

Pursuant to due call and proper notice thereof, a meeting of the Breckenridge City Council was held on September 16, 2024, 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. City Attorney Jason Butts and Finance Officer, Isaac Jordahl.

Members Absent: None.

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

Council Member Johnson moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Fox and carried unanimously.

Open Discussion:

- Dean Birkeland from CarlsonSV was present and went through the 2023 City Financial Audit. This was a draft version which City staff will go through. Dean does not anticipate any changes except for some minor formatting.

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

- A. Motion approving the minutes from the regular City Council meeting on September 3, 2024.
- B. Motion approving the filing of the Public Utilities Commission minutes from September 3, 2024.
- C. Motion approving a Raffle Permit for the Kraz Dance Parent Organization.
- D. Motion approving the Fire Department to spend up to \$10,000 for a bumper with winch combo for the new fire truck when one becomes available (per the Finance Committee).

Council Member Meyer offered Resolution No. 13455-41/2024, **“A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF ACE WIKA AS AN APPRENTICE LINEMAN FOR THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Wermerskirchen and carried unanimously.

Council Member Wermerskirchen offered Resolution No. 13456-42/2024, **“A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF SYDNEY WIERTZEMA AS THE NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Jawaski and carried unanimously.

PERA requires a resolution for any part-time officer who is receiving PERA benefits. Council Member Johnson offered Resolution No. 13457-43/2024, **“A RESOLUTION DECLARING THAT A PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER, RYEN DREWS, BE ACCEPTED AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION POLICE AND FIRE PLAN,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Fox and carried unanimously.

With the addition of a meeting salary list, Council Member Vedder offered Resolution No. 13458-44/2024, **“A RESOLUTION ALLOWING THE BILLS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE, MINNESOTA,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Wermerskirchen and carried unanimously.

Council Member Wermerskirchen offered Resolution No. 13459-45/2024, **“A RESOLUTION SETTING DECEMBER 2ND AT 6:00 P.M. AS THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE’S TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING DATE FOR 2024,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Jawaski and carried unanimously. The regular meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. with the hearing starting at 6:00 p.m. in accordance with state statutes.

Council Member Johnson offered Resolution No. 13460-46/2024, **“A RESOLUTION SETTING THE PRELIMINARY 2024 TAX LEVY PAYABLE IN 2025 AT \$1,473,580,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously. The tax levy is set at a 10% increase but will go down before the final levy is certified in December. The tax levy can go down but cannot be increased from what is set for the preliminary.

Council Member Jawaski offered Resolution No. 13461-47/2024, **“A RESOLUTION SETTING THE PRELIMINARY 2025 GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE AT \$3,431,898,”** and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Johnson and carried unanimously. Just like the tax levy, this will be fine-tuned and go down before the final budget is approved.

Council Committee Reports:

- A. Finance Committee: No updates.
- B. Public Works Committee: No updates.
- C. Police Committee: No updates:
- D. LEC Committee, Special Assessment, Active Living, Arts Council, Library: No updates.
- E. Personnel Committee: Conducting interviews for City Administrator and negotiating with unions. Close to finalizing the Teamsters contract.

Staff Reports:

- A. City Attorney: Working on the marijuana ordinance in conjunction with the County.
- B. Director of Public Services: CSI has come back to start milling again for the street improvement project. Phase III flood project has started.
- C. Building Official: Permits and letters.

D. Chief of Police:

- PT Officer Ryen Drews is continuing with his FTO.
- May have another FT officer starting very shortly.
- There have been some car break-ins lately. The Chief is asking everyone to help them out and lock up your vehicles, sheds, garages.
- Headwaters Day was a huge success and Chief Karlgaard wanted to thank Lori G for putting it together, the street crews, his Police interns, and even the state troopers (who helped with traffic control).
- Chief mentioned that there is someone in the City that has a personal vendetta against him and is distributing flyers from an incident back in 2017. It was investigated by an outside agency and no charges were filed against him. If anyone would like to visit more about it, they are welcome to meet with him privately.

Motion by Council Member Jawaski to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

RUSSELL WILSON, Mayor

ISAAC JORDAHL, Finance Officer