

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 24, 2020

203 Broadway Ave N

PRESENT:

Tom McCauley	Mayor	Regie Finney	Public Works Director
Michael Higbee	Council President	Scott Bybee	City Engineer
Pam McClain	Council Member	Teresa Robbins	Planning and Zoning Clerk
Kelly Peterson	Council Member	Autumn Jones	
Andrew Wright	City Attorney	Concerned Citizens	
Karen Drown	Clerk		

REGULAR SESSION called to order at 6:00 PM.

CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM:

Karen Drown confirmed a quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Minutes of February 10, 2020 – Regular Meeting
2. Monthly Claims for Payment
3. Clerk Report
4. Treasurer Report

Pam McClain moved to approve the consent agenda. Kelly Peterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration of Chamber Saturday Market: Rich White with the Buhl Chamber of Commerce presented a proposal for a Saturday Market from June 2 through October 3 from 2 pm to 7 pm. They would like to have it in the first block of Main Street from Broadway to 11th Ave. They had talked to several of the businesses in that block regarding the idea. They would like to see the restaurants in that block set tables outside. They also proposed a beer, wine and cider garden for the event. The idea would be similar to the market in Twin Falls which runs from 9 am to 1 pm. The time difference they are hoping would allow vendors to attend both events. The chamber is

asking the city to provide 6-8 garbage cans and barriers to close off the street. Rich discussed the different plans for vendors and businesses to participate either with a booth or in a pamphlet with coupons.

Michael moved to approve the Saturday Market and approve beer/wine permits to follow the permitting process on Main Street from June 2 – October 3 from 2 pm to 7 pm. Sue seconded the motion. Michael noted the summer months are the busy season for the city departments to be keeping up with garbage cans and barriers each week. He proposed a process to have the garbage cans in a location that they could be stored during the week and then used for the event and then returned to be emptied and also to check out barriers that chamber members could setup for the event. Regie noted that if that section of Main Street were to be closed every week, he would have to upgrade to a level 2 barrier and road closed signs that specify the event. Signage notices would have to be further out for traffic to plan a route around the closure.

There was a discussion about the location and wanting to bring people downtown. Other options were discussed for the event such as at the chamber building. Rich noted they wanted to leave the RV park open for the travelers use because that is one of the chambers sources of income.

There was no further discussion and the motion failed.

Consideration of Library Board Re-Appointment: Karen presented to Council the request of the Buhl Library Board the reappoint Ellen Asay to another term which would expire December 2024. Michael moved to approve the reappointment. Pam seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Consideration of proposed Amendment of 2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget: Karen explained the process and review that Elizabeth had done with each of the departments to determine if their needs would require an amendment to the budget. In summary:

Fire:

- \$50,000 possible grant for new SCBA compressor - \$50,000 budgeted in revenue and expenses in Fire Capital Budget – No Amendment needed

Police:

- Finish outfitting the school resource vehicle – money to be found in current budget – No Amendment needed
- Grant from Jackie Frey for \$12,000 for server upgrade – Amendment needed.
 - Karen noted she was just informed before the meeting that the bill for the project would go to Jackie and the city would just be receiving the equipment. So, if that is the case no amendment would be needed.

- Additional expenses for the project for a dedicated air conditioning unit and dedicated power would be found in the current budget.
- Asset Forfeiture Fund – This is a new fund with no funds budgeted to be received and no expenses budgeted – Amendment needed.

Streets:

- LHTAC grant for Sprague
 - \$250,000 budgeted in revenue and expenses for safe kids walking path. It would just require a name change to Sprague LHTAC paving project. Karen noted the safe kids walking path is still a grant but it the funding is a couple years out. – No Amendment needed.

Parks & Rec.:

- Funds to install a new boiler at the swimming pool. Elizabeth was estimating \$50,000.
 - \$18,000 funded from the money set-a-side for pool/park equipment replacement savings
 - The remaining portion would come from the unexpended funds that would be transferred back to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year. Elizabeth felt that amending now to pull additional out of the general fund and then just putting it back at the end of the year was unnecessary. – No Amendment needed.
- Karen noted that a motion was needed to reduce the spending authority to \$50,000 10-439-800 for “Pool Bathroom Upgrade”

Michael moved to amend the 2019-2020 budget to add the server upgrade and the asset forfeiture fund. Sue seconded the motion. There was no further question and the motion passed.

Karen noted the notice of public hearing would be sent to the Buhl Herald which must publish twice. That will put the hearing at the working session on March 23, 2020.

Consideration of lowering spending authority on line item is Parks and Rec Department: Michael moved to reduce the spending authority to \$50,000 to the Pool Bathroom Upgrade. Pam seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

COUNCIL CONCERNS: Pam questioned that Regie had a bid for the new heater at the pool at a previous meeting and it was around \$36,000. But now it was \$50,000. Regie noted that Elizabeth rounded up to \$50,000 but it will be under that amount.

FUTURE PLANNING WORKSHOP

Mayor McCauley made introduction of the city and county staff that were in attendance. He explained that this portion of the meeting was going to be an open discussion of thoughts and ideas.

Scott Bybee, city engineer, began the discussion with some details about growth in and around the City of Buhl over the last few years. He also noted that much of the city code is from 1974 or prior and the planning and zoning board is reviewing a small piece of the code at each meeting. He also explained that Buhl is ideally positioned in Magic Valley because both our water and wastewater facilities have room for growth of almost double before they would be at maximum. But the area lacking is the infrastructure is limited in the areas in the impact area where growth would probably happen. He confirmed that developers are responsible for installing infrastructure on a new development.

There was an open discussion with those in attendance of areas of concern and ideas for improving our community.

Concerns included: affordable options for first time home buyers, downtown being consumed by industry, high speed fiber availability and what incentives to bring businesses and developers.

Improvements that the group would like to see included: more and improved sidewalks, walking paths, parks, bicycle lanes, lots for larger homes, setbacks reviewed to allow older homes to be enlarged, a variety of housing types and something for families to do.

The overall consensus of the group was to make the city safe for citizens and allow the growth that the future is going to bring to benefit the city.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Pam moved to enter executive session with provisions of Idaho Code 74-206, subsection 1.A to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent. She requested a roll call vote. Sue seconded the motion. Kelly voted yes, Michael voted yes, Pam voted yes, and Sue voted yes. Mayor McCauley excused everyone but the council members and Karen Drown, city clerk. Executive session was entered at 8:20 pm. Michael moved to adjourn Executive session. Pam seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed. Executive session adjourned at 9:00 pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED – Pam McClain moved that the meeting be adjourned; Kelly Peterson seconded the motion and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Drown, City Clerk