

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
7:00 PM, March 08, 2010**

NOTE: Where stated “Motion Carried” is considered unanimous, unless otherwise stated.

ATTENDEES:

**Mayor, Les Paustian
City Manager, David De Mayo
Keith Lewis
Joann Burleson
Cindi Doherty**

**Brian Harmon, Public Works Director
Sgt Mark Pratt, MCSD
Fire Chief, Rusty Estes
Anne Spicer, City Attorney**

Absent: John Bowles, Judy Buschke

**Members of the Public: David Sykes, Heppner Gazette
Sheryll Bates, Heppner Chamber of Commerce**

1. GENERAL BUSINESS.

A. Call to Order. The March 8, 2010 meeting of the City of Heppner City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Paustian.

B. Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Paustian led Council members and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. Announcements –Mr. De Mayo announced that Mr. Tom Cutsforth will not be in attendance due to illness. He has requested information via e-mail regarding three law enforcement issues that the Councilors wished to hear answers from a District Attorney’s point of view.

D. Correspondence. Mr. De Mayo announced that he has received a letter of resignation from Councilor Van Doorn due to personal reasons, effective immediately.

Action: Motion by Mrs. Burleson to accept Ms. Van Doorn’s resignation. Seconded by Mrs. Doherty. Motion Carried.

E. Public Comment. None.

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC.

A. Staci Wilson, Request to use City Park, Saturday, June 5, 2010, Afternoon, Graduation BBQ, and potluck.

Discussion: Mrs. Spicer stated that Ms. Wilson needs to ensure that her homeowners insurance policy will cover this.

B. Heppner Lions Club, Joyce Shepherd, Request to use City Park during Heppner Days Celebration, June 11, 2010, for Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Mobile Screening Unit.

Action: Motion by Burleson to allow Staci Wilson and Joyce Shepherd on behalf of the Heppner Lions Club, to use the City Park on the dates requested. Seconded by Mr. Lewis. Motion Carried.

C. Tim Collins, Request for Renewal of Animal Permit, horses, 3 pigs, 610 Elder or 235-0 Linden Way.

Discussion: The horses will be permanent, and the pigs are to be raised for 4-H for the fair. The parcels of land will be used for pasture. Mrs. Doherty commented that it should be stipulated that the pigs will be removed from the property after the fair. According to Mr. De Mayo, the permit would be approved with the condition that if there are complaints from neighboring residents, the animals would be removed.

Action: Motion by Mrs. Doherty that the request from Mr. Collins be approved with the stipulation that the 4-H pigs will be removed after the fair in August. Seconded by Mrs. Burleson. Motion Carried.

D. Katie Duncan, Request to allow 2 horses on Tax Lot 2700.

Discussion: The subject property is located off Minor Street (old Bloodsworth property). There is adequate pasture area.

Action: Motion by Mr. Lewis to approve the Duncan's request for two horses on the property (Tax Lot 2700). Seconded by Mrs. Doherty. Motion Carried.

3. CONSENT AGENDA.

A. Minutes of City Council Meeting, February 8, 2010.

B. Monthly Financial Statement.

ACTION:

Motion by Mrs. Burleson to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Mr. Lewis. Motion Carried.

4. REPORTS

A. Fire Chief.

Chief Estes reported the following through February 13, 2010 since he was not available after that date due to a medical problem

2 Motor Vehicle Accidents
1 Secure Landing Zone
1 Flue Fire
11 Chief Calls

Mr. Estes hopes to be back on duty after April 1, 2010.

B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department.

Sgt. Pratt reported the following:

During February there were 27 traffic stops in Heppner, with 1 citation. Most of the stops were for seat belt violations. Another seat belt patrol will be held in the near future.

One non-registered sex offender was arrested in Heppner.

There were several code issues (mainly garbage) in town.

There were several complaints from residents regarding a MIP party. The parents were contacted and made aware of the consequences of continuing such activities.

Over St. Patrick's weekend, there will be extra patrols, including DUI patrols.

Discussion: Mr. Paustian commented that this was a good report. Mr. Paustian and Mr. De Mayo met with the Sheriff and Undersheriff recently to discuss the monthly reports. They emphasized the fact that the reports should be detailed on the actual happenings in Heppner. Mr. Lewis agreed with this, but would like to see clarification on the hours and what "all other personnel" are doing in Heppner. According to Sgt Pratt, these are deputies that are working in Heppner on Heppner actions. According to Sgt Pratt these are additional hours that are spent in Heppner by other deputies who are working Heppner issues. Mr. Lewis would like these detailed, i.e., what happened, what the deputies were working on. Mr. Paustian feels that the Sheriff and Undersheriff should be consulted on how to structure the extra hourly reports. Many of the extra hours are for follow-up reports.

C. Heppner Housing Authority. No report; Mrs. Buschke was not in attendance. Mr. De Mayo did report that a letter has been sent to Carol Dicksa, Oregon Housing and Community

Services, requesting a change in the rent structure for the apartments. A reply is expected shortly.

D. Public Works. Mr. Harmon reported that he has the cross-connection program available for Council review and a possible decision next month on whether to accept the program. This pertains to backflow devices and cross-connections. The City has an ordinance that is being used, but the Council needs to be aware of what is being done and the objective. Mr. Harmon will also discuss this with the Utility Commission for recommendations. Mr. Harmon will furnish each Utility Commission member with a copy of the report prior to the meeting on March 18, 2010.

Mr. Harmon asked if anyone had questions on the water loss report. Mr. Harmon has not located any more water loss. As soon as St. Patrick's is over, they are going to explore with an auger to see if they can find any more water that has been leaking. Mr. Harmon is 100% positive that the meter at this end is not over-reading. Eventually, he will track this down; he suspects that there is a leak that is not coming to the surface. All of the lines that come off the well are metered as far as Mr. Harmon can determine. These meters were installed in 2003-2004 on the cattle troughs. Both parks and the COE are metered.

The shamrock was painted on March 8, 2010 in preparation for St. Patrick's. Mr. De Mayo assisted with the painting.

Mr. Harmon furnished an hour sheet for Council review which shows the hours in each department for each employee. The work on the parks will be split up among all the employees this year.

Mr. Paustian asked if the sewer plant improvements require less labor. Mr. Harmon stated that there is approximately 35% less repairs.

E. City Manager's Report.

Mr. De Mayo reported the following:

1. He met with the hydro-geologist from the State Water Resources Department. This is an annual visit and all the wells look good.
2. The Little League restroom will be installed May. The Corps of Engineers has responded and approved. The archeology department needs to sign off on this and signature should be forthcoming.
3. With regard to installing a double line on Main Street to prevent "J-turns," this request was denied by ODOT.
4. Mr. Chastain has fenced the property at Well #5 and his mules and horses are in residence. Mrs. Spicer reported that she will be working on the lease.

8. Mr. De Mayo reported that there is a large horse manure pile along the creek bank in back of the library/museum. Apparently, someone has been dumping the manure. Mr. De Mayo will talk to Janet Greenup, Soil and Water Conservation office about a solution .

Mr. De Mayo requested that the Personnel Committee meet in the future to discuss the position of Assistant Public Works Director which has not been clearly defined. The meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 17, 2010, at 10:00 AM.

Several applications have been received for the part time Utility Billing Clerk position.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS. None.

6. COUNCIL ACTION.

A. OLD BUSINESS. None.

B. NEW BUSINESS.

(1) Presentation, Tom Cutsforth, District Attorney Candidate. Mr. Cutsforth has requested that the Council prepare three priority law enforcements issues for him to address if he is elected District Attorney. Mr. Paustian would like to meet with Mr. Cutsforth to discuss this further. Mrs. Burleson would like to know what Mr. Cutsforth stands for before making a recommendation. Mr. Lewis agrees.

(2) Roger Chastain – Lease for property adjacent to Well #5. According to Mr. De Mayo, the animals are already on the property and the fence has been installed. Mrs. Spicer will be working on the lease this week.

(3) Resolution No. 766-20, A Resolution Ratifying Extending City of Heppner’s Workers’ Compensation Coverage to Volunteers of the City of Heppner.

Discussion: This is an annual requirement and is required by law.

Action: Motion by Mrs. Burleson to accept Resolution No. 766-10, A Resolution Extending City of Heppner’s Workers’ Compensation Coverage to Volunteers of the City of Heppner. Seconded by Mr. Lewis. Motion Carried.

(4) Resolution 767-10, A Resolution Authorizing the Morrow County Treasurer to Invest the City of Heppner Funds Pursuant to ORS 294.035, ORS 294.125 and Other General Authorizations.

Discussion: This is an annual legal requirement

Action: Motion by Mrs. Doherty to approve Resolution 767-10, A Resolution Authorizing the Morrow County Treasurer to Invest the City of Heppner Funds Pursuant to ORS 294.035, ORS 294.125, and Other General Authorizations. Seconded by Mrs. Burleson. Motion Carried.

(5) Resolution No. 768-10, A Resolution Adopting the City Council's Goals for the Year 2010.

Action: Motion by Mrs. Burleson to Approve Resolution No. 768-10, A Resolution Adopting the City Council's Goals for the Year 2010. Seconded by Mr. Lewis. Motion Carried.

(6) Discussion of Replacement of Councilor Van Doorn who has resigned. Mr. Paustian unofficially suggested Mr. Tim Collins as a possible candidate. Council members will discuss this issue further. Ms. Van Doorn resigned from Position #3 which ends 12-31-2010.

7. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS. (furnished for information only.)

8. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY. None.

9. REPORT FROM MAYOR/CITY COUNCILORS. None.

10. ADJOURNMENT. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.