

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
7:00 PM May 8, 2017**

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

ATTENDEES:

**Cody High
Edie Ball
Joann Burleson
Corey Sweeney
Adam Doherty
Teresa Hughes
Dale Bates
John Bowles
Rusty Estes (left at 7:09)
Chad Doherty
Bill Kuhn, City Attorney**

Absent: None

Members of the Public: Sheryll Bates, Jay Keithley, Deanna Koerner, Pat and Carl Lauritsen and Dave Sykes.

1. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Call to Order. The May 8, 2017 meeting of the City of Heppner City Council was called to order by Cody High at 7:00 PM.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance. Cody High led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. Announcements – None
- D. Correspondence - None
- E. Requests
 - 1. Animal Permits
 - a. Zabrena Masterson, one fair sheep at 275 Church St
 - b. Zaleta Masterson, one fair sheep, one fair goat at 275 Church St
 - c. Zandra Masterson, one fair sheep, one fair goat at 275 Church St

Motion to approve an animal permits for Zabrena, Zaleta, and Zandra Masterson by Corey Sweeney. Seconded by Teresa Hughes. Motion Carried.

F. Presentations - None

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. April 10, 2017 City Council meeting minutes.
- B. Monthly Financial Statement
- C. Approval of Monthly Bills

Motion to approve the consent agenda by: Joann Burleson. Seconded by: Adam Doherty. Motion carried.

4. REPORTS

A. Fire Chief Report – Rusty Estes read the Fire Chief report.

- 3 lift assists
- 4 secure landing zone
- 1 wildland fire in city limits
- 1 smoke smell
- 1 flue fire
- 1 explosion
- 22 Chief calls

B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department – John Bowles provided the council with the police calls report and read the hours report. The hours for April were 353.5. Vandalism calls have slowed down a bit. He encouraged people to please call the Sheriff's office when they see something going on.

C. Public Works. Chad Doherty read the Public Works report.

Water Dept. – Put in a new water service for the Neighborhood Center. Sent the paper work for a water meter reading system upgrade.

Sewer Dept. – Did 5 septic dumps. Cleaned the contact basins twice. Put in a new sewer service line behind City Hall. Fixed the sludge pump at the treatment plant. Cleaned the sewer line on Church Street. Cleaned the sewer line on Skyline Blvd. Installed a new manhole lid for a manhole located on Linden Way.

Streets Dept. – Spread out sweeper gravel on Jenkins Street and August Alley. Filled in pot holes around town. Swept town once. Sprayed weeds in downtown bubble outs.

Parks Dept. – Sprayed all of the parks for broadleaf. Finished work at City Park for the automatic sprinkler system. Put up repaired basketball hoops at Hager Park. They now have locks on them so that they cannot be adjusted. Put up the soccer goals and the volleyball net. Thatched Heritage Plaza. The city crew has started mowing and weed trimming parks.

Other – Robert and Caleb attended a conference in Pendleton.

Jay Keithley wanted to clarify that at the last meeting the basketball court at Hager Park was referred to as the Bob Kilkenny basketball court. Bob did pay for the court, but the court is dedicated to Ellis McRoberts.

D. City Manager Report

Eddie met with Dave DeMayo, former City Manager, and learned some historical information while he was City Manager.

Attended the Beautification Committee Meeting. Discussion focused on park vandalism, May 1 opening of the Museum, and discussed garbage/cigarette issues in the bulb outs along Main Street and alternatives to replacing rock.

Reviewed the Public Works budget proposal with Chad. Judy and Chad are helping with the Budget.

Staff meeting and reported on City Council meeting and discussed safety training with the Public Works Department. Eddie toured the new Public Works shop.

Reviewed and reminded the Council and Planning Commission to file/report their statement of economic interest with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission.

Eddie met with Jerry Sorte the County Administrator, who indicated that the County wants to work with the City and all Cities in the County. He indicated that he was going to ask the county to include \$200,000.00 in their budget to be divided up between the cities. They are not sure how it will be divided up yet or if it will have a specified use. This may not happen in enough time to show up in the 2017-2018 City Budget.

Eddie attended the Region 7 Small Cities Meeting in Echo that had city staff, mayors, and council attending along with staff from DEQ and ODOT. Shanna Bailey, Business Oregon, facilitated the meeting. Reviewed types of loans cities can use for development. It was noted rural Oregon is not yet recovering from the post-recession in the state.

Edie attended the utilities Commission meeting. CES Engineers were teleconferenced in to review their evaluation of potential lagoon sites in their report. They also mentioned the mill site as one possibility even though it was not included in their report. They indicated if the mill site was used then major amendments to the floodplain map would have to be done. Also discussed a possible sanitary lagoon system shared by Heppner, Lexington and Lone which the committee is interested in learning more about.

Edie met with Nancy and Anna from Wheatland Insurance to review property and liability schedules for FY2018. Property rates show a decrease of 7.5%; general liability rates increase 3/8%; and auto liability rates will increase 6.8%. The overall package is expected to increase 2.7%. Workers Comp is expected to increase 7.5% even though we have had no accidents and have a rating under 1% which is excellent.

Attended the second Chamber luncheon. Kim Cutsforth from the Howard and Beth Bryant Foundation reviewed how the foundation was formed and what the mission was for helping the Heppner community. Joleen Horning, Columbia Development Authority, also spoke and will be working on developing Army Depot land when it's signed off by the government to Morrow County Port Authority.

Attended the Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group meeting. Discussion on rehabilitation of current homes and possible future construction of tri-plex units.

Edie attended Morrow County Economic Development Task Force meeting that included a meeting to discuss interest in sharing lagoons between Heppner, Lexington and Lone. The interest was apparent for Heppner and Lexington with Lone a maybe. Carla was going to get county funding to do a study if this could be feasible for the communities.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Ordinance 579-17, An Ordinance Amending City of Heppner Code Section 1-4-1-5 in its entirety and Declaring an Emergency.

Open Public Hearing at 7:26

Cody read the Ordinance to the members of the public. The purpose for the Ordinance was to align the city code infraction with the traffic code infraction that the Sheriff's office uses. This increases some fines and decreases others depending on the situation. The top end fines are increased but this would only be used in situations where there are repeat offenders. The city would not receive any revenue from this as the county does all of the city's court work. The only exception would be nuisance situations where the city would keep the fine so that they may lien the property.

Close Public Hearing at 7:32

Council Comments and Discussion

The worst types of behavior would receive the higher fines. The main goal for the change of City Code is compliance. The City code does classify infractions already; the changes would be just to be the same as the Sheriff's office uses.

Council Action: Motion to approve Ordinance 579-17, An Ordinance Amending City of Heppner Code Section 1-4-1-5 in its entirety and Declaring an Emergency by: Dale Bates. Seconded by: Corey Sweeney. Motion Carried

6. BUSINESS

A. Old Business - None

B. New Business

1. Discuss Resolution 916-17, A Resolution Extending Workers' Compensation Coverage to Volunteers of the City of Heppner.

This is a yearly Resolution, but there have been a few changes. CIS has requested that the city use a different format which has more detail. One of the changes is to list manual labor performed by elected officials. Park Maintenance has been included as JoAnn Burleson is on the Beautification Committee and does a lot of work in the parks. Edie wanted to know what other work the council and mayor may do, so it can be included in the Resolution. They discussed maybe adding something about assisting public works just in case of any kind of emergency that may require the council and/or mayor to help out. Edie will check on this. This will be approved at the council meeting in June.

2. Dickenson Chiropractic sub-lease (to start 6/1/17 if approved)

Tim Dickenson submitted a letter to the council to request permission to sub-lease his extra room to a Licensed Massage Therapist. This has been approved by the council in the past, from 2008-2012. He would charge \$150.00 and pay the city an additional \$75.00 per month. This is for rental space only, she will not be an employee of Dickenson Chiropractic and this agreement would be on a month to month basis for as long as she would be renting the space.

Motion to approve a month to month sub-lease option to Dickenson Chiropractic with the condition that a business insurance certificate is provided for the massage therapist by: JoAnn Burleson. Seconded by: Corey Sweeney. Motion Carried

3. Housing Authority Resignation Letter

Kim Cutsforth submitted a letter announcing her resignation from the Heppner Housing Authority board effective June 1, 2017. This brings the board down from 7 members to 5. They have a few people in mind to replace the two vacant spots.

4. Shared Lagoon System

There is an idea being discussed about Heppner, Lexington and Lone sharing a lagoon system. Lexington and Lone do not currently have any type of sewer system. This was brought up sometime in the past but Heppner and Lone decided against it. Corey thinks that the Council should get together with Chad to discuss this further and ask questions and come up with some ideas. Edie, Cody and Corey all went to the meeting where this was discussed and it would be good to get the rest of the council informed. Not all of the options from CES were very well received by the Utilities Commission at their April 20th meeting.

7. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS - For information only

8. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY

Bill said that the council will hear his report during Executive Session.

9. REPORT FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCILORS

Cody brought up that at the Utilities meeting they had decided to issue a credit to a customer who had a very large water leak over the winter. Cody and Jay wanted to make sure that it was within the power of the Committee to make this decision without council approval. This leak occurred during the two month period that the city was not able to read meters due to bad weather. A pipe had frozen and burst and had probably been leaking for at least 2 months before it was detected. This would have been caught had the city been able to read the meters during that time. Deanna Koerner wondered why the Utilities Commission didn't give her a credit on her bill when she had a leak. Cody said that when she asked for a credit it was not for the water usage it was for a plumber bill that she received for repairs for a leak on the customer side of the meter. The credits are never issued for mechanical issues only for cases of extreme usage under extenuating conditions.

Motion to accept the Utilities Commission's recommendation to issue a credit for the water usage due to a leak by: Corey Sweeney. Seconded by: John Bowles. Motion Carried

Cody announced that there is a spot open on the Local Public Safety Coordinating Committee. They would like Edie to serve for the south end of the county, but they need someone as an alternative member from the south end of the county. It is a quarterly

meeting that is held on the third Thursday of the month. Dale nominated Cody. Cody said he would be glad to do it, he just wanted to give everyone else a chance to do it if they wanted to.

10. ADJOURNMENT – Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM for Executive Session

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION ORS 192.660(2)(H)

Executive Session began at 8:20 PM

Executive Session adjourned at 9:14 and the regular meeting was back in session at 9:14 PM.

There was no decision at this time. Meeting adjourned.