

**CITY COUNCIL  
STUDY SESSION  
October 3, 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, Director of Parks and Recreation Snodgrass, Court Administrator Cash, Fire Chief Skogen, Police Chief Alfano and Deputy City Clerk Clark.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**PRO's Plan Update:**

Director of Parks and Recreation Snodgrass gave a PowerPoint presentation on PRO's plan for Buckley Parks, Recreation and Open Space, in this presentation she highlighted the views, needs and desires of the community. She spoke on parks and trails, how people are using the parks and what facilities are most important for citizens. Ms. Snodgrass spoke on the survey that went out Aug. 8, 2023 – Sept. 14, 2023, and what citizens in Buckley would prefer for future parks. The top three facilities that were voiced in the survey were for a splash pad, trail expansion and new or updated playgrounds.

**Budget Presentations:**

**Parks and Recreation:**

Director of Parks and Recreation Snodgrass spoke to Council for her budget presentation and informed Council that the Parks and Recreation Dept. is a cornerstone of the community's well-being and enrichment, dedicated to providing accessible and diverse recreational opportunities that enhance the quality of life for individuals of all ages and backgrounds in Buckley. Ms. Snodgrass gave an overview of 2023 accomplishments for facilities, parks, Senior Center, Youth Center, community recreation, and Buckley Hall such as; completion of the Rainier Gateway Multi Use Sports Court, transformation of the fountain to a planter with better visibility of Mayors Plaques, maintaining aging City facilities, establishment of Senior Citizens Advisory Commission, over 2,200 volunteer hours served through Senior Center operations, Food for Friends feeding program for delivery to Buckley Seniors, Extended Learning Grant received for tutorial and mental health programs for Youth Center, Youth Violence Prevention Grants, entertainment and family concerts, Cinema on Sheets free movies, and much more.

Key projects for 2024 include adoption of the PRO's plan, apply for grant funding for Miller Park, continue offering five day a week meal plan for Senior Center and expand offerings for travel and services off the plateau, apply for Youth Prevention Grant for 2025, building community by expanding to seven weeks of youth entertainment and family concerts, start an intergenerational event by bringing Youth Center and Senior Center together, and updates for Buckley Hall.

**Court:**

Court Administrator Cash presented to Council the 2023 accomplishments for the Buckley Municipal Court including in-person hearing calendar while maintaining a Zoom calendar, established Food and Folders program, giving those that may need a folder for their court paperwork or a snack/water, and presented the 2023 Buckley Police Department Citizens Academy. Along with this the court processed 1,052 cases for 2023 and updated Council for 2024 anticipated key projects such as: participate in Judge in the Classroom Day and other local school events, update courtroom equipment, technology, and furniture, and research software and equipment options to implement paperless files and documents.

**Police Department:**

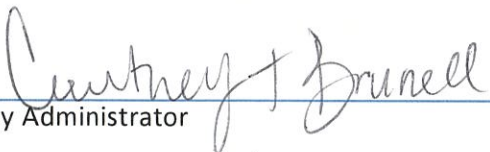
Police Chief Alfano presented to the Council that the Buckley Police Department is dedicated to ensuring the safety of the community and that their goal is to reduce crime through education, enforcement

prevention and problem solving. 2023 accomplishments for Buckley Police Department were replacing the heating and air conditioning units, completed construction of the police shooting range, 1<sup>st</sup> annual Buckley Police Citizen's Academy, converting paper files to electronic, adding two new patrol SUVs to the fleet, negotiated Police Service Contracts with Wilkeson, Carbonado and DSHS and much more. Key projects for 2024 include holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Buckley Police Citizen's Academy, complete evidence room swap, building in-service training to reduce the impact of costs for training outside the department, and continuing their involvement with community events.

**Fire:**

Fire Chief Skogen presented to Council that the Buckley Fire Department delivers Fire, Rescue & Emergency Medical Services within incorporated boundaries of City of Buckley and Town of Wilkeson. Through contracts they also provide administrative and operational insight to Town of Carbonado Fire Dept. While response to 9-1-1 emergencies is one of the most visible duties, the Buckley Fire Department performs several other services to the community as hosting monthly CPR and First Aid classes, providing helmets, life jackets and child car seat inspections. 2023 accomplishments include a 16% increase in calls for service compared to 2022, filling one vacant full-time Firefighter position that will eventually transition to assume Fire Marshall responsibilities, successfully completed migration from legacy VHF radio system to the County-Wide digital radio network, receiving a 2023 Crew Cab Pickup truck for Command Unit, launched the Code Red alert and warning application to notify community members of local hazards and pertinent information, and receiving competitive grants for capital projects. 2024 anticipated key projects are the completion of the 2024-2029 Comprehensive Emergency Plan, implement City Emergency Operations Center activation procedures, research and propose EMS Levy Lid Lift, initiate implementation of expanded ALS Ambulance Service, and implement First Due Size Up application.

With nothing further, the Study Session was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

  
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City Administrator

  
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Mayor

Prepared by: Jessica Clark, Deputy City Clerk