

City Council
October 24, 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, and Tremblay

Also present were: City Administrator Brunell, Finance Director Hines, Court Administrator Cash (via Zoom), Fire Chief Skogen, Police Chief Alfano, Senior Center Coordinator Mickelson, and City Clerk Percival

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 Arsanto seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Citizens Advisory Commission

April Rattray introduced the members that were present and shared the Commissions work plan for 2024. She also shared that they will be seeking the Certified Local Government designation. She then asked Council to adopt the workplan and consider budget for wayfinding. She finished with sharing that their next meeting is November 21 and the Commission meets monthly.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Elizabeth Carter – Ms. Carter wanted to share a letter from Amy Boucher. She also wanted to thank the Council for the reduced event fees. She also shared that she hopes Council will think outside the box when it comes to handling the budget deficit which may be uncomfortable but she suggested looking at contracting out some services.

Connie Bender- Ms. Bender stated that there was a SEPA notice down by the new restroom and one for September m25th that she did not see any public notice for. She also was wondering why the Foothills Trail parking lot was coming back before Council again.

Ali Santman – Ms. Santman stated that she is the Chamber President and owner of Main Street Bistro. She said that the businesses will always support the police and fire. She would like the City to look at ways to cut costs rather than raising fees. She hopes

the Chamber can partner with the City on more events in the coming year as these events bring people to Buckley and creates a place that people want to live and do business.

Carolyn Harding – Ms. Harding shared that she is on the Board of the Chamber. She shared that the Chamber supports a two year budget cycle. She shared their recommendations as it relates to the Council goals. She also said that some members will understand small increases in permits. She also shared that they would like to see all training and conferences eliminated for the next year. They also would like the City to look at other options besides a property tax increase. She recognizes that these are hard discussions to have but the City needs to explore long-term viability options.

Council Member Comments & Good of the Order:

Council member Green gave an update from the latest PCRC meeting. He shared that the main focus was Transportation and recommendations for scoring projects. He shared that neither of the items voted on passed; which was equalizing scoring value and limiting applications. He also shared that we definitely need more small cities represented.

Council member Tremblay thanked Council member Green for participating in PCRC and wanted to remind everyone that their ballots should be in their mailboxes.

Council member Arsanto said he has heard talk about reducing Court hours but the City doesn't have any public transportation so this wouldn't be an option.

REGULAR AGENDA

Public Hearing – 2024 Property Tax Levy and 2024 EMS Levy **Mayor Burkett Convened the Public Hearing at 6:24 PM.**

Finance Director Hines gave a brief presentation on the 2024 Property Tax Levy and 2024 EMS Levy.

Following the presentation, Mayor Burkett asked for public comment.


After no public comment, Mayor Burkett closed the Public Hearing at 6:35 PM.

STAFF REPORTS

City Administrator Brunell shared that the Mayors of Pierce County have drafted a letter of support for the Public Safety measures that will be coming before the legislature.

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

With nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 PM.



Mayor



City Administrator

Prepared by: Treva Percival, City Clerk