

NORTH BEND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 21, 2023

City Hall, 920 SE Cedar Falls Way, North Bend, Washington

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL:

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Elwood, Gothelf, Joselyn, Koellen, Miller, and Rosen.

Mayor McFarland announced the portion of the Executive Session scheduled to discuss potential litigation, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) was cancelled.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes – City Council Meeting of November 7, 2023

Payroll – November 3, 2023 – 28727 through 28733, in the amount of **\$340,785.77**

Checks – November 21, 2023 – 74797 through 74856, in the amount of **\$1,027,374.75**

AB23-133 – Resolution 2088 Designating 2024 Paper of Record

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion **PASSED** 6-0.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS:

Debra Landers, 14615 438th Ave. SE, noted North Bend Art & Industry would be holding an Artist Sunday event at the North Bend Outlet Stores on November 26th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community & Economic Development Committee – Councilmember Miller, Chair
No report. The November 21st meeting was cancelled.

Finance & Administration Committee – Councilmember Gothelf, Chair
A report of the November 14th meeting was provided.

Public Health & Safety Committee – Councilmember Rosen, Chair
No report. The November 7th meeting was cancelled.

Transportation & Public Works Committee – Councilmember Miller, Chair
A report of the October 24th meeting was provided.

Council Workstudy – Mayor Pro Tem Koellen

A report of the October 10th Special Workstudy was provided.

Eastside Fire & Rescue Board Meeting – Councilmember Gothelf

A report of the November 8th meeting was provided.

Planning Commission

A report of the November 15th meeting was provided.

Parks Commission

No report.

Economic Development Commission

A report of the November 7th meeting was provided.

Sound Cities Association Board of Health – Councilmember Koellen

A report of the November 16th meeting was provided.

MAIN AGENDA:

**AB23-134 – Public Hearing Cont., Ordinance 1798 Adopting 2024
Property Tax Levy**

Audio: 11:12

Interim Finance Director Bouta provided the staff report.

Mayor McFarland announced the Public Hearing on an Ordinance Adopting 2024 Property Tax Levy was opened at the November 7, 2023 City Council meeting and continued to tonight's meeting.

The following individual commented on the agenda item:

Robyn Balcom, 246 Olallie Place

Mayor McFarland closed the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Koellen to approve AB23-134, an ordinance adopting the 2024 Property Tax Levy, with a 1 percent increase (Option Number 2), as a second and final reading. The motion **PASSED** 4-2 (Gothelf, Rosen).

**AB23-135 – Public Hearing Cont., Ordinance 1799 Adopting 2023/2024
Mid-Biennium Budget Modification & 2024 Salary Schedule**

Audio: 29:54

Interim Finance Director Bouta provided the staff report.

Mayor McFarland announced the Public Hearing on an Ordinance Adopting 2023/2024

Mid-Biennium Budget Modification was opened at the November 7, 2023 City Council meeting and continued to tonight's meeting.

The following individual commented on the agenda item:

Robyn Balcom, 246 Olallie Place

Mayor McFarland closed the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB23-135, an ordinance adopting the 2023-2024 Mid-Biennial Budget Modification & 2024 Salary Schedule, as a second and final reading. The motion **PASSED** 6-0.

AB23-136 – Resolution 2089 Adopting Six Year Capital Improvement Plan Audio: 40:17
2024-2029

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos provided the staff report.

The following individual commented on the agenda item:

Robyn Balcom, 246 Olallie Place

Councilmember Miller **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Rosen to approve AB23-136, a resolution adopting the City's 2024 – 2029 Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan, as a second and final reading.

Councilmember Koellen **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to amend AB23-136, by moving Items T—034, T-001 and T-052 up to placements Nos. 8, 9, 10 respectively on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) list. The motion **FAILED** 1-5 (Elwood, Gothelf, Joselyn, Miller & Rosen).

The main motion then **PASSED** 6-0.

AB23-137 – Motion Authorizing Amendment to Republic Contract Audio: 58:24

Deputy City Administrator/Public Works Director Rigos provided the staff report.

Councilmember Miller **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Rosen to approve AB23-137, approving the rate restructure by King County and authorizing an amendment to the Solid Waste Contract with Republic, in a form and content approved by the City Attorney. The motion **PASSED** 6-0.

AB23-138 – Ordinance 1800 Amending Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule Audio: 1:03:00
RE Solid Waste & Recycling Rates

Interim Finance Director Bouta provided the staff report.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to approve AB23-138, an ordinance increasing the Solid Waste & Recycling Rates and amending the Taxes, Rates & Fees Schedule, as a first and final reading. The motion **PASSED** 6-0.

AB23-139 – Motion Authorizing Contract for City Attorney Services **Audio: 1:06:12**

City Administrator Miller provided the staff report.

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Joselyn to approve AB23-139, authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Kenyon Disend, PLLC for City Attorney Services. The motion **PASSED** 6-0.

Mayor McFarland announced Mayor, Council & Administrator Concerns and Initiatives would take place at this time followed by the Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining, pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4).

MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNS AND INITIATIVES:

Councilmember Gothelf noted it was getting dark earlier in the day and encouraged all to be aware of pedestrian traffic when traveling on City streets, particularly in areas with crosswalks. Additionally, he mentioned the recent pedestrian/vehicular accident that resulted in a fatality and extended his condolences to the pedestrian's family.

Councilmember Miller echoed Councilmember Gothelf's comments and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Elwood echoed Councilmember Gothelf's comments.

Councilmember Joselyn echoed Councilmember Miller's Thanksgiving comments and noted he was thankful to be able to serve the City and to work with such a wonderful City staff.

Councilmember Rosen echoed Councilmember Joselyn's thoughts regarding City staff and encouraged pedestrians walking during the nighttime hours to wear highly visible light or bright colored clothing to increase their visibility.

Councilmember Koellen wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and encouraged all to travel safely.

Mayor McFarland spoke regarding the following items:

- City Offices closed November 23rd & 24th in observance of Thanksgiving Holiday
- Holly Days & Tree Lighting Ceremony – December 2nd 5 – 8 p.m. @ Downtown

- Cancellation of November 28th City Council Workstudy

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor McFarland recessed the regular meeting for an Executive Session at 8:19 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining negotiations, pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4). No action was anticipated as a result of the Executive Session, which was expected to last fifteen minutes and videotaping of the meeting ceased.

At 8:34 p.m. Mayor McFarland announced to audience members outside the Council Chambers that the Executive Session was expected to last an additional ten minutes.

At 8:44 p.m. Mayor McFarland announced to audience members outside the Council Chambers that the Executive Session was expected to last an additional ten minutes.

The regular meeting reconvened at 8:54 p.m.

AB23-140 – Council Vacancy & Appointment

Audio: 1:19:03

Council Applicant Interviews

Mayor McFarland explained the process to be followed for filling the vacant Council position created by the resignation of Councilmember Loudonback. He reported the City Council interviewed five applicants at the November 14, 2023 Special City Council meeting and moved forward consideration of the applicants Errol Tremolada and Sam White to tonight's meeting.

Each applicant answered questions from the City Council.

Council Appointment

Following the interviews, the Council recessed into **Executive Session** at 9:36 p.m. for an estimated sixty minutes to consider the qualifications of the applicants for Position No.4, as authorized by RCW 42.30.110(1)(h).

Following the Executive Session, Mayor McFarland reconvened the meeting at 10:37 p.m.

Councilmember Miller **MOVED**, seconded by Councilmember Elwood to appoint Errol Tremolada to North Bend City Council Position No. 4 to serve until certification of the November 2025 General Election. The motion **PASSED** 5-1 (Joselyn).

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Gothelf **MOVED** to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Koellen. The motion **PASSED** 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 p.m.

ATTEST:

Rob McFarland, Mayor

Susie Oppedal, City Clerk