

**MINUTES
BUHLER CITY COUNCIL
March 28, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jake Schmidt called the regular session of the City Council for the City of Buhler to order at 7:00 pm at the Buhler City Offices on Tuesday, March 28, 2023. Councilmembers present: Michael Yutzy, Chuck Taylor, Ryan Brady, and Andrew Epp. Councilmembers absent: Candace Davidson.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

PLANNED PRESENTATION

Buhler Economic Development Board- Ashley Showalter presented. They are currently working on their tool box/living document, something that they can make changes as needed. This is for any new or potential businesses, a packet of information as to why to choose Buhler, also information on the \$500 reimbursement for start up costs but now open to existing businesses for up keep which could apply for every 5 years. Information included would be what community offers and also some important dates for community events.

CONSENT MOTION

Council reviewed the Minutes of the February 28, 2023 Regular Council meeting, Appropriations Ordinance #1144, the Budget, Income and Water Reports, Appointment Library Board-April 2027 Term- Penny Moore, Confirmation HRC Pool Operations Season, and Resignation/Appointment "Freedom of Information Officer": Resignation- Merrill Peterson, Appointment- Sara Howard. **A motion was made by Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Epp to approve the Minutes of the February 28, 2023 Regular Council meeting, Appropriations Ordinance #1144, the Budget, Income and Water Reports, Appointment Library Board-2027 Term-Penny Moore, Confirmation HRC Pool Operations Season, and Resignation/Appointment "Freedom of Information Officer":Resignation-Merrill Peterson, Appointment-Sara Howard.** Voice vote 4 yeas, 0 nay – carried

NEW BUSINESS

Designate Accessway Name— Ideatek's Industrial Park Property-wants a new address so requires new name for accessway, Accessway to be named South Main. Will need signage put up for new name and Not a through street. This will help with Ideatek deliveries. **A motion was made by Councilmember Yutzy, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve the Designated Accessway Name to be a continuation of South Main and addressed accordingly by the City Clerk.** Voice vote 4 yeas, 0 nay—carried.

Water Rates/Service Fee— Planning to have Ordinance prepared for the next council meeting, maybe total 8% rate increase for base rate, which will bring \$13,000 more for water budget alone with added charges for higher user. Hoping to help with encourage water conservation. Last rate

increase was in 2009. This new increase will help meet our increasing costs. Possibly looking into posting public notice about rate increase along with getting information out there on conservation.

STAFF REPORTS

City Clerk Merrill Peterson- Working on finalizing the transition for Sara, Sara and Sarah are working great as a team. April will be very busy month as trying to get all vacation time used. Also, Insurance Renewal came and was up 8%, sales tax-month of March was down, compared to 1st two months of the year but 1st Quarter of 2023 is up 37% over 1st Quarter of 2022. Annual ARPA funds reporting opens April 1 and ends April 30 we still have \$40,000 in fund to be allocated by end of 2024.

Deputy City Clerk Sara Howard- Reno County Interfaith Housing grants applications are in off, they do all the work, City wide Clean up day is May 6th, April 27 from 4-6 we are having a come and go for Merrill's Retirement.

City Superintendent James Perry –Sewer Plant has had some power issues considering putting in a Phase Monitor, it's not fool proof and not cheap. Wastewater Treatment Plant the UV system is also having issues and needing new UV bulbs, considering to start looking around to upgrade system with new LED bulbs. Looking for new mower/deck found one \$3,500 then sell old or could trade in old (10 years old) for one found for only \$5,500. James's wife would like to get the Community Garden going again and getting more people involved.

Teagan Meadors, Wellness Director—Spring Break Activities turned out well, most held at the Wellness Center, did fitness challenge, crafts roughly 33 kids average per activity hope to continue, also had open gym time wasn't as successful. Summer Activity guides with summer camps/classes, youth sports and leagues, registrations. Wellness Center trending up 48% check ins.

Assistant City Clerk Sarah Glass—Attended the Court Clerk Conference-learned a lot have more questions but know where/who to ask. Second round of surveys have gone out and have quite a lot returned. Dog Vaccinations/Registration coming up April 20 5-7pm. Mid Kansas Credit Union reached out and will have a table set up with dog and cat treats to hand out.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS

A motion was made by Councilmember Brady, seconded by Councilmember Epp to adjourn. Voice vote – 4 yea, 0 nay - carried
Adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Glass, Assistant City Clerk

PRESENT:

City Clerk Merrill D Peterson, CMC
City Superintendent James Perry
Deputy City Clerk Sara Howard
Assistant City Clerk Sarah Glass
Teagan Meadors, Wellness Director
Captain Anthony Baldwin

GUESTS:

Mitchell Baldwin
Brad Voth
Ashley Showalter