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**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER GOVERNING BODY**

Damien Reino At Large, Position 1  
Steve Irving - Council President At Large, Position 2  
Wes Koklich At Large, Position 3

Lewis S. Key Mayor  
John Lyon Ward 1  
Bradley J. Humbert Ward 2  
Jose Garcia Ward 3

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**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**December 12, 2022**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session on December 12, 2022 in the Albee Room of the City Library, 8 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Steve Irving, Damien Reino, Wes Koklich and John Lyon.

Members absent were Brad Humbert and Jose Garcia.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman, Fire Chief Shane Garner, Engineering Technician Steven Patten and Public Works Supervisor Shane Wright.

Guests and citizens present were: William Saager, Jerrod Propeck, Paul Seaquist, Pat Didion, Sharee LaRue-Wright, Kim Munk, Levi Nored, Tom Bland, Pioneer Posse Court Miss Piper, Miss Paytyn, Miss Taylee and Miss Pro West Kaylee.

Representing the news media was: Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council minutes from November 14, 2022
- Accounts Payable November 8, 2022 – November 21, 2022
- Accounts Payable November 22, 2022 – December 5, 2022
- Resolution No. 2502, Acceptance of the Umatilla County Election Results from the General Election of November 8, 2022
- Change in Vendor Name on vehicle previously approved for purchase, V-198 Dodge Durango Police Interceptor, breaking the expense out to CJDR of Burley, Idaho in the amount of \$37,064.00 and Emergency Responder Services, Inc. of Nampa, Idaho in the amount of \$26,274.14.

Councilor Irving motioned to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. Councilor Lyon seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**PRESENTATION ITEMS:****INTRODUCTION OF THE PIONEER POSSE COURT**

The Pioneer Posse Court, Miss Piper, Miss Paytyn, Miss Taylee and Miss Pro West Kaylee each took turns introducing their self. Kim Munk representative of the “Weekend at the Blues” shared activities of their event being held the last weekend in July. Mayor Key presented the Pioneer Posse Court with a community support check in the amount of \$750.00 for there continued support and representation of Milton-Freewater.

**RECOGNITION GIVEN TO TOM BLAND FOR YEARS OF SERVICE AS A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER**

Fire Chief Shane Garner presented Tom Bland with a plaque along with recognition for his 37 years of volunteer service on the Fire Department. Mr. Bland expressed his sincere appreciation of the plaque and recognition.

**UPDATE – WATER SYSTEM STORAGE STUDY FINDINGS**

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman gave a presentation on the water system storage study findings. The study determined that a new 2-million-gallon reservoir for the middle water system was needed as well as a new well for the south water system. Preliminary estimates, as of June 2022, for the project show the reservoir estimated at \$5,631,000 and the well estimated at \$2,130,000 for an overall estimated project cost of \$7,761,000. Staff has had a 1-stop meeting with Biz Oregon to share funding opportunities of grant/loan or combination of both. Most State grant opportunities require rates to be much higher, possibly up to \$10.00+/month by the end of the project. Staff is still researching funding options. Request for Qualifications for Engineering firms will be issued soon for the project.

A discussion ensued regarding the City's current rates and those in the surrounding area.

Manager Hall stated the state requires rates to be that of the average of other Oregonians in order to qualify for state granted funding.

A discussion ensued regarding the depth of a new well and concrete versus steel structure.

Mr. Steadman stated a concrete structure would be less maintenance but a little more expensive initially. Concrete is what staff is recommending.

Councilor Irving asked if the old reservoir would be demolished.

Mr. Steadman stated it would be kept, drained and evaluated to see if it could be repaired.

Manager Hall stated staff was still researching financing options but it is very likely the rates would need to be adjusted in order to meet any kind of debt service. An increase in rates would be for capital improvements.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE WATER METER REGISTERS FROM GENERAL PACIFIC, INC.**

Mr. Steadman stated in keeping with a five-year plan, with this being the second year, to change out all the water meters staff was proposing to purchase 712 new water meters. Like other materials, the price for the meters have increased. They have gone from \$167 each to \$200 since the last purchase. Staff's recommendation is to purchase from General Pacific at they are a sole source distributor for Badger and Orion.

Councilor Lyon motioned to authorize the purchase of 712 new water meter Orion registers with the new Badger Beacon AMA cellular end points in the amount of \$200.00 each for a total of \$142,400 from General Pacific, Inc., as they are the sole Badger and Orion distributor. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2503, AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT AGREEMENT FOR YANTIS PARK PLAYGROUND AND PATHS WITH OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

Public Works Technician Steven Patten reported that staff applied for a rehabilitation grant for Yantis Park and the grant application was successful. The grant agreement is for the requested amount of \$114,000. The city has committed to providing \$76,000 in match funding through cash contribution and/or in-kind work. The grant agreement includes rehabilitation activities at Yantis Park that are divided into three main project tasks; ADA access improvements, walking paths improvements and playground equipment. Staff created an online survey for community members to select from a variety of playground equipment and noted which ones they preferred.

Councilor Lyon asked where the \$76,000 in matching funds were coming from.

Mr. Patten stated they were from the COVID relief funds.

Manager Hall stated the local option tax funds were already spent on items like the pool heaters.

Councilor Lyon motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2503, Resolution Authorizing Signature to Local Government Grant Program Agreement No. LG22-019 Yantis Park Playground and Paths with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**AWARD OF REVISED CONTRACT FOR CITY-OWNED FIBER OPTIC NETWORK EXPANSION**

Mr. Steven Patten reported at the October meeting, City Council awarded a contract with Blue Mountain Telecommunication Services, Inc. to extend the fiber optic network in the amount of \$61,016.38. After receiving the bid and after staff's review it was noted that the bid for the project came in over the \$50,000 threshold and would need to be paid out at the prevailing wage rate. Blue Mountain Telecommunication was the sole bid on the project so staff sought an updated bid which included prevailing wage which came in at \$77,524.68.

Councilor Lyon motioned to rescind the previous bid award made October 10, 2022. Councilor Reino seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Councilor Irving motioned to award the amended bid to include the required prevailing wages for the construction of fiber optic network expansion to Blue Mountain Telecommunication Services, Inc. of Walla Walla, WA in the amount of \$77,524.68. Councilor Lyon seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2504, AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE RECEIPT OF LOTTERY REVENUE BONDS FOR THE POLICE AND DISPATCH CENTER**

Manager Hall presented a grant that she wrote to help supplement the General Obligation Bond for the Police and Dispatch Center. The grant application was successful and the city was awarded \$3million dollars. The grant funds will be needed for the Police and Dispatch Center since the project bid came in over what the General Obligation Bond will bring in. The grant will be on a reimbursement basis, which means the funds will be spent first, then staff will apply to the state reimbursement. The grant funding is from the sale of Lottery Revenue Bonds through the State of Oregon.

Councilor Lyon motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2504, Resolution Authorizing City Manager's Signature to a Grant Agreement with the State of Oregon for the Receipt of Lottery Revenue Bond Monies. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Hall announced that the Council's advisory Recreation Committee want to revisit the priorities for the next funding cycle of the Parks and Recreation Local Option Tax. The first funding cycle priorities were a result of several community meetings hosted by the city council and gained the communities input on projects and their priority. At that time, the aquatic center was the biggest community's priority. Since that time, there have been new ideas brought forward like Pickleball. The Recreation Committee's recommendation is to hold another community meeting, Manager Hall suggested that it be part of the council meeting in January.

There was a council consensus to dedicate a portion of the January 9, 2023 council meeting to hear ideas and projects from the advisory committee and citizens.

Councilor Irving asked if the previous council adopted recreation priorities and their status could be brought to the January meeting for an update.

Manager Hall stated that would be a good idea because there have been other projects on the list that have had work done on as well.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

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Lewis S. Key, Mayor