

CITY OF SUMPTER  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 10, 2024

CALL TO ORDER – 4:00pm

- a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- b. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE – Mayor Wise, Councilor Demaris, Councilor Briscoe. Councilor Brandt and Councilor Smith were absent, excused.
- c. VISITORS – Skip Duffin, Kimberly Ballard, Nancy Lukens, Kurt Clarke, Richard Summerfield, Cindy Remington, Tanya Thomas.

APPROVE MINUTES

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes from August 13, 2024. A review of the minutes was tabled until the next city council meeting on September 24, 2024, when all councilors are present.

REPORTS

- a. Fire Chief Kurt Clarke
  - (1) There have been no fires affecting Sumpter, but there were medical calls that involved life flight.
  - (2) The brush trucks have been cleaned.
  - (3) The Powder River FD donated \$500 to the SVFD for mutual aid assistance.
  - (4) SVFD responded on the Lyle and Harris fires, but did not assist.
  - (5) Peter Salzman worked on the antique fire truck and was able to start it up.
  - (6) There was a \$200 donation from Jim Howard and he was curious what it was used for; it went into the fire department budget.
  - (7) Regarding the staffing grant, the pay rates should be \$20.00/hr for firefighters on standby and \$25.00/hr for firefighters on department time; not \$15.00/hr. After discussion amongst councilors, Chief Clarke and Mr. Gaslin, the city clerk will work with Chief Clarke to review timecards and adjust past checks.
- b. Tim Jacobson, Public Works
  - (1) The city water system is in good shape overall.
  - (2) Mr. Jacobson requested the council to approve hiring Hughes Inc. for excavating the weir up at the McCully Creek water intake. Sediments have accumulated resulting in flow restriction. MSP: Councilor Briscoe/Councilor Demaris motioned to approve the expenditure to excavate the weir. All Councilors present approved.
  - (3) While excavating to access the water main for the extension project on Bourne Avenue and Ajax Street, forces beyond control of the contractor resulted in a major break in a 6 inch main. Water service was interrupted for three hours in the northwest section of the city. Thanks to M2 construction for providing the parts needed to repair the break.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Gaslin Report – there is \$83,045 in the checking account, \$227,025 in LGIP (down \$16,000 from last month). There was little activity on the credit card this month and expenses including: \$4566 Core & Main (hydrant/parts for water main project), \$4012 K&S Septic for tank pumps, \$2153 Gaslin Accounting. See the report on file for full details. Appropriations review, we should have 80% or so left (two months into the fiscal year). A few funds are down into 50% to 60% range; these are attributable to the time of year. MSP: Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve the expenditures and pay the bills. All Councilors present approved.

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- b. Sewer & Water Hookup, 450 Ibex St, Paolo – Mr. Paolo constructed/extended Ibex St for the purpose of developing his property in the northeast section of the city. The next step is to extend sewer and water to the lot; these will be service lines, not main extensions. MSP: Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve Mr. Paolo's request for sewer and water service line hook up to his property. All Councilors present approved.
- c. Refunds, Flea Market, Four Vendors – these four vendors paid too much for their spaces at the Labor Day Flea market. It is a total of \$50 that would be refunded. MSP: Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve refunding overpayments for the four Labor Day flea market vendors. All Councilors present approved.
- d. AGENDA ADDITION: Zoning Permit for Cracker Creek Mining Museum, Sumpter Valley Hwy, SVCV – to install a pole shed. A question for Baker City Building department is if a licensed contractor is required since it is a commercial property. MSP: Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe motioned to approve zoning permit for the property on Sumpter Valley Hwy and Cedar Steet. All Councilors present approved.

OLD BUSINESS

None

COUNCIL COMMENT

- a. Mayor Wise – there was a water improvement project status meeting with HECO Engineering and M2 Construction today. The new water tank is up and should be running in the coming weeks. An electrician is on site getting everything wired. Progress on tank construction was slow; the crew foreman was replaced and the new one sped up the work and got it done. The cleaning of the tank [inside] was postponed by the cleaning company, again. Target completion date is October 10, 2024. One of the current tanks is leaking, it will be drained and repaired/sealed. Lastly, the backup generator is still delayed. Upon arrival, it can be integrated into the system immediately, without delay.
- b. Councilor Demaris – we need a volunteer to step up and lead a committee to get the cemetery back in business. There are eight or nine families who would like to get plots. Stumps in the ten acre lot were put into piles by a volunteer, however the piles need to be removed or burned. The committee will be tasked with surveying the lot and mapping out the plot plan. This could be a source of additional income for the city.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Cindy Remington – she mentioned that porta potties during the flea markets may not be getting cleaned. Councilors and the city clerk responded that the city rents eight toilets for Labor Day. These toilets are cleaned on Saturday and Sunday during the market weekend by Baker Sanitary. The city does not control the toilets rented by private citizens or businesses; they have there own contracts with Baker Sanitary.
- b. Nancy Lukens – she inquired about advertising for the flea markets. Councilors responded that the flea markets are marketed through some print media and internet. From the tri-cities to Boise. Some is with county TLT funds.

ADJOURNMENT – 4:30 PM

MSP: To adjourn. Councilor Demaris /Councilor Brandt. All Councilors approved.

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Approved by the City Council this 24th day of September 2024.

Approved: 

Attested: 