The regular meeting of the Baxter City Council was called to order on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall by Mayor Pro-Tem Josh Meckley. Council members present were Josh Lokenvitz, Josh Meckley, Tootie Samson, Jason Robinson, and Dan Kunkel by electronic Zoom meeting. Mayor Bryan DeJong was absent.

Lokenvitz moved to approve the Agenda. Samson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Maintenance Report-Updates – Public Works Director, Bryce Halter was in attendance.

1. CIT Services has completed jetting the north and south sections of sewer mains on Main Street.
2. Drain pit in fire station for Ambulance has been cleaned out.
3. Received an offer for both garages on the nursing home property. Council agreed the City must put out for sealed bids. Will wait until the November meeting to review the results of the published RFP requests.

Police Report-Updates – Chief Bill Daggett was in attendance.

1. Participated in the Fall Festival last weekend.
2. Light bar on the black car is faulty, KelTek will be changing out.
3. Performing background checks on two additional reserves to present for Council consideration.

Council Consideration/Request to Change Job Title on City Clerk Position – Discussion was held regarding a request made by selected candidate, Lory Young, that the position title be changed from City Clerk to City Clerk/Administrator due to her previous administrative title. Upon completion of discussion the Council saw no problem with amending the position title.

Approval of Employment Agreement – City Clerk Position – Candidate Lory Young was in attendance to discuss changes to the Employment Agreement. Vacation accrual and a residency timeline were discussed. Amendments were agreed upon with the Clerk being instructed to make the necessary changes to the Agreement.

Approval of Hiring – City Clerk Position – Lokenvitz moved to approve the hiring of Lory Young to the position of City Clerk/Administrator for the City. Robinson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Public Hearing; Proposal to Enter Into a 5-Year Land Lease Agreement Between the City of Baxter, Iowa, and Verizon Wireless (VAW) LLC, for the Purpose of Leasing Real Property for the Construction of a Transmission Tower – Mayor Pro-Tem Meckley called for a motion to open the public hearing at 6:19 p.m. Lokenvitz moved to open the public hearing. Samson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes. Mayor Pro-Tem Meckley opened the floor to public comments, questions, or concerns regarding the land lease. With none, Mayor Pro-Tem Meckley called for a motion to close the public hearing. Robinson so moved. Samson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes. Public Hearing closed at 6:23 p.m.

Resolution #15-23; Resolution Approving a Land Lease Agreement Between the City of Baxter, Iowa, and Verizon Wireless (VAW) LLC, for the Purpose of Leasing Real Property for Construction of a Transmission Tower – Mayor Pro-Tem Meckley presented Resolution #15-23. Lokenvitz moved to approve. Samson seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes; Robinson, Samson, Meckley, Lokenvitz, Kunkel. Nays; None. Absent; DeJong. Resolution #15-23 adopted.

Consent Agenda – Samson moved to approve. Lokenvitz seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Bills Payable – Lokenvitz moved to approve. Robinson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes.

Mayor’s Report – Meckley noted recent complaints he received regarding the use of shipping containers for storage. Lengthy discussion followed. Council agreed it was not the practice they would like to see for future aesthetics of the community. It was noted that none of the owners of the containers had applied for a building permit prior to placing them. Upon completion of discussion, Council requested the Clerk present further information regarding accessory building requirements and the existing building code ordinance for further consideration at the November meeting.

Public Comments – Peggy and Ron Smith were in attendance to discuss unregistered golf carts being operated within the city and the new Ordinance recently adopted by the Council regarding a limit on pets allowed per household. Chief Daggett advised the Police Department would be dealing with unregistered golf carts. The Clerk will see that the animal ordinance is posted on the City website and Facebook page along with other avenues within the community for public awareness.

Lokenvitz moved to adjourn. Samson seconded. Motion carried, all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

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Mayor Pro-Tem Josh Meckley

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Peg Kimberley, City Clerk