CITY OF BENKELMAN

REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023

The City Council met in the Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. for the Regular Meeting. Present: Mayor Tammy Buffington; Council Members JoAnn Decker, Deb Stamm, Nicholas Baney; City Clerk Diane Rosenfelt; Chief Deputy/Interim Sheriff King; City Superintendent Tim Smith. Absent: City Attorney Tawna Holmstedt. Others Present: Deputy Tom Jones, Trevor Horner,

and Sharon Rhoades.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Mayor Buffington called the meeting to order and stated that we follow the open meetings law, which is posted on the south wall by the main entrance.

Mayor Tammy Buffington thanked all for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Buffington had a conversation with Pam Reichert concerning when the train blocks the tracks and if there was a need for medical treatment across the tracks at the south end of main street about finding a way for them to provide help in a reasonable time. This has been discussed for a few years, but nothing has been completed. Another topic the mayor commented on was visiting with our Auditors on a Community Daycare. The City will not be able to own any of the property for the Community Daycare but may be able to help in other ways.

Fire Chief Relgene Zimbelman was not present at the meeting to discuss changes that were made and not made on the By-Laws of the Benkelman Volunteer Fire Department. No action was taken on this issue.

City Superintendent Tim Smith talked to some people about buying the (54) 96-gallon toters that were ordered over 6 months ago, and no one was interested in needing them or having a use for them. The City of Benkelman has no use for the 96-gallon toters that were ordered. Council member JoAnn Decker made a motion to pay Refuse, Inc. $5,339.10 for the (54) 96-gallon toters that were invoiced back in May of 2023, seconded by Nick Baney. Ayes: Baney, Decker, Pinkerton, Stamm; nays: none. Motion passed.

CRA minutes enclosed in the packet. Trevor Horner was present and gave his report.

Chief Deputy/Interim Sheriff King gave the Sheriff’s Report. They do have a full staff currently and they are all certified.

Council member Nick Baney made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Law Enforcement Services, seconded by Deb Stamm. Ayes: Decker, Pinkerton, Stamm, Baney; nays: none. Motion passed.

Council member Nick Baney made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Barb Pinkerton. Ayes: Pinkerton, Stamm, Baney, Decker; nays: none. Motion passed.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

* Approve Minutes of November 20, 2023, Regular Meeting.
* Approve Treasurers Report.
* Approve Bills.
* Approve & have Mayor & Attorney sign Construction Management Services for the DTR with WCNDD.
* Approve & sign Professional Services Agreement with Five Rule Planning for 2024 in the amount of $6,000.
* Approve 1st Quarter 2024 Invoice to Five Rule Planning in the amount of $1,500.
* Approve and have Mayor sign Resolution of Support for the LCC Recertification.
* Approve Mayor’s Appointment of Elya McEvoy and Shaila Latta to the CRA Board.
* Planning Commission: Approved Fence Permit for Tyler & Shaylee Davis at 915 Fremont.

Council member Nick Baney made a motion to approve a recognition dinner for elected officials and employees, but shall not exceed $50 per person, seconded by Deb Stamm. Ayes: Stamm, Baney, Decker, Pinkerton; nays: none. Motion passed.

Enclosed in the packets was a Water Report that was submitted by Jeremiah Unger (attached to these minutes).

Enclosed in the packets was an Electric Report submitted by Paul Castillo (attached to these minutes).

City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Rosenfelt gave her monthly report (attached to these minutes).

City Superintendent Tim Smith gave his monthly report (attached to these minutes).

Council member Nick Baney made a motion to approve Mayor Buffington’s appointments for the City of Benkelman Organization 2023-2024, seconded by Barb Pinkerton. Ayes: Baney, Decker, Pinkerton, Stamm; nays: none. Motion passed.

Council member Nick Baney made a motion to approve JoAnn Decker as the Council President. Ayes: Pinkerton, Stamm, Baney; abstain: Decker; nays: none. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

 Tammy Buffington, Mayor

ATTESTED:

Diane L. Rosenfelt, City Clerk