



BAKER CITY, OREGON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

WORK SESSION

APRIL 25, 2023 - 6:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MAYOR:
Matthew Diaz
COUNCILORS
Johnny Waggoner Sr.
Jason Spriet
Dean Guyer
Beverly Calder
Raymond Duman
Nathan Hodgdon
CITY MANAGER
Jonathan Cannon

Call to Order/Introduction

1. Call to Order	Mayor Matt Diaz called the meeting to order 6:00 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation	Mayor Matt Diaz started Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation
3. Roll Call	Roll call was answered by Mayor Diaz and Councilors Guyer, Spriet, Duman, Waggoner Sr, Calder, and Hodgdon. Also in attendance were City Manager Jon Cannon, Administrative Services Manager Jennifer Spencer, Interim Public Works Director Joyce Bornstedt, Police Chief Ty Duby, and City Recorder Rheann Weitz.
4. Additions, Deletions and Modifications	The leak adjustment ordinance and quarterly financials are to be moved to a future date. Jennifer Spencer said to move it to the May 9th meeting. Motion Made by: Beverly Calder Motion: Accept modifications and deletions on the agenda In favor: unanimous motion passes
5. Public Comment	Mark Bennett was the only one who signed up for public comment. He wanted to comment on the R3 presentation. Moved him to comment during that time.
6. BCD Presentation	Ariel Reker, executive director for BCD, presented a request to utilize the City Hall office on the second floor. Ariel mentions the numerous events that BCD puts on for the City, including Taste of Baker, Wine Walk, and placing flower baskets on our downtown streets. If BCD had an office to utilize in the City, they would be able to have a better connection to and involvement with the City. BCD has once used the space and they would like to clean up the office, manage their old records and materials and become a positive partner to the City. Ariel mentioned the numerous departments she already works with within the City. For example, the Tree Board and Police Chief were both involved in their Spring Clean up the past weekend. Ariel mentioned that if they were able to have an office in City Hall, they would be able to help set up more information on the tourism tables upstairs in City Hall to promote tourism and activities in our City. Ariel thanked both Councilor Waggoner Sr. and Councilor Hodgdon for their involvement in working with BCD. Ariel mentioned that both the Boy Scouts and the Baker High School National Honor Society as being great volunteers for BCD.
7. R3 Presentation	Nick Green presented the R3 Presentation.

R3 is an intergovernmental agency between Lakeview, Burns, John Day, and potentially Baker City.

For its initial funding, R3 has requested \$30M in funds through House Bill 3138. They have also applied for federal funding through an FY24 congressionally directed spending request. Local jurisdictions will also contribute through their own incentive programs.

It was brought up that Baker has a high need for housing within our City and County. This would be a great opportunity to meet some of the housing needs that we face. They would like to see 1000 homes built here in Eastern Oregon. Bill Harvey, local contractor, commented that he didn't believe it would be possible to bring in contractors from outside of the City to help with these projects because it is hard to obtain and/or keep employees as it is. The contractors within Baker City already have a hard time keeping up because of employment issues. He believes the same would be true for trying to bring in other contractors.

Councilor Calder agrees with the need for housing within our community. Stated that if we were able to build more homes for people to come into our community, we could have more skilled work force, maybe eliminating some of the employment issues that were brought up.

Old Business

8. LID Instruction	Joyce Bornstedt presented LID (Local Improvement District) instruction to the Councilors. LID requirements are found in the City's Municipal Code chapter 50. In the 70s-80s 30 miles of the city's streets were paved, most of which were funded by LID's. Most recently, these projects have been funded by inter-fund loans, most often from one of the City's trust funds. LID's start within a neighborhood when citizens gather together to form a petition for their neighborhood streets, then the staff at the City performs an engineering report, and the council then approves the report and calls for a public hearing. If the public hearing is called, all of the citizens that would be directly benefited or affected by the petition would be notified by certified mail. After the notice goes out, property owners are able to remonstrate on the petition, if 2/3 of the citizens remonstrate the petition is defeated and the Council cannot revisit the same petition for a period of 6 months. If 2/3 does not remonstrate, the petition would move forward with the Council. Councilor Calder thinks that a good long-term project would be another 70s-80s type project for improvement on our streets. Councilor Guyer asked Joyce multiple questions about how property owners pay for LID's and how it is determined how much each property owner will pay. Joyce explained that there is a formula for every property that is affected, but she didn't have it on her at the time of the meeting. She did explain that every property owner has the option to repay the loan over the course of 20 years, but also have the option to pay it upfront, or early without penalty.
9. Housing Production Strategy Survey Drawing and Update - Deleted	Housing Production Strategy Survey Drawing and Update- Deleted from agenda.
10. Budget Board/Public Arts Commission Applications	There was 1 applicant for both the Budget Board and the Public Arts Commission. Michael Russell for the Budget Board and Ian Crawford for the Public Arts Commission. Motion made by: Beverly Calder Motion: to appoint each applicant to the board of choice since there was only one applicant for each board.

	Seconded: Ray Duman In favor: unanimous Motion passes
11. Ordinance 3391: Repealing Ordinance 3374 Oregon Fire Code - 3rd Reading	Ordinance 3390 (changing from 3391): repealing Ordinance 3374 Oregon Fire Code-3rd reading. Motion made by: Nathan Hodgdon Motion: to read the title only and adopt Seconded: Ray Duman In favor: unanimous motion passes

New Business

12. Poppy Day Proclamation	Mayor Diaz read the Poppy Day Proclamation. No discussion.
13. Leak Adjustment Ordinance - to be moved to future meeting	Leak Adjustment Ordinance was moved to May 9th meeting.
14. Quarterly Financials-Budget to Actual Review For Jan. - March, 2023 - to be moved to May 9, 2023	Quarterly financials were moved to May 9th meeting.
15. Schedule Executive Session on Labor Negotiations - Addition	City manager Jon Cannon asked that the City Council, either before or on May 9th schedule an executive session to discuss labor negotiations for the Police Department. Motion made by: Dean Guyer Motion: to hold an executive session after the conclusion of the May 9th Council meeting Seconded: Nathan Hodgdon In favor: unanimous Motion Passes

Updates and Future Items

16. Council Committee Updates	Mayor Diaz had an Airport Commission update - virtual meeting scheduled for the morning of the 26th. Councilor Calder - attended the Public Arts Commission meeting, chose their co-chairs, and plans to hold work sessions on Fridays in May, and the Baker City 150 starting committee will meet next week. Transient lodging tax committee met and the 1st half of the billboard on Hwy 7 is up and once the other half of the contract ends the other 1/2 will be done as well. Barley Browns 25th anniversary is days away and they are working to plan that. Councilor Guyer - Baker County Commissioners meeting talked about hiring a grant writer. Baker County Chamber of Commerce read their bi-laws and has a meeting on Thursday.
17. City Manager / Director Updates	City Manager Jon Cannon made a brief update on the possibility of Fire Chief Blair leaving the City for other opportunities. Jon Cannon mentioned reaching out to Rural Fire Chief Sean Lee for assistance as Interim if that happens.
18. City Council Comments	Councilor Calder mentioned the "If I were Mayor..." competition that was held locally for students in our schools. She said the winners would be announced at the School Board meeting on May 18th. She said they received 160 essays from students for this competition and had a wonderful turnout of ideas from students.

Councilor Waggoner Sr wanted to make sure everyone knew about the Oxford Housing meeting that was scheduled for Tuesday so that they could attend if they wanted to.

Councilor Duman wanted to name a couple of high school students; Jozie Ramos who was named 4A player of the year for Basketball and Isaiah Jones who was 1st team all-state for Basketball.

Councilor Hodgdon mentioned economic development and he wanted Councilors to have the idea in their minds to maybe have an economic development position within the City. He expressed the idea of moving Code Enforcement into Administration and having them double as the economic development officer. Councilor Calder pointed out that historically economic development has been a part of other positions within the City, so it could be a shared position and work well.

Councilor Guyer expressed interest in changing City Council meetings back to 2 regular meetings a month, versus 1 regular session and a work session.

Councilor Calder expressed that having the work session made it possible to have a more personable discussion with one another.

Discussion ensued.

Councilors decided to discuss this matter at the next Council meeting.

19. Upcoming Agenda Items

Councilors missed discussing upcoming agenda items at this meeting.

Adjourn

20. Adjourn

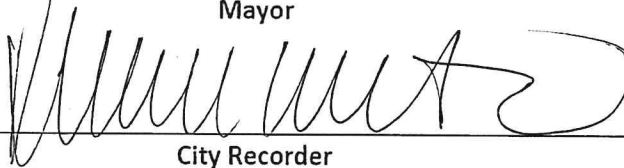
The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Signed: _____


Matt Diaz (May 25, 2023 08:15 PDT)

Mayor

Attest: _____


City Recorder

A link to this City Council meeting can be found www.bakercity.com or upon request to the City Recorder.