BAKER CITY, OREGON
CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

MAYOR:
Randy Daugherty
COUNCILORS
Loran Joseph
Roger Coles
Doni Bruland
Larry Pearson
INTERIM CITY MANAGER
Jon France

REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 28, 2023 - 6:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Call to Order/Introduction

1. Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Daugherty in the Baker City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation	Councilor Coles led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Invocation.
3. Roll Call	Roll call was answered by Mayor Daugherty and Councilors Bruland, Coles, Pearson, Carman, and Loennig. Councilor Jospeh was absent. Also present were Interim City Manager Jon France, Public Works Director Joyce Bornstedt, Fire Chief Todd Jaynes, Police Chief Ty Duby, Administrative Services Manager Jennifer Spencer, Planning Director Holly Kerns, and Human Resources Manager Stacy Spriet.
4. Agenda Additions, Deletions, Modifications	Item #11 was removed from the agenda because the proposal was not available.
5. Public Comment	There was no public comment.

Old Business

6. Consent Agenda	MOTION MADE BY: Councilor Bruland MOTION: to approve the minutes from the November 14th meeting. SECONDED: Councilor Loennig IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None Motion Passed.
7. 2023-11-14 Regular Session Meeting Minutes	Minutes were approved unanimously.
8. Revenue Discussion	Interim City Manager, Jon France opened the discussion regarding the upcoming town halls to discuss revenue. There will be two town hall meetings. The first meeting will be on December 5th from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at Crossroad Carnegie Art Center and the second meeting will be held on December 6th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at Community Connections. A discussion was had on who would attend which meeting, with the idea that only three councilor's would attend each meeting to not hold a quorum. Mayor Daugherty, Councilor Pearson, and Councilor Loennig will attend the meeting on December 5th. Councilor Bruland, Councilor Carman, and Councilor Pearson will attend the meeting on December 6th. Councilor Pearson motioned to make the town halls a formal meeting. That motion was not answered.

9. Ordinance 3397- Ordinance to Vacate Wells St. Alley	Mayor Daugherty open the floor for public testimony. No one came forth, and the public testimony was closed. Councilor Pearson made a motion to read Ordninance 3397 for the third time by title only. MOTION MADE BY: Councilor Pearson MOTION: to read Ordinance 3397 for the third time by title only SECONDED: Councilor Bruland IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None Motion Passed. Ordinance 3397 was read by title only by the Planning Director, Holly Kerns. MOTION MADE BY: Councilor Pearson MOTION: to approve Ordinance 3397 SECONDED: Coucilor Coles IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None Motion Passed.

New Business

10. Acting Mayor	The City Council needs to appoint an acting mayor. The purpose of the acting mayor is to run the meeting when the mayor is not in attendance. MOTION MADE BY: Councilor Coles MOTION: to nominate Councilor Bruland as acting mayor. SECONDED: Councilor Carman IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None Motion Passed.
11. Elkhorn Industrial Park Proposal	This item was removed from the agenda.
12. Resolution 3953: Resolution to Change Appropriations Moving Funds From Contingency In The General Fund And Creating Accounts For Insurance Deductible In The General Fund	The purpose of Resolution 3953 is to move funds from contingency into the general fund to cover insurance deductibles. The deductible covers cost in matters of settlements. MOTION MADE BY: Councilor Bruland MOTION: to adopt Resolution 3953 SECONDED: Councilor Carman IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None Motion Passed.
13. Resolution 3954: Moving Funds From Personnel to Materials and Services in Fire Department	Fire Chief, Todd Jaynes, is asking Council to approve Resolution 3954 to move funds from personnel to materials and services in the Fire Department. The purpose of moving the funds is to cover the cost of training and uniforms. The Fire Department has new paid part-time "volunteers" and new full-time employees. These volunteers are being sent to a Firefighter I academy. The department is partnering with surrounding fire departments to put on the

	training. The department is moving funds from the personnel line because the department did not have all positions filled, leaving money available. The department will also have to purchase new turnouts for the newer employees. The turn-outs the department has are set to expire. MOTION MADE BY: Councilor Pearson MOTION: to adopt Resolution 3954 SECONDED: Councilor Bruland IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None Motion Passed.
14. Fire Engine Status	Chief Jaynes sent two engines to be inspected in Star, Idaho. Both engines failed pump testing. The recommendation from the inspector was to get the pumps replaced. In the report it states, the cost of the repair or refurbish the parts exceeds the safety value. Chief Jaynes has a grant application with the Leo Adler Foundation and will hopefully hear back soon. Chief Jaynes hopes to use the grant money to help pay the cost of the new engine. Council asked Chief Jaynes and Mr. France to bring back quotes on leasing options and cost to replace parts at the next meeting.
15. Finance - Customer Service Solutions	Administrative Service Manager, Jennifer Spencer, gave Council a timeline including workload statistics that explain the finance department's inability to keep up with all aspects of their job every day. The finance department has had staffing turnover, lack of funding for a position, increased workload due to a position being cut, and a software transition. Councilor Pearson asked Ms. Spencer the options of how to fix the customer service aspect in the department, which includes answering the phone for residents to pay their water bills. Ms. Spencer said having the fourth position funded in the finance department would be the most impactful, however the money is not there to do so. Mr. France reiterated that there are four other options for residents to pay their bill besides over the phone. Outsourcing of utility billing was brought up. Outsourcing would have to be bargained with the union because the utility billing position is covered by the union. The consensus was to fix the phone answering system to remove the option to pay over the phone and a message to the citizens that they will be returning calls, if unanswered.
16. Police Staffing	The Council had several questions for Police Chief,Ty Duby. Mayor Daughtery asked Chief Duby about response time, liability, and if detectives could patrol. Chief Duby responded by saying that detectives do not patrol because if they get pulled off of cases, that makes the process to finish cases that much harder. Chief Duby also added that day shift is by far more busier than night shift. He said the statistics show the police department gets called more often during the day. Chief Duby reiterated that 24/7 coverage is ideal, but because the department is short on staffing they will be on a 4/10s shift. Detectives have specific training that allows them to work on more cases than a patrol officer. Councilor Loennig asked Chief Duby if the department could patrol the morning hours when they are expected to be off. Chief Duby said that it was a possibility to have a random patrol. She asked if there could be a way for the city to have cameras around town. Chief Duby said that is the best thing property owners could do. It would help the police department immensely with crime. The city has invested in cameras in city parks. Chief Duby finished with by saying the response time will be a bit slower during the hours patrol officers aren't on shift.

Updates and Future Items

17. Council Committee Updates	There were no comments.
18. City Manager / Director Updates	Public Works Director, Joyce Bornstedt had two comments. The first being that she has been in contact with the executive director of Northeast Oregon Economic Development about grant opportunities; workforce housing and infracture development. She will provide the Council with an update in January. The second item is the Airport Master plan. The Airport Commission has a public meeting scheduled for December 6th from 4pm - 6pm.
19. City Council Comments	The council discussed whether to add the ambulance discussion to the December 4th council meeting. Councilor Pearson advocated to keep it on the agenda in order to ask the County Commissioners why the ambulance licensing had not been approved.
20. Upcoming Agenda Items	Ms. Bornstedt will have bid awards for the next meeting.

Adjourn

21. Adjourn	MOTION MADE BY: Councilor Pearson MOTION: to adjorn SECONDED: Councilor Carman IN FAVOR: Unanimous OPPOSED: None Motion Passed.

Signed: Raby Dayberry
Mayor

Attest: [signature]
City Recorder

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