

CITY OF SUMPTER  
COUNCIL MEETING  
May 14, 2024

CALL TO ORDER – 4:00pm

- a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- b. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE – Mayor Wise, Councilor Demaris, Councilor Brandt and Councilor Smith. Councilor Briscoe was excused absent.
- c. VISITORS – Rebecca Patterson, Jon Patterson, Toni Thompson, John Young, Cynthia Remington, Kurt Clarke.

APPROVE MINUTES

- a. MSP: To accept the April 23, 2024, Council Meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Demaris/Councilor Smith. All Councilors approved.

REPORTS

- a. Fire Chief Kurt Clarke
  - (1) Thank you card from Bonnie's family for all the assistance rendered by the department.
  - (2) Thanks to John Young for all the work he does for the SVFD.
  - (3) There have been responding medical calls and wildfires.
  - (4) The fire departments in the county are looking for a house to burn. We have a house in town that would be good since it is not being used. It would require permission from the state park service.
  - (5) There were fire truck issues from sitting idle during winter, but all were repaired.
  - (6) They will need timecards for the firefighters since work is beginning on fuels reduction grants.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Gaslin Report – cash balance is approximately \$156,000. The city collected approximately \$28,000 in revenues with a few large bills, one from Baker Sanitary (a recurring expense). The city should take a hard look at sewer rates to cover the increased costs of tank pump outs over the last few years; plus, increased frequency of pump outs. Other higher bill highlights: Gaslin Accounting, HECO, Arros Electric, and chlorine. *MSP: Councilor Smith/Demaris motioned to approve paying the bills as presented. All Councilors approved.* There is approximately \$187,000 left in LGIP with total balance at approximately \$343,000 total cash in bank account(s). It seems a little tighter than what we would like to have. Appropriations review, General, Flea Market and Road Funds are looking fine. Concerns are with Materials and Services in the Water Fund (percent remaining 6%; at risk of over-extending) and Personnel Services in the Sewer Fund are over-extended at -27% remaining; actual expenses are not meeting expectations. At the June budget committee meeting, adjustments may be required.
- b. Zoning Permit, 222 Bonanza St., Daigneault – discussion relative to getting final inspection for work performed previously: working with Dawn Kitzmiller in Baker City Building Department. Dawn is okay with the zoning permit to proceed. *MSP: Councilor Demaris/Smith motioned to accept the zoning permit as written at 222 Bonanza St. All Councilors approved.*
- c. Zoning Permit, 244 High St., Golden – all requirements met. *MSP: Councilor Demaris/Smith motioned to accept the zoning permit as written at 244 High St. All Councilors approved.*
- d. Flea Market Refunds – Three Vendors – Memorial Day vendors who now cannot make it. *MSP: Councilor Brandt/Demaris motioned to refund money to vendors unable to attend the Memorial Day Flea Market. All Councilors approved.*

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OLD BUSINESS

None

COUNCIL COMMENT

- a. Mayor Wise – attended the LOC mayors meeting. The overwhelming topic was relative to cities budgets status. Most cities are struggling and looking for ways to increase revenues. Other topics included meetings/agendas and decades old city charters.
- b. Mayor Wise – DEQ wastewater system inspection. HECO has taken over our wastewater system improvements and we will work with DEQ on issues since the last inspections.
- c. Councilor Smith – giving KUDOS to the fire department handling the medical situation for the last several weeks. Thank you!
- d. Councilor Brandt – inquiring about ATV tours in town; as of now there are no updates from the organizer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Rebecca Patterson – as expenses are getting higher for the city, perhaps the city requires a burn permit to use the city burn pile. If \$5 is added to utility bills (once per year) it could generate \$1600 per year to dispose of ashes in Baker landfill. This topic can be addressed at the budget committee meeting.
- b. Jon Patterson – trail fest is doing wonderful; there is a ride scheduled for Friday. Other events are scheduled throughout the weekend. Can someone ask the Jennifer Lake Gallery to stop blocking off parking on Mill and Auburn Streets with their barriers in the middle of the street because it is fouling up parking. The blockage creates one lane for traffic to negotiate Auburn St.
- c. John Young – he attended a Renaissance Fair in Idaho. His intent was to market Sumpter's flea markets to vendors. Of the vendors he contacted 29 out of 30 did not know of our flea markets. There are vendors "out there that don't even know we exist". John's grander scheme is to encourage a marketing plan to reach more vendors appropriate for Sumpter flea markets. He spoke with an organizer about encouraging a fair on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July market.
- d. Jon Patterson – forest service revision plan feedback. He is willing to mail out collected feedback letters. Deadline for feedback is May 26, 2024. The next plan meeting is in the Fall.
- e. Toni Thompson – Museum open house on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

ADJOURNMENT – 4:33 PM

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

Approved by the City Council this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.

Approved:  \_\_\_\_\_

Attested:  \_\_\_\_\_