

MINUTES
JOINT MEETING OF THE BUHL CITY COUNCIL AND THE BUHL RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
OCTOBER 15, 2018

PRESENT:

Tom McCauley	Mayor	Neal Gier	Fire District Chairman
Michael Higbee	Council President	Glenn Van Patten	Fire District Commissioner
Kyle Hauser	Council Member	Andrew Stevens	Fire Chief
Pam McClain	Council Member	Andrew Wright	Buhl City Attorney
Karen Drown	Clerk	Concerned Citizens	

The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m. Karen Drown confirmed a quorum for the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of July 30, 2018: Pam moved to approve the minutes from July 30, 2018. Neal seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Consideration of Salary Survey and Recommendations: Karen presented information on the salary survey the city had been conducting on all positions within the city. Weaver and Associates out of Meridian had been hired to do the preliminary report and from that information the administrative staff had reviewed the data gathered and did additional research. From that research Rock Creek and Gooding Fire Departments were reviewed for their salary levels. Karen and Andrew worked with all the data and compiled a new salary level chart which included promotional certification requirements and incentive pay options. A worksheet was created to breakdown where each employee was at and the incentives they were eligible for. Once the structure was built that was then reviewed against the data that was gathered and each employee fell close in total salary to where they would if they were in the other city fire departments. There was further discussion about the total proposed reset amount and that there was the contingency amount that had been held in reserve for the possibility some was needed for this project. Karen also informed the group that the health/vision insurance renewal had come in with a 4% decrease instead of the 17% increase that was budgeted. Between the decrease for the salary reset and the increase for the savings on insurance the contingency has a remaining balance of \$54,548.00.

Andrew noted that the proposed scale allows him to budget better for the coming years because he will know what each of his firemen are working towards. He also stated it takes the emotional component out of the budgeting process. There was further discussion by the group about the information Karen and Andrew provided.

Michael moved to approve the salary reset. Glenn seconded the motion. There was no discussion. There was a vote on the motion and the motion passed.

Revisiting Purchase of New Fire Apparatus: Glenn stated it is time to start using the budgeted money and that the district is good to start looking at the quint. He noted follow the capital purchase plan and start the process. Glenn moved to proceed and purchase the quint truck if Andrew felt that is the truck his department needs. Michael seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion about the features that the quint that can help in a number of situations the department is called to. Andrew pointed out the elevated master stream can be beneficial for many calls and the ladder had the ability to go below grade if need be, for example on properties on River Road. Glenn asked Andrew to re-spec the truck, setup a timeline for the project and update the District and the City on the progress. Also if necessary meet monthly with the joint group if anyone is uncomfortable with something that is happening. There was no further discussion and there was a roll call vote on the motion. Neal voted yes, Glenn voted yes, Kyle voted yes, Pam voted yes and Michael voted yes. The motion passed.

CITIZENS CONCERNS – There were none.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Glenn moved to adjourn the meeting; Neal seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 PM.