

MINUTES
BUHL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BUHL CITY HALL
02/07/2023

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

6:30 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Mayor Carter at 6:30 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Councilors Loeffler, Kealy, Towner, Hadrava, Mayor Carter, Finance Manager Thronson
3. **REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:** Finance Manager Thronson stated that the water issue from Saturday, February 4th was due to an electrical issue on the pump house. From the time Foreman Pink was notified of the problem until the water was back on it was 13 minutes.
4. **CITIZENS FORUM:** None
5. **COUNCIL ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** Rams letter. Motion by Towner to add in the Rams letter information as Item H1. Supported by Loeffler. Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes:

- i. Regular City Council Meeting- January 17, 2023
- ii. Special Council Meeting – January 26, 2023

B. Claims:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| i. Payroll #2 | \$ 10,605.88 |
| ii. Payroll January | \$ 2,000.00 |
| iii. A/P | \$ <u>39,163.33</u> |

TOTAL **\$ 51,769.21**

Motion by Kealy to approve the consent agenda. Supported by Towner. Motion carried unanimously.

7. BUSINESS:

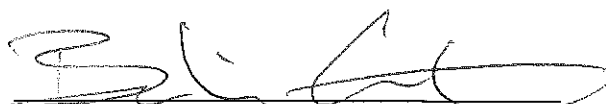
- A. Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association Dues. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Towner to approve the MMUA 2023 dues in the amount of \$1,359.00. Supported by Kealy. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Rink Attendant Hires. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Towner to approve hiring Ben Marks and Fred DuChamp as rink attendants pending completion of pre-employment paperwork. Supported by Loeffler. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Long Range Planning and Zoning Board Appointments. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Kealy to appoint Susan Trunk to the Long Range Planning and Zoning Board. Supported by Towner. Motion carried unanimously. Kealy stated that she works with Susan Trunk and that she is a good person to have on the board.
- D. City Hall closing. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Towner to approve closing City Hall at noon on Friday, February 10th. Supported by Hadrava. Motion carried unanimously.
- E. Elected Leaders Institute Class. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Kealy approving Councilor Loeffler to attend the Elected Leaders Institute class. Supported by Hadrava. Motion carried unanimously.
- F. Resolution 23-14. IRRRB Culture & Tourism Grant. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Towner to approve Resolution 23-14. Supported by Hadrava. Councilor Kealy asked what this grant would be for. Councilor Towner stated that it would be for repairs and upgrades which could include resurfacing the skate park, new basketball hoops, bench in the park, and rink boards. Kealy asked about ADA accessibility. Towner stated that they could include an ADA accessibility pathway as well in the grant request.
Voting for resolution: Councilors Loeffler, Kealy, Towner, Hadrava and Mayor Carter.
Voting against resolution: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None
Motion carried and Resolution 23-14 was adopted.
- G. Resolution 23-15. Department of Public Transformation Grant. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Towner to approve Resolution 23-15. Supported by Kealy. Councilor Loeffler stated that this is a new program and that only 5 communities would be receiving the grant. It is a 2 year grant program. The first year would be working on ideas with artists and activators to come up with a plan. The grant does require that the municipality has a building to use for the program. Loeffler stated she was thinking the Community Center/Curling Club would be a good place to use but that events could also be held at the library and/or the senior center.
Voting for resolution: Councilors Loeffler, Kealy, Towner, Hadrava and Mayor Carter.
Voting against resolution: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None
Motion carried and Resolution 23-15 was adopted.
- H. City Clerk Position. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Kealy to hire Anthony Jeffries at an hourly rate of \$31.50 with a six month probation period pending the background and drug test results. Supported by Hadrava. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Towner to authorize the Personnel Committee to

finalize an employment agreement with Anthony Jeffries. Supported by Hadrava. Motion carried unanimously.

- H1. RAMS letter. Discussion. Approve/Reject. Motion by Towner to sign a RAMS letter from the Mayors stating opposition to the recent decision by the Department of Interior to place a 20 year moratorium on 225, 000 acres in the Rainy River Watershed. Supported by Hadrava. Motion carried unanimously.
- I. Councilor's Comments. Councilor Kealy stated that during the Special Meeting held on 1/26/23 she felt that there should have been another step in the process of appointing for the vacant council seat. She would like to see a policy in place for when there are future council seats with less than 2 years remaining on the term. Councilor Loeffler thanked everyone for the opportunity and stated she agrees with Councilor Kealy that there should be a policy, though she did like the interview process.
- J. Mayor's Comments. Mayor Carter posed the question of what phone number residents should call if there is an emergency/water/electrical outage after hours. Finance Manager Thronson stated that if it's an electrical outage residents should call the 800 number for MN Power and if it's a water outage they would call Foreman Pink. Council Kealy stated that in Chisholm if it's after hours residents call 911 and the Chisholm Police Department take care of contacting the proper individuals. Councilor Kealy suggested we look into having residents call 911 if there is an issue after hours and the Chisholm Police Department would then contact the correct individuals. Finance Manager Thronson stated she would speak to Chief Manner.

8. **ADJOURN:** Motion by Kealy to adjourn. Supported by Hadrava. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.



Mayor Brandin Carter

ATTEST:



Dianna Thronson, Interim Clerk