

Pursuant to due call and proper notice thereof, a meeting of the Breckenridge City Council was held on December 18, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, Breckenridge, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Russell Wilson; Council Members Beth Meyer, Evie Fox, Reed Johnson, and Chris Vedder. City Administrator Lori Conway and City Attorney Jason Butts.

Members Absent: Council Members Jawaski and Wermerskirchen.

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Johnson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

Open Discussion: None.

Motion by Council Member Meyer to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Council Member Johnson and carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda included the following:

- A. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting on December 4, 2023.
- B. Motion approving the filing of the Public Utilities Commission minutes from December 4, 2023.
- C. Motion approving the renewal of three Garbage Haulers Licenses.
- D. Motion approving the renewal of two Tobacco Licenses.
- E. Motion approving a quote for a 2023 John Deere snow blower, hitch, and PTO from RDO Equipment in the amount of \$48,943.48. (paid out of Capital Outlay with possible grant)
- F. Motion approving the purchase of equipment and labor to install new computer networking and firewalls from Digital Guru in the amount of \$9,200.20 due to Wilkin County no longer allowing the City to remain on their T1 line fiber service. (paid out of Capital Outlay)

Public Hearing for USDA Snowblower Grant: Gail Leverson and Ryan Zemek from Widseth were present to go over the grant application. There was no one from the public present to comment on the grant. The City qualifies for a 75/25 match with the City's responsibility being the 25%. The total amount of the grant application is \$56,500.

Council Member Fox offered Resolution No. 13409-86/2023, **"A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE USDA FOR SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE,"** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

Public Hearing for Street Improvement Bonds: There was no one from the public present to comment on the bond process.

Council Member Johnson offered Resolution No. 13410-87/2023, **“A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A STREET RECONSTRUCTION PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF STREET RECONSTRUCTION BONDS THEREUNDER,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Fox and carried unanimously.

Public Hearing for Proposed Property Tax Rebate: There was no one from the public present to comment on the rebate program. This is the last rebate for this program as it was not renewed for 2024.

Council Member Vedder offered Resolution No. 13411-88/2023, **“A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PROPERTY TAX REBATE FOR PARCEL NO. 23-210-0090 THROUGH THE NEW HOME PROPERTY TAX REBATE PROGRAM FOR THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

The Police Committee addressed where trucks could park coming from some complaints received this fall. They are going to try out the new zones and see if this will help with some of the issues. Council Member Johnson offered Resolution No. 13412-89/2023, **“A RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 10750-248/98 AND APPROVING NEW DESIGNATIONS FOR TRUCK PARKING ZONES IN THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Fox and carried unanimously.

With some minor changes and the addition of a meeting salary list, Council Member Vedder offered Resolution No. 13413-90/2023, **“A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE BILLS & CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Fox and carried unanimously.

Council Member Fox offered Resolution No. 13414-91/2023, **“A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN ENGINEERING SERVICE CONTRACT WITH INTERSTATE ENGINEERING, INC. FOR PROJECT NO. 322-23, 2024 STREET IMPROVEMENTS,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Johnson and carried unanimously.

FYI – Wilkin County sent a letter notifying the City that they are terminating the Joint Powers Law Enforcement Agreement between the City and the County effective December 31, 2024. Council Member Vedder moved to close the City Council meeting per Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subd. 3(c) to discuss lease/property amounts at 515 Dacotah Avenue in Breckenridge. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

The meeting was reopened at 6:03 p.m. with no official action being needed.

Mayor's Comments: Mayor Wilson wished everyone a wonderful Christmas.

Other Comments: Council Member Meyer would like to relook at the special assessment policy again. More specifically, the length of the abatement and maximum amounts. She feels a 11-year time frame is too long and the \$400,000 maximum for the abatement is too much. Since it was already approved at the last City Council meeting, this will need to go back to the committee for further review. Council Member Meyer moved to have the special assessment policy relooked at again. Seconded by Council Member Vedder and carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Vedder to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

RUSSELL WILSON, Mayor

LORI A. CONWAY, City Administrator