

**MINUTES
BUHL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BUHL CITY HALL**

Tuesday, February 2nd, 2021.

6:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** By Mayor Klarich at 6:30 P.M.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Councilors Lehman, Carter, Kuechle, Markas and Mayor Klarich. Also, in attendance: Foreman Pink, Engineer Jamnick, & Clerk Pervenanze.

3. **COUNCIL ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** None.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Minutes:

- i. Regular Meeting January 19th, 2021.

B. Claims:

i. Payroll #3	\$ 12,999.84
ii. PR January 2021	\$ 2,000.00
iii. A/P	<u>\$ 37,266.12</u>
Total	\$ 52,265.96

Motion by Lehman to approve the above consent agenda. Supported by Kuechle. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **BUSINESS:**

- A. Buhl Bonding & Assessment Policy. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Clerk Pervenanze stated Buhl's current policy which was last amended in 1996 does not conform with Chapter 429 in state statute. The recommendation would be to amend the policy eliminating the set assessments rates of \$25/\$10 per linear ft. and base the rates on a per project basis that conforms with the 20% requirement that is outlined in Chapter 429. Motion by Lehman to amend the bonding and assessment

policy to conform with state statute. Supported by Carter. Markas opposed. Motion carried.

- B. Addendum #1 CIP. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Mayor Klarich stated that the change in addendum #1 relating to the reconstruction of Woodbridge & Whiteside would be establishing the proposed assessment rates of \$35/\$10 to conform with state statute in order to bond for the project. Motion by Klarich to approve addendum #1. Supported by Lehman. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Resolution 21-15 (Feasibility Report/Public Hearing Woodbridge-Whiteside-Sharon). Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion to by Kuechle to approve resolution 21-15 accepting the feasibility report for the Woodbridge-Whiteside-Sharon project and authorizing a public hearing set for March 2nd, 2021 at the Buhl/Kinney Sr. Center beginning at 6:00 P.M. Supported by Lehman. Motion carried unanimously. Notices will be published and mailed to property owners.
- D. Resolution 21-16 (Feasibility Report/Public Hearing Jefferson-Franklin-Pierce) Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Markas to approve resolution 21-16 accepting the feasibility report for the Jefferson-Pierce-Franklin project and authorizing a public hearing set for March 2nd, 2021 at the Buhl/Kinney Sr. Center beginning at 6:00 P.M. Supported by Carter. Motion carried unanimously. Notices will be published and mailed to property owners.
- E. March 2nd Council Meeting Change. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Lehman to change the location of the March 2nd Council Meeting to the Buhl/Kinney Sr. Center beginning after the public hearings. Supported by Carter. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. RAMS Dues Discussion. Approve/Reject. Councilor Lehman as Buhl's Rep. to RAMS stated the organization in a strong voice and valuable resource for the City. Motion by Klarich to approve the annual RAMS dues in the amount of \$700. Supported by Kuechle. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. MMUA Dues. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Councilor Markas stated that the MMUA is an important organization for public utilities. They provide training for employees and resources when issues arise. Motion by Lehman to approve the annual MMUA dues in the amount of \$1,285. Supported by Carter. Motion carried unanimously.

- H. St. Louis County Fair Request. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Clerk Pervenanze stated that the County Fair is one group that the City is authorized under state statute to assist financially. Motion by Kuechle to donate \$100 to the St. Louis County Fair. Supported by Markas, Klarich & Lehman opposed. Motion carried.
- I. City Grader Update. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Clerk Pervenanze stated that the City is exploring options on the necessary purchase of a grader in the coming months. Currently we are renting and have the option to buy. St. Louis County will also have graders available in the coming months. This was an informational item.
- J. Fund Transfer BEDA. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Clerk Pervenanze stated that this transfer to BEDA was recommended by our auditor to satisfy the lien against the school relating to the Kid's Peace loan with the IRRR. Motion by Lehman to approve the transfer of \$85,000 from the General Fund to BEDA checking. Supported by Kuechle. Motion carried unanimously. The City will recoup these funds in the form of a grant from the IRRR for a future project.
- K. Stubler Lot Proposal. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Clerk Pervenanze stated that a group is interested in purchasing the remaining lots in the Stubler Development. Motion by Klarich to approve the sale of 1 lot to this group and upon completion of the foundation and framing/shell release the 2nd lot. Supported by Lehman. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor's Comments:

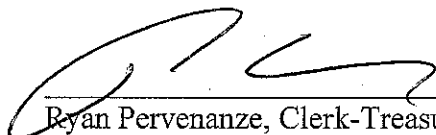
- Councilor Lehman attended a RAMS meeting via Zoom. Alan Page spoke to the group regarding funding legislation for public schools. There were also board leadership changes on RAMS.
- Councilor Markas mentioned that he would turn off the lights at the rink due to the cold and has been maintain the rink.
- Councilor Carter is attending the League to MN Cities via Zoom. It is a 3-week course and there is a lot of good information.


Mayor's Comments

This week's Mayor's Comments will focus on two separate topics. The first is a comment on Facebook previously about City employees and plowing/relocating snow into piles around the town during/after storms and the safety of this practice when our children may be building tunnels within them. It was a good topic as no one wants to see a potential tragedy in the making. Our City employees do a tremendous job when removing snow and try to do it as efficiently and safely as possible. When doing clean-up, the equipment operators always visually survey an area before adding or plowing more snow onto the mound they are creating. This includes looking for sleds, shovels, clothing, or any items that may signify children are playing in or around the area. At this point the operator leaves the equipment and inspects the area looking for traces of children, tunnels, or hollowed out areas. The operator also calls out looking to see if children are in the area before continuing with their job. Also, our personnel when finding these areas on public property will check the area out and then collapse the tunnel or hollowed out areas so that children do not suffer any injuries if the tunnel or hollowed out area collapses. Parent and guardians are also asked to do their part and educate their children about winter safety. If there are any concerns from the public on safety, please contact City Hall.

My next topic is reminding members of the public using snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, or minibikes to respect public and private property when out riding individually or in groups. We do have trails running in and out of town and hopes all riders be respectful and follow safe driving habits when leaving or entering town and not take shortcuts through private property. We recently had a snowmobile purposely mow down a row of small evergreen trees in Burton Park when there were only a few inches of snow. The incident has been reported to our Police Department and we are expecting charges to be filed if they have not already. Current City ordinances allow for the safe and respectful operation within City limits. If you are a property owner and witness this happening on your property, I recommend the following steps. Call the Police Department (218 254-7915) or (911) with a description of the vehicle and driver/passenger(s) immediately. If you can, use your cell phone to take a picture or record the incident. Also, check with neighbors in the area to see if they have an exterior camera that could have recorded the incident. These comments are not meant to discourage snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, or mini-bike ridership within City limits, but to ensure safety and the respect for private property.

- 6. ADJOURN:** Motion by Carter to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Lehman. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 P.M.


Ryan Pervenanze, Clerk-Treasurer


John Klarich
Mayor