Burkett, Senior Planner Farnsworth, and Deputy City Clerk Clark.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

**Comprehensive Plan Update:**

Mr. Arango from Frame Works Consulting gave an overview of land use elements that will help with the comp plan. Frame Works Consulting and City of Buckley met a couple of weeks ago to discuss what Council has decided that is important. Presentation overview was buildable lands analysis for Pierce County, critical areas overview, existing zoning, and future land use designations and preliminary evaluation.

**Taxes, Rates and Fees:**

City Clerk Percival presented to Council the prior Taxes, Rates and Fees and has updated it for 2024 in a spreadsheet with updated rates and fees. Ms. Percival let the Council know there were not a ton of changes besides business license fees and adding building and planning fees into one document to streamline the fees. This is the first time besides just amending that there has been a complete overhaul to Taxes, Rates and Fees. City Administrator Brunell and City Clerk Percival answered questions that the Council had.

**EMS Levy Schedule:**

Finance Director Hines wanted to bring this forward since there are deadlines to get on the ballot. As part of the 2024 Budget development discussion for revenue, was a property tax levy lid lift for the EMS levy that funds the emergency services provided by the Buckley Fire Department. The EMS Levy Lid Lift would generate additional resources to hire an additional firefighter. Council was given information detailing how the EMS levy can be set for 6 years, 10 years or permanent. City Administrator Brunell and Finance Director Hines explained what each of these options would entail.

**Ambulance Purchase:**

Buckley Fire Department has been provided with an opportunity to make the same ambulance purchase as they did 4 years ago and have been extremely happy with the previous purchase. Currently the Buckley Fire Dept. has only one ALS capable ambulance. It is their intent to have apparatus redundancy at the ALS level for the City of Buckley. As the Fire Dept. moves toward full-time ALS coverage, it is necessary to have duplication of frontline apparatus. This new purchase would replace a 19-year-old ambulance that is only BLS capable.

Council member Burbank asked about Thunderbird Park and the deterioration of the totem pole. City Administrator Brunell added that Muckleshoot tribe is in talks with the City and will be part of the PROS Plan.

With nothing further, the Study Session was adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Courtney Brunell  
City Administrator

Ronell A. Smith  
Mayor  
Pro-tem

Prepared by: Jessica Clark, Deputy City Clerk