

Pursuant to due call and proper notice thereof for the Breckenridge City Council was held on February 21, 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, James Jawaski, Chris Vedder, and Scott Wermerskirchen. Finance Officer Ariel Johnson and City Attorney Jason Butts.

Members Absent: None.

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

With the addition of 8C – Bruce Yaggie representing the Infinity Center, Council Member Johnson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Jawaski and carried unanimously.

Open Discussion: None.

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

- A. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting on February 6, 2023.

Council Member Johnson offered Resolution No. 13336-13/2023, **“A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A BID AND AWARDING A CONTRACT TO SCOTT’S ELECTRIC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$105,815 FOR PROJECT NO. 321-23, TWITO CIRCUIT C BORING,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Fox and carried unanimously. This is a continuation of getting all of the electrical lines in the City buried underground.

Old water plant property sale: There are two persons that are interested in taking over the water plant building. One would like to expand their detailing shop the other would like to put in a microbrewery. The Planning Commission heard their presentations as they the Planning Commission needs to approve all land sales in the City. After hearing the presentations, they recommended to allow the detailing shop to have the property.

City Attorney Butts explained that the normal process would be to advertise and take sealed bids which the highest bid would prevail. But in this case, the Public Utilities is giving the property away as it would cost them money to demolish it. By giving it away for less than the valuation, it would constitute as a business subsidy unless the project would provide needed employment for the citizens. Both parties would be hiring employees.

The City Council can stick with the Planning Commission’s decision, override their decision, or send it back to a committee if they choose. Their was discussion on how it is good to support the existing businesses but it would be great to bring in a new business. They need to look at what is the best for the community. There was a question if the property could be split and

accommodate both parties. There were questions regarding the underground tank and parking. More information is needed and a motion was made by Council Member Wermerskirchen to table the decision until the next meeting. Seconded by Council Member Fox and carried unanimously. Both interested parties will be invited to the next City Council meeting so all of the Council's questions may be answered.

With the addition of a meeting salary listing, Council Member Wermerskirchen offered Resolution No. 13337-14/2023, **"A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE BILLS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE,"** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Member Wermerskirchen to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance No. 523 – Renaming a portion of Mendenhall Avenue located in Gewalt Park Addition. Seconded by Council Member Johnson and carried unanimously. Right now there is a small street area that affects 2 houses in Gewalt Park Addition that is named Mendenhall Avenue. Mendenhall Avenue actually ends a few blocks away to the west which is very confusing. The portion in Gewalt Park Addition will be changed from Mendenhall to 16th Street North so it will continue with the rest of the houses along 16th Street.

Bruce Yaggie was present to give more information on the Infinity Center project. He was contacted by his lobbyist and was informed that he would like to present their bill request in a few weeks with the cash bond bills. This is different than the traditional bonding bill that was originally planned. The cash bill is an easier process so they are recommending that route. In order for the Infinity Center to be presented with the cash bills, they would need something from the City showing their support in the next week. The amount they are requesting for this bill is \$5.5 million.

Bruce then answered several questions that the Council had previously sent him such as: Who would own the building, who would run the daily operations, funding of the daily operations, insurance, who the tenants would be, what happens if project fails, what costs there would be to the taxpayers, if they are asking any money from the City, etc.

After lengthy discussion, the consensus was to provide the Infinity Center with a letter of support. Bruce will check with his lobbyist and find out exactly what they would like to see in the support letter.

Mayor's Comments:

- The Mayor appointed Ryan Engelman to the Planning Commission expiring March 2006.

Other Comments: The Power of 100 is tonight and Mandy from the FCC will be there representing the City of Breckenridge.

Motion by Council Member Jawaski to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Vedder and carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

RUSSELL WILSON, Mayor

ARIEL JOHNSON, Finance Officer