



CITY OF HAUSER

11837 N. Hauser Lake Road, Hauser, Idaho 83854

HAUSER CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

(ZOOM Meeting & Public Attendance)

BUDGET MEETING – December 18, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Ray at 6:37 p.m. and welcomed all
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council member Taylor
3. **ROLL CALL:** *Council:* Hoerner, not present; Pomykala, present; Finley, present; Taylor, present
Staff: Mihara, Zoom; Wheeler, Zoom; Espe, Zoom; Sauter, present; Fondahn-Baker, not present
4. **MAYOR, Bill Ray:**
 - . Inland Northwest Tech LLC (INWT) estimate for Rick McAnich was not discussed at this meeting. The Mayor motioned to allow our Treasurer to go first to address the ARPA funds. Council member Taylor motioned to approve the Mayor's request. Council member Finley seconded the motion. Pomykala, aye; Finley; aye; Taylor; aye. Motion carried.
5. **TREASURER, Lee Wheeler:** Wheeler discussed the City has been granted ARPA funds which would need to be used towards COVID related issues. The City has approximately \$160,000.00 that can be used towards this fund and discussion ensued on how these funds can be allocated. With the deadline being the end of the year, ideas of how this can be taken from the budget were discussed. It was strongly suggested by Wheeler and Mihara that the City take the standard deduction related to these funds which would be classified under lost revenue. It is "cleaner" in the sense that it does not put the focus on being the subject of an audit and by taking the standard deduction, there are no questions asked. Mayor Ray asked what it takes to do a standard deduction and Wheeler replied that he is still looking into it. Mihara proposed to have a second meeting within 48 hours to vote on how the Council would like the ARPA funds allocated.
6. **REPORTS**
 - Cindy Espe, Code Enforcement**
 - . *Lake Street Improvements:* Espe discussed building out Lake Street. She stated there is work on obtaining property for the parking area.

7. Council Member: Daniel Finley

. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Council member Finley discussed his concerns about what can be used with the ARPA funds. He says that ARPA has specific guidelines for what the City can spend funds on whether if the city standardizes or itemizes the funds. Mihara stated these funds can be considered under general fund spending and that the categories under ARPA are broad.

8. ADJOURNMENT: 7:47 p.m.

Kristin Sauter, City Clerk

Bill Ray, Mayor



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BUDGET MEETING – December 21, 2024

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Ray at 9:04 a.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council member Finley
3. **ROLL CALL:** *Council:* Hoerner, not present; Pomykala, present; Finley, present; Taylor, present
Staff: Mihara, present; Wheeler, Zoom; Espe, Zoom; Sauter, not present; Fondahn-Baker, present
4. **MAYOR, Bill Ray:**
 - . Due to administrative and technical error, the budget meeting on December 18, 2024 was not recorded in a timely manner. The City Clerk was present and took notes of what was discussed. A decision was not made and therefore the meeting is scheduled today.

ACTION ITEM:

- . *Council vote to address ARPA funds*

The Council discussed the three options to vote on allocating ARPA funds. Treasurer Wheeler commented the City has \$160,000.00 that can be used for projects, standard allowance or lost revenue that can be discussed from past expenses. The Mayor questioned how are the ARPA funds going to be used? Attorney Mihara suggested taking the standard allowance and move it to ARPA expenditures. It is easier to take a standard allowance to avoid an audit with no questions asked. Wheeler interjected he agrees with the attorney but needs to do more research based on the market and examine his tax analogy.

Council member Finley moved to authorize for the administration and staff to proceed as the council has discussed which is to minimize complexity in taking the standard allowance, if possible, or minimizing by itemizing ARPA funds. Council member Taylor seconded the motion.

8. ADJOURNMENT: 9:23 p.m.

Laurie Fondahn-Baker, Deputy City Clerk

Bill Ray, Mayor