

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON  
7:00 PM June 9, 2014**

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

**ATTENDEES:**

**Mayor, Joe Perry  
City Manager, Kim Cutsforth  
Corey Sweeney  
Dale Bates  
Judy Buschke  
Joann Burleson  
John Bowles  
Rusty Estes  
Chad Doherty  
Skip Matthews  
Phillip Spicer Kuhn, City Attorney**

**Members of the Public: Dave Sykes, Sheryll Bates, Judy Healy, Deanna Koerner, and Jay Keithley.**

**1. GENERAL BUSINESS.**

A. Call to Order. The June 9, 2014 meeting of the City of Heppner City Council was called to order by Mayor Joe Perry at 7:00 PM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Joe Perry led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. Announcements - None

D. Correspondence – None

E. Requests –

1. Dean Antonucci - Animal Permit

Dean Antonucci is requesting an animal permit to keep four chickens on his property.

Motion to allow Dean Antonucci to keep four chickens on his property by Judy Buschke. Seconded by JoAnn Burleson. Motion Carried.

F. Presentations – None

**2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC.** - None

**3. CONSENT AGENDA.**

- A. May 9, 2014 City Council meeting minutes.
- B. Monthly Financial Statement
- C. Approval of Monthly Bills

Action: Motion by JoAnn Burleson to accept the consent agenda with corrections. Seconded by Skip Matthews. Motion Carried.

**4. REPORTS.**

A. Fire Chief Rusty Estes reported the following for May:

- 1 False Alarm
- 3 Ambulance lift assists
- 3 Wild land fires, one in city limits, two out of city limits
- 3 Secure Landing Zone
- 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 36 Chief Calls

Joann Burleson asked if the Fire Dept. was going to burn the area around the Tennis Court this year. Kim said she would contact the School and ask for permission.

B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department – John Bowles read the reports, he reported there were 363.5 Deputy Hours for the month of May and reviewed the incident report.

There were some concerns about activity in Hager Park late at night. There has been some suspicious activity and vandalism lately. All City Parks close at 9:00 pm. Also there has been someone in the Tennis Courts shooting at the lights and glass is falling on to the court. Kim Cutsforth said that communication with the MCSO has been improving. She will ask them to patrol the area more often at night.

C. Housing Authority. Judy Buschke reported the following: They had one person move in. They still have 2 vacancies.

D. Public Works. Chad Doherty reported the following:

Water Dept. – Replaced 2 water meters.

Sewer Dept. – Cleaned contact basins at the Sewer Plant twice. Cleaned up the sweeper rock from the Sewer plant. Completed phase 2 of the landscaping project at the Sewer plant. Fixed a clog at the waste treatment plant.

Streets Dept. – Swept Main St and up by the High School. The City crew along with help from Mustang Mop Up reconditioned 4 bubble outs on Main St. Mustang Mop up also helped us clean and rehab underneath the stairs on Water St. Prepped the areas on Chase St and Gale St for hot patching. Got Rock St ready for its asphalt overlay. This included compacting and leveling the two foot trench, sweeping the street, raising valves and doing some tree trimming. The Public works crew used the left over hot asphalt mix to patch holes around town. Did various weed spraying around town.

Parks Dept. – The City Crew received the hanging baskets and got them put them up before Memorial Day. The baskets have been fertilized once already. The City Crew fixed the Memorial fountain (by the fairgrounds) because it froze and broke over the winter.

The City crew is taking of the Parks until the summer helper starts this week.

Jay Keithley asked when the irrigation will be in at the Hager Park Soccer field. There has been a delay due to some equipment breakdowns and glitches in a couple of other projects in town. There are about 2 more days of rock screening left before the irrigation can be installed.

D. City Manager. Kim Cutsforth reported the following:

- 1) We worked on preparing the budget and presented it to the Budget committee. It was approved with no changes, except clerical corrections. I owe a big thank you to Judy for keeping this process running smoothly.
- 2) The Beautification committee and I have been working on the Talking Rocks project. To date we have proposed 14 talking rock locations. At least 9 of them have been sponsored.
- 3) Regarding the Sperry St bridge removal. Sperry was paved by Granite Paving on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May. Dice construction completed the balance of the project and ODOT signed off on this job May 30<sup>th</sup> excluding plant establishment. This was a great project for us. The City was able to

upgrade some water issues and to do a major repair on Morgan St. Dice Construction benefited the City at no cost. This is the end of our major projects, ODOT and all of the contractors have been really good to work with. The City was commended for a successful coordination with all the involved entities.

- 4) Granite Paving completed the repairs on Chase St. The Public Works Dept. stayed late on these days and used the left over asphalt to make much needed repairs around town. These paving days were long days for our crew both with preparation for paving and staying to finish after paving. It is a big savings to The City to use up the hot mix for street repairs, but it requires a hard working crew and I commend them for their efforts.
- 5) Paving on Rock St. The City needed to repair a cut that ran the entire length of Rock St. After discussing this with Columbia Basin Electric, the company responsible for the cost of the repairs, and Granite Paving, it was decided that with the cost of repairs and additional money from the street repair fund, it would be a better investment to do an overlay as the street is in bad shape. By combining this project with the paving of Sperry and the repair money from CBEC, The City was able to pave Rock St. for a savings of over \$25,000.

Jay Keithley asked if there was a priority list for street repair. Kim said that Rock Street was not at the top of the list, but it would have been at least as bad as Jones Street within 3 years. There would be no way that The City could get any street paved for only \$25,000. Chase Street is at the top of the list and it will take at least \$110,000. It was a good opportunity to get a street repaired, and we took it.

- 6) Riverside Basketball Court update: This project was turned over to Willow Creek Park District. The low bid for the project was Dice Construction. Dice broke ground the week of May 26<sup>th</sup>, and they expect to pour concrete by the end of the second week in June. The Wildhorse Foundation awarded \$10,000 in grant money toward the project. The City will continue to assist with the administration of this project, but will not be funding it.
- 7) Kim met with Ferguson Engineering for a wrap up meeting regarding the Slopes and Drainage project and the balance of the Beautification Project. This meeting also included the plans for completing Hager Park improvements.

## **5. PUBLIC HEARINGS.** – Discuss the City of Heppner 2014-2015 Budget

**Public Hearing opened at 7:35.** No public comments or questions.

**Public Hearing closed at 7:36.**

### **Council Comments and Discussion.**

Judy Buschke and Joann Burleson commented that they appreciated the Budget process this year.

Motion to approve the City of Heppner Budget for 2014-2015 by Joann Burleson. Seconded by Judy Buschke. Motion Carried

### **6. OLD BUSINESS.** - None

### **7. NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. Resolution 848-14, A Resolution extending the City of Heppner's Workers compensation to volunteers of the City of Heppner.

Discussion: This is an annual Resolution.

Motion to approve Resolution 848-14, A Resolution extending the City of Heppner's Workers compensation to volunteers of the City of Heppner by Joann Burleson. Seconded by Skip Matthews. Motion Carried.

- B. Resolution 849-14, A Resolution declaring the City's election to receive State Revenues during fiscal year 2014-2015.

Discussion: This is an annual Resolution in accordance with the Budget.

Motion to approve Resolution 849-14, A Resolution declaring the City's election to receive State Revenues during fiscal year 2014-2015 by Skip Matthews. Seconded by JoAnn Burleson. Motion Carried.

- C. Resolution 850-14, A Resolution adopting the City of Heppner Budget for fiscal year commencing July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014, Making Appropriations, and imposing and categorizing taxes.

Discussion: This is an annual Resolution in accordance with the Budget.

Motion to approve Resolution 850-14, A Resolution adopting the City of Heppner Budget for fiscal year commencing July 1<sup>st</sup> 2014, Making

Appropriations, and imposing and categorizing taxes by Skip Matthews. Seconded by John Bowles. Motion Carried.

D. Resolution 851-14, A Resolution authorizing the Morrow County Treasurer to invest The City of Heppner's funds pursuant to ORS 294.035, 294.125 and other general authorizations.

Discussion: This is an annual Resolution.

Motion to approve Resolution 851-14, A Resolution authorizing the Morrow County Treasurer to invest The City of Heppner's funds pursuant to ORS 294.035, 294.125 and other general authorizations by Joann Burleson. Seconded by Skip Matthews. Motion Carried.

E. Resolution 852-14, A Resolution to approve the Fire Commissioners Planning Committee to seek funding and plan for a new Fire Hall.

Discussion: This is to allow the Fire Commissioners Planning Committee to seek grant funding and start the planning process for a new Fire Hall.

Motion to approve Resolution 852-14, A Resolution to approve the Fire Commissioners Planning Committee to seek funding and plan for a new Fire Hall by Skip Matthews. Seconded by Joann Burleson. Motion Carried.

F. Resolution 853-14, A Resolution to receive special City allotment funding from the State of Oregon for street repair.

Discussion: This Resolution allows the City to seek or apply for funding for streets from ODOT for Cities with a population under 5000. This funding grant will not be awarded until next fiscal year.

Motion to approve Resolution 853-14, A Resolution to receive special City allotment funding from the State of Oregon for street repair by Judy Buschke. Seconded by Joann Burleson. Motion Carried.

G. Resolution 854-14, A Resolution ratifying appointments to City Committees, Boards, Commissions, and Positions.

Discussion: This Resolution was passed earlier, but the Heppner Housing Authority board was not included in the Resolution. Nothing else has changed.

Motion to approve Resolution 854-14, A Resolution ratifying appointments to City Committees, Boards, Commissions, and Positions by Skip Matthews. Seconded by Judy Buschke. Motion Carried.

H. Discuss a future Resolution for a five year rate increase plan starting July1, 2015.

Discussion: This is being brought up because it was discussed at the Utilities Commission Meeting. The City has not increased rates for quite a while. This increase has not been approved yet. The increase would be for a dollar for both Sewer and Water (fifty cents each). It would be a total of a twelve dollar increase a year for each account. This would help cover for the cost of living increase for services, supplies and labor. For example the recommended COLA increase this year is over one dollar. If the City could raise it a little at a time it would be easier than to wait until they needed a large increase all at once. Hermiston recently raised its rates by ten dollars all at once and it made people really upset. There was further discussion about whether one dollar would be enough. Kim said that the annual cost of living increase is usually around one dollar, and this would probably be sufficient to cover costs.

Action: No action needed.

I. Sherry Vanderpool Animal Permit.

Discussion: Sherry Vanderpool of 440 S Main St. was issued an animal permit for one horse on September 12, 2011. Since then she has added another horse. The neighbors are starting to have problems with the dust as there is no more grass where they are kept. There is a strong smell of manure and the flies are getting really bad. The Morrow County Soil and Water District is concerned about the stream as it has been damaged by the horses. By adding an additional unpermitted horse, she has already broken the agreement of the Animal Permit. The permit also requires that the area remain clean and in repair, and not offensive to the public. The horses have been gone for the last 3 days, but it is recommended that the permit be revoked to prevent this from happening again.

Motion to revoke Sherry Vanderpool's Animal Permit by Skip Matthews. Seconded by Joann Bureson. Dale Bates abstained. Motion Carried.

## **7. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS.** For information only

**8. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY.**

The City Attorney had no report for the month of May.

**9. REPORT FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCILORS.** - None

**10. ADJOURNMENT.** Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.