

MINUTES
BUHL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BUHL CITY HALL
06/13/2023

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

6:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER by Mayor Carter at 6:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

Councilors: X Hadrava X Kealy X Loeffler X Towner
Mayor: X Carter

Administrator: X Jeffries
Public Works Foreman: X Pink
Attorney: X Kearney
Engineer: X Jamnick

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/COUNCIL ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

ADDITION TO AGENDA:

Item 7.A.1.

Resolution 23-49 for the City to Accept a Donation from C & B Warehouse Distributing

Motion by Towner to approve the agenda as presented and amended.

Supported by Hadrava.

Motion carried unanimously.

4. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Foreman Pink:

Commented that all pipe was replaced in municipal water well #1 – none was able to be salvaged; the check valve was clearly the problem and should be good now for at least another 10 years.

Noted that there was a sewer blockage at the mobile home park; A-1 Services was needed to be brought in to jet it out as city equipment could not accomplish this; noted that this was caused by flushable wipes; reminded all that feminine products are also

troublesome and that the only thing that should be put down the sewer system is human waste, toilet paper, and water.

Administrator Jeffries:

Mentioned that the City clean-up is underway and to contact City Hall for any service(s) needed; Stressed that Saturday, June 17, 2023 will be the close of the CIP Project punch list comment period and to make sure comments are received before then; Highlighted that City Hall will be closed Monday, June 19, 2023 for Juneteenth - no City services will be provided or available; and stressed to everybody to have a great time at the summer festivities! Be safe, be polite, be sensitive to your neighbors, and get out and enjoy the activities that so many have worked so hard to provide!

5. CITIZENS FORUM: None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes:

- i. Regular City Council Meeting – May 16, 2023
- ii. Special City Council Meeting – May 25, 2023
- iii. Special City Council Meeting – May 30, 2023

B. Claims:

i. Payroll # 5	\$ 2,350.00
Payroll #10	\$ 15,493.69
Payroll #11	\$ 15,747.86
ii. A/P	<u>\$ 150,514.82</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 184,106.37</u>

Motion by Kealy to approve the consent agenda.

Supported by Loeffler.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. BUSINESS:

A. Presentation from Jeff Anderson of the Costin Group on 2023 Minnesota State Legislative Initiatives and Activities

Costin Group, Inc., serves as the City's contracted Government Relations and State and Federal Lobbying services provider.

Jeff Anderson, Government and Public Affairs Consultant with Costin Group, Inc. is the City's point contact for these initiatives.

Mr. Anderson reviewed historical efforts of the Costin Group on behalf of the City on past initiatives, presented information on 2023 Minnesota State Legislative initiatives and activities, and discussed the potential near- and long-term impacts on the City of Buhl of these initiatives.

It was noted that a \$100,000 grant was secured through the Mineral Article of the Tax Bill for improvements to the Buhl City Hall; this item was introduced by Minnesota State Representative Dave Lislegard.

It was also noted there was an increase of approximately \$25,000 in LGA (Local Government Aid) to Buhl, and that the 2023 amount is \$419,562, and there was a one-time Public Safety Aid Grant awarded for \$41,879.

With regard to capital investment, Buhl received \$2,000,000 through the bonding bill for municipal water system improvements.

Councilor Towner commented that it was good to see an increase in the Homestead (Property) Tax Credit, and Mr. Anderson explained that this was a one-time property tax refund increase and an extended Homestead Credit refund, and that over \$300 million has been appropriated by the legislature for housing-specific projects.

Informational only.

A1. Resolution 23-49 for the City to Accept a Donation from C & B Warehouse Distributing

C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc. generously offered a donation of \$600 to the City for its summer activities, to be used as the city sees fit.

Motion by Kealy to have the City of Buhl approve Resolution 23-49 accepting a donation from C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc. for municipal summer activities, and to extend thanks to C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc. regarding the same.

Supported by Towner.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

It was noted that C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc. also donated \$600 to the All-Class Reunion.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Continued Discussion of Community Garden Project

Resident Kelly Giergan had approached the council on May 2, 2023 and requested the City Council give consideration to creating a community garden.

The Administrator and staff suggested certain City lands for flowers, or vegetables, or both, discussed the availability of water, and discussed the need to formalize liability minimization provisions.

After further staff discussion, it was determined that potentially the most desirable location for a community garden would be the existing skating rinks and warming shack area; this location was presented to Kelly and her group.

Kelly indicated that potentially the assisted living facility would be more desirable and was following up with them to see if this is what might be pursued.

Kelly then indicated that the skating rinks and warming shack might in fact be a better location.

Kelly will be at this meeting to discuss the option to utilize the skating rink area(s) and warming shack as the location for a community garden.

Recommendation is to offer the skating rink area(s) and skating shack as the municipally offered area to develop a community garden during summer months.

Kelly Giergan appeared before the council and indicated that their group had visited the Memorial Park garden area (near its water fountain), asked whether this fountain worked, and indicated the group's feeling that this is a good area for the project. It was noted that this fountain does not work at this time; over 200' of all new piping would need to be installed to rectify this situation.

Other areas, including the assisted living facility and the ice rink area were further discussed.

It was noted that the project would likely start out small, but could grow over time.

Several aspects of this initiative were discussed.

Informational flyers will be distributed to solicit additional public input.

Mayor called for a motion to have the City of Buhl offer the skating rink area(s) and skating shack as the municipally specified area to develop a community garden during summer months.

No motion was made.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Motion tabled. No action taken.

C. Consider Resolution of Participation in MN Office of the State Auditor Performance Measurement Program

In 2010, the MN legislature created the Council on Local Results and Innovation.

The MN Office of State Auditor created a standard measures program in 2012. Participation in the standard measures program by a city is voluntary. Cities that choose to participate in the standard measures program must officially adopt and implement at least ten minimum performance measures and systems developed by the Council.

The Minnesota Local Performance Measurement Program was created to support counties and cities in their efforts to continuously improve service delivery and to encourage collaboration and communication with its citizens.

A city that elects to participate in the standard measures/performance measurement program is eligible for a reimbursement of \$0.14 per capita, and is also exempt from levy limits for taxes payable in the following calendar year, if levy limits are in effect.

Reporting on the program is required to both the constituency as well as the Council, on an annual basis.

Administrator Jeffries commented that receiving feedback from the residents might be valuable, potentially through the distribution of a survey,

Recommendation is, although there are limited benefits available to the City, to participate in this program and evaluate its usefulness to the City annually.

Motion by Towner to accept and adopt Resolution 23-31 to Participate in the MN Office of State Auditor Performance Measurement Program beginning in 2023, and to evaluate this participation on an annual basis.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

It was noted that the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) offers to facilitate a survey initiative, which would mitigate the effort required by city staff.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Consider Resolution of Support for State of MN 2024 Capital Budget Request

The State of Minnesota Office of Management and Budget is now accepting requests for capital budget eligible projects for 2024.

Potential funding allocated for selected projects would be distributed through what is commonly referred to as the “bonding bill”.

The City has received allocations from recent bonding bills, however substantial work remains to preserve existing infrastructure and repair or improve existing facilities. Additionally, the allocations previously received have either been consumed, or the amounts are not sufficient to carry all anticipated project expenditures to completion.

A portion of the capital budget request process is to include a local resolution of support from the governing body.

Recommendation is to submit a capital budget request for the 2024 Capital Budget Year for city-wide infrastructure improvements including, but not limited to, water storage and distribution preservation and improvement, South Industrial Park sewer and water infrastructure preservation and expansion, South Industrial Park design development, and additional residential development pre-design, design, and infrastructure initiatives.

Motion by Kealy to accept and adopt Resolution 23-32 to submit a Capital Project Request to the MN Office of Management and Budget for City-Wide Infrastructure Improvements for the 2024 Capital Budget Year.

Supported by Towner.

Discussion. Approve/Reject.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

E. Request for Sewer Replacement Fund Transfer

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RU) has been a partner with and has offered financial assistance to the City throughout the various phases of the Capital Improvements Project (CIP).

MN Statutes 446A.072 establishes and sets the provisions for a Water Infrastructure Funding Program. A portion of this statute sets provisions for governmental units which have received grants and/or loans from certain agencies, including the USDA.

One of the provisions of receiving funding is the requirement of a governmental unit to establish a system replacement fund (See MN Stat. §446A.072 Subd. 12).

City Finance Manager Dianna Thronson has been made aware of this requirement, and offers additional information and recommendations in her memorandum which has been included in City Council supporting information.

Recommendation is to accept and approve Dianna Thronson's recommendation(s) in this matter to transfer \$21,972.50 from the Sewer Fund 602 checking account into Sewer Savings account 6510019.

Motion by Hadrava to accept and approve the transfer of \$21,972.50 from the Sewer Fund 602 checking account into Sewer Savings account 6510019.

Supported by Towner.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

It was noted that this amount is for calendar years 2021 and 2022, that the rate is established at \$0.50/1,000 gallons, and that it is based on total water flow, as established by state statute. This will be an ongoing annual transfer based on the previous year's total water flow.

Motion carried unanimously.

F. Resolutions for Conveyance of Real Estate and Recording of Warranty Deeds for Parcels Related to Damian 2nd Addition

The Plat of Damian 2nd Addition has been received and recorded by the St. Louis County Recorder.

As such, individual lots at the Damian 2nd Addition which have been sold may now be transferred from the City to the individual purchaser(s).

To date, eight (8) of the ten (10) newly available properties have been sold.

In order to transfer the ownership of these lots to their respective purchasers, Warranty Deeds must be drawn up for each lot sale, and accompanied by resolutions authorizing the conveyance of the real estate and attesting the same.

Resolutions authorizing the conveyance of real estate and attesting the same have been prepared for all eight (8) Damian 2nd Addition lots sold to date.

Recommendation is to accept and approve each of these resolutions individually.

Motion by Kealy to accept and approve Resolution 23-33 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 1 Block 1 to Dustin Reini.

Supported by Loeffler.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Towner to accept and approve Resolution 23-34 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-33 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 1 Block 1 to Dustin Reini.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kealy to accept and approve Resolution 23-35 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 2 Block 1 to Matt and Tara Starc.

Supported by Loeffler.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion by Towner to accept and approve Resolution 23-36 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-35 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 2 Block 1 to Matt and Tara Starc.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Towner to accept and approve Resolution 23-37 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 3 Block 1 to Keith and Linda Carlon.

Supported by Kealy.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Hadrava to accept and approve Resolution 23-38 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-37 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 3 Block 1 to Keith and Linda Carlon.

Supported by Loeffler.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kealy to accept and approve Resolution 23-39 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 1 Block 2 to Robert D. Brown and Sue Ann Succio.

Supported by Loeffler.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion by Kealy to accept and approve Resolution 23-40 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-39 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 1 Block 2 to Robert D. Brown and Sue Ann Succio.

Supported by Loeffler.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Towner to accept and approve Resolution 23-41 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 2 Block 2 to Wesley and Mary Lauzen.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Loeffler to accept and approve Resolution 23-42 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-41 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 2 Block 2 to Wesley and Mary Lauzen.

Supported by Kealy.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Towner to accept and approve Resolution 23-43 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 3 Block 2 to Dana Pahkala.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Towner to accept and approve Resolution 23-44 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-43 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 3 Block 2 to Dana Pahkala.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kealy to accept and approve Resolution 23-45 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 5 Block 2 to Jeffrey Hill.

Supported by Towner.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Loeffler to accept and approve Resolution 23-46 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-45 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 5 Block 2 to Jeffrey Hill.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Loeffler to accept and approve Resolution 23-47 authorizing the conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 6 Block 2 to Gary and Janette Salin.

Supported by Kealy.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Kealy to accept and approve Resolution 23-48 attesting the adoption of Resolution 23-47 Authorizing the Conveyance of Damian 2nd Addition Lot 6 Block 2 to Gary and Janette Salin.

Supported by Towner.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Roll call vote: Hadrava – Aye; Kealy – Aye; Loeffler – Aye; Towner – Aye; Carter – Aye.

Motion carried unanimously.

G. Approve Hiring of Summer Help

The City had previously publicly posted and published advertisement for 2023 Public Works Department Summer Street Labor, with a deadline for applications date of May 12, 2023.

Four (4) applications were received for consideration of filling these positions, however, one (1) applicant did not accept the position.

An additional application has been received and the Public Works Department has indicated a desire to place an additional individual on the Summer Street Labor roster to bring the crew complement to four (4).

Recommendation is to approve the hiring of the interested applicant pending completion of pre-employment paperwork.

Motion by Towner to approve the hiring of Jocelyn Lofquist for 2023 Summer Street Labor, pending successful completion of pre-employment paperwork.

Supported by Kealy.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Public Works Foreman Pink indicated that maintaining the disc golf course has required more labor resources recently and that this was likely to continue.

Motion carried unanimously.

H. Billy's Pit Stop Pub 'n Grub Street Closing Request

Billy's Pit Stop Pub 'n Grub has scheduled their 2nd Annual Car Show on Saturday, July 22, 2023. The event will be held on State Street on the 100 block of State Street which fronts Billy's.

Carla Dombrowski of Billy's has requested to have that block of State Street closed from 12:00 p.m. to about 5:00 p.m.

The use of barricades has also been requested.

It is in the best interests of the City to demonstrate goodwill and partnership with its residents and business community and to support economic development events in the city.

Recommendation is that the City grant the request of Carla Dombrowski and Billy's Pit Stop Pub 'n Grub.

Motion by Loeffler that the City grant the request of Carla Dombrowski and Billy's Pit Stop Pub 'n Grub to close the 100 block of State Street from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on July 22, 2023, and to assist with traffic control by allowing the use of barricades.

Supported by Towner.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

Motion carried unanimously.

I. Approve Fiscal Year 2022 Financial Audit

Sterle & Company, LTD, the City's Independent Auditor, has completed their audit of the financial statements of the City of Buhl for the fiscal year period ending December 31, 2022.

Bonnie Sterle, of Sterle & Company, LTD, presented the findings of this audit period and was posed to answer any questions that may have arisen.

The audit report was distributed to the City Council.

There were about six (6) main points of information to take away from this report.

Following this presentation, the City Council was requested to act on the acceptance of this Independent Auditor's Report and Supplemental Information.

Major takeaways from the (December 31) 2022 report include:

- 1) The City received an unmodified opinion ("clean" audit report);
- 2) Total assets of nearly \$20 million (including \$4.3 million in cash/investments and \$14 million in infrastructure);
- 3) Liabilities of \$6.1 million;
- 4) General Fund balance of \$1.5 million (unassigned/unrestricted);
- 5) Eighteen (18) months of operating reserve carried in General Fund (policy is to carry a minimum of five (5) months);
- 6) General Fund held its own in 2022;
- 7) Special Revenue Fund (Library) net position of \$85,700;
- 8) Debt Service Fund (G.O. Bond) net position relatively unchanged;
- 9) Capital Projects Fund (7 of them) net position(s) of \$544,300;
- 10) Enterprise Funds (those supported by user fees):
 - a. Ambulance net position of \$107,035
 - b. Water/Sewer/Refuse/Electric – operating income/(loss)
 - Water, sewer & electric all showed income
 - Refuse showed loss due to contract service increases
- 11) Internal Service Fund net position of \$41,000;
- 12) Infrastructure Fund – assets \$8.9 million; liabilities \$3.5 million
- 13) Recommendation that the City should work with City Engineer to determine how much of the Infrastructure Fund should be allocated to water, sewer, and street related items, with transfer to each made accordingly;
- 14) Governmental Auditing Standards Report included two (2) findings standard and common for cities of similar size.

Recommendation is to accept and approve the Independent Auditor's Report, Financial Statements, and Supplemental Information for the fiscal year period ending December 31, 2022.

Motion by Towner to accept and approve the Independent Auditor's Report, Financial Statements, and Supplemental Information for the fiscal year period ending December 31, 2022, prepared by Sterle & Company, LTD.

Supported by Hadrava.

Discussion. Approve/Reject/Table.

City will invite Bonnie Sterle to the scheduled Working Session Meeting of August 1, 2023 to discuss in more detail.

Motion carried unanimously.

J. Update on Department of Public Transformation Activate Rural Cohort Site Visit and Project Kickoff Event

The City recently was selected by the Department of Public Transformation (DoPT) as a grant recipient for their Activate! Local! initiative, and for the next two years will be participating as an Activate Rural Cohort project partner.

The project has held its kick-off meeting in Granite Falls, MN, and now will be reaching out locally.

On June 21, 2023 Activate Rural will be coming to Buhl. The agenda for this activity is given below.

All Council members are invited to participate and attend, as their schedule may allow.

Councilor Loeffler described the itinerary as below -

- Meet with Core Team (10:00am-11:30am)
- Tour of the building (11:30-12:00 pm)
- Lunch break - local establishment with local artists, creatives, entrepreneurs (12:00-1:30pm)
- Tour of surrounding area of the building and community (1:30-2:30pm)
- Meet and/or facilitate discussion with local partners and additional community champions (2:30-4:00pm)
 - city officials, community organizations, local businesses, local artists, students
- Optional: Meet and Greet happy hour, mini presentation or integrate at an existing event (4:00-5:00pm)

- o Acknowledge and celebrate the work happening, introduce core team, share a bit about project / building, to support confidence and credibility creation
- o At the project location or another public location

This schedule will be posted on the City website.

Informational only.

K. Update on Julia Joyal vs. City of Buhl Conciliation Court Hearing

The St. Louis County Conciliation Court hearing involving Buhl resident Julia Joyal and the City, conducted on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, was adjudicated in favor of the Plaintiff (Julia Joyal), in the full amount of \$15,000.00 requested by the Plaintiff.

The City communicated to its insurance carrier, The League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) its desire to appeal this finding and have the matter considered in front of an appellate court; LMCIT agreed to this approach.

LMCIT subsequently forwarded this matter to an independent 3rd party counsel of their selection, in order to obtain an independent legal opinion on the matter.

This independent legal opinion rendered from Elisa Hatlevig, of Jardine, Logan & O'Brien, P.L.L.P. concluded, in part, that:

“While the City would have immunities and defenses, including no negligence in relation to Ms. Joyal’s claims, I believe based upon the correspondence and communications I have looked at there would be a fact issue that would preclude summary judgment, forcing this into trial before a jury – and spending considerably more than the current judgment in defense costs.”

After noting that the City would have immunities and defenses for no negligence, and that the damage claims were likely unrealistic, the opinion further concluded:

“All that being said, investigation into the damages, discovery, depositions and the Motion for Summary Judgment, that I believe there would be a fact issue on any way, would likely exceed the value of the current Conciliation Court Order.”

Thus the recommendation of independent counsel was to not appeal the judgement of the Conciliation Court, and to settle the claim. LCMIT has agreed with this position. The City will be liable for their deductible amount only

(\$250.00), with no additional impact upon the policies or coverages provided to the City by LMCIT.

Informational only.

L. Update on Capital Improvement Infrastructure Project (CIP) Loan Closing

The City's Capital Improvements Project (CIP) has been, in part, funded by temporary financing with the 1st National Bank of Buhl (now B2 Bank), in the amount of \$3,716,000. This short-term funding instrument was intended to provide funding assistance throughout the construction period of this project.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RU) has been a partner with and has offered financial assistance to the City throughout the various phases of the Capital Improvements Project (CIP).

The USDA RU has offered long-term financing to satisfy the debt on and replace the temporary financing of \$3,716,000, through the purchase of two (2) independent General Obligation Revenue Bonds, a Sewer Revenue Bond in the amount of \$600,000 and a Water Revenue Bond in the amount of \$3,116,000.

The City will pay-down the principal amount of the loans created by the purchase of these bonds, at a 3.00% annual interest rate, in 40 equal annual installments due on June 12 of each year to the USDA RU, beginning in 2024.

The closing of these financial arrangements, between the City, USDA RU, and Fryberger Law Firm (the Bond Counsel), was conducted on June 12, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. at the Buhl City Hall.

The City was represented by the Administrator and the Mayor at these proceedings; the closing was effectuated and completed at that time. The City will pay-down this long-term financing in the approximate amount of \$160,800 per year for 40 years.

The City Engineer indicated that a previous rate study and an affordability analysis had set rates to, in part, provide for this debt service burden.

Informational only.

M. Reminder of Items for CIP Punch List Needed

The Capital Improvements Project (CIP), which has been undertaken in phases in the city for the last three years and resulted in new (water and sewer) infrastructure and roadway improvements, was deemed substantially complete June 17, 2022.

A one-year period to address warranty claims is in effect; this period is set to expire on June 17, 2023.

All residents were reminded that ALL CLAIMS FOR ITEMS THAT SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED FOR POTENTIAL INCLUSION ONTO THE PUNCH LIST MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CITY BY JUNE 17, 2023.

Items not received by this date will be ineligible for inclusion as potential warranty punch list work.

Councilor Kealy requested looking onto the alley south of Pennsylvania Avenue heading east from Roberts Street as to whether or not this was meant to be paved (or re-paved).

Informational only.

N. Reminder of Annual Spring Clean-Up June 12 – 15, 2023

All residents were reminded that the City Annual Spring Clean Up/Sign Up Program is underway at this time and will continue through June 15, 2023.

Residents who contacted City Hall and were placed on the pick-up list should have their items ready for pick-up in the alley at this time.

Informational only.

O. Councilor's Comments.

Councilor Kealy –

Extended congratulations to the City crew & color guard for beautifying the cemetery and the nice Memorial Day service; Mentioned and offered that an online software solution for campground reservations should be looked into; Excitedly mentioned that the All-Class Reunion and Parade is right around the corner and invited all to attend.

Councilor Loeffler –

Commented that vandalism which has been occurring at the beach, especially with the portable restroom(s), is very unfortunate and disappointing.

Councilor Towner –

Mentioned that the parade will be fun; Mentioned that another Movie Night is coming up at the Library on June 23.

P. Mayor's Comments.

Extended thanks to Jeff Anderson and Gary Cerkenik of the Costin Group; Extended thanks to Representative Dave Lislegard and Senator Rob Farnsworth for their efforts on behalf of the City; Extended thanks to City Engineer JPJ Engineering, Inc.

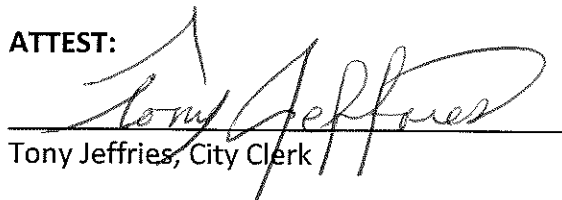
Additionally commented that "it is not one individual, it is not one group of individuals, that determine the success of our community...it is ALL of us as a whole...past, present and future...who make it get done – working together". Thanks to ALL; congratulations to Buhl on a successful legislative session, and let's work together toward the future!

8. ADJOURN:

Motion by Towner to adjourn. Supported by Kealy. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.


Brandin Carter, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tony Jeffries, City Clerk