

Pursuant to due call and proper notice thereof, a meeting of the Breckenridge City Council was held on May 20, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, Breckenridge, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Russell Wilson; Council Members Beth Meyer, Evie Fox, Reed Johnson, Jim Jawaski, Chris Vedder and Scott Wermerskirchen. City Administrator Lori Conway and Finance Officer Isaac Jordahl.

Member Absent: City Attorney Jason Butts.

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

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

Open Discussion: Mayor Wilson welcomed the newly hired Finance Officer, Isaac Jordahl.

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

- A. Motion approving the minutes from the regular City Council meeting on May 6, 2024.
- B. Motion approving the filing of the Public Utilities Commission meeting minutes of May 6, 2024.
- C. Motion approving a quote from Deck Master in the amount of \$2,666.69 for materials to install a donated basketball court at the BFAC. (Capital Outlay Public Works budget)
- D. Motion approving a quote from Tactical Advantage in the amount of \$6,649.89 for 10 handguns and 11 holsters. (Capital Outlay Public Safety Fund)
- E. Motion approving a quote from Amazon in the amount of \$2,767.70 for 10 handgun lasers. (Capital Outlay Public Safety Fund)
- F. Motion approving a quote from ByteSpeed in the amount of \$995 for a new laptop for the Finance Officer.
- G. Motion approving upgrades to the Bois de Sioux Adventure Area up to \$1500 for gravel and portables (bathrooms) for the 2024 summer season.
- H. Motion approving the renewal of a Seasonal Liquor License for the Bois de Sioux Golf Club.
- I. Motion approving a Raffle Permit for the Breckenridge High School Big Shots.
- J. Motion approving a Raffle Permit for the Breckenridge Baseball Association.

Personnel Committee Chair Wermerskirchen gave the following updates:

- A. An offer was made to hire a new police officer. He is still negotiating with another City though so not sure if he will accept our offer.
- B. Resignation of a City worker was received– going through the hiring process now.
- C. Starting the hiring process for a Journeyman Lineman as one may be retiring.
- D. The salary survey should be coming out in a couple of weeks.

- E. The AFSCME Union has been discussing decommissioning, therefore, negotiations may not be held with this Union.

Finance Committee Chair Vedder gave the following updates:

- A. She would like to hire a FT Grant Writer as she feels we are missing out on a lot of opportunities. Lori Conway believes the Coalition may have one, but it will cost us to hire them. She has been in contact with other cities to see who uses grant writers. They have utilized Widseth for the most recent grant. Lori stated that this option can be looked at during Budget time.
- B. Three Rivers Arts Council (TRAC) has done things in town but have since figured out that most of the work was coordinated by Wayne Beyer who has since left the group. They have applied for the same grant 3 times but have been denied each time.

Public Works Committee Chair Jawaski gave the following updates:

- A. The basketball courts were recently approved.

Police Committee Chair Wermerskirchen – nothing to report this meeting.

Active Living Committee - Council Member Johnson reported the following:

- A. They are currently working on getting a 4-wheel electric bike.
- B. Working on an elderly fitness park in the Gewalt Park housing development. The covenants will need to be looked at first though to see if it is allowable.
- C. A youth mental health scavenger hunt started today. Lots of prizes are available to the kids.
- D. Working on getting sidewalks in Jefferson Park.

Unfinished Business:

- Railroad – when the crossings are down, there can be quite a lineup going towards the curve out of town. Wondering if some type of warning lights can be put up warning vehicles there is a train blocking the tracks. Chief Karlgaard indicated that he has been working with their new VP of Operations and this item can be brought up at the next Police Committee meeting.

New Business:

Along with a meeting salary list, Council Member Wermerskirchen offered Resolution No. 13441-27/2024, **“A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE BILLS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE, MINNESOTA,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Vedder and carried unanimously.

Staff Reports:

A. City Administrator:

1. A new committee is being formed for the new North Port/Business Subsidy development. They will be meeting on June 5th at 7 a.m.
2. The pool is still looking for more lifeguards so they can operate at full capacity.

B. City Attorney: None.

C. Director of Public Services:

1. The new flood ordinance should be finalized after the Affidavit of Publication is received.
2. RRVWS gave a presentation here at City Hall with many of the City Council Members present. They discussed the levels of the aquifer within our community. This would be beneficial for Breckenridge to review for their future. North Dakota has state funds that they can use for some of the project, which Minnesota does not. A committee needs to be established to look further into the matter, prior to making any decisions.
3. The pool will be opening June 5th.
4. Neil received a notification from KPH that they will be starting on the southside storm sewer project mid-July.
5. The electric crews will be working along Highway 75 over the next few weeks.
6. CSI has not provided a start date for the street improvement project. The homeowners will be notified once Neil knows when the project will be starting.

D. Building Official/Codes:

1. Inspections are continuing at St. Mary's School.
2. Two duplexes are currently being constructed at Oak/Main.
3. Fifteen mow letters and 4 junk/debris letters were just sent out today.

E. Chief of Police:

1. Sergeant Kriel will be resigning as he has decided to get out of law enforcement and will be moving to another state. They are currently trying to rewrite his job description splitting the detective and sergeant duties. Once approved by Teamsters, they can start advertising for them. The Chief called a staff meeting letting his team know the news and they were all in favor of continuing 24-hour coverage.
2. Rummage sale signs are continuously being put up at the 4-way stop. The officers take them down and more show up. Not sure what the solution is. Maybe we put up our own sign stating no signs can be put there. A suggestion was to designate a spot to have all signs placed there. Jason will need to be consulted with that.
3. Blue Goose Days will be June 1st.

4. Chief indicated he will be moving his office to City Hall. Eventually the rest of the department will be relocated to City Hall as well, but some construction will need to be done first.
5. The Chief explained how the nuisance complaints are handled. It varies whether it is long grass, inoperable vehicles, junk, debris, or garbage. The police take care of certain complaints and the Building Official handles others.

Mayor's Comments: None

City Council Member Comments:

- Council Member Vedder thanked City Administrator Conway for the new Council Agenda format.
- The legislature apparently did not address any bonding bills so no news whether the Infinity Center received any funding.

Other Comments: None.

Motion by Council Member Jawaski to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

RUSSELL WILSON, Mayor

LORI A. CONWAY, City Administrator