

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
7:00 PM July 13, 2015**

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

ATTENDEES:

**Mayor, Skip Matthews
City Manager, Kim Cutsforth
Corey Sweeney
Adam Doherty
Dale Bates (arrived at 7:46)
John Bowles
Joann Burleson
Chad Doherty
Bill Kuhn, City Attorney
Teresa Bedortha
Rusty Estes**

Members of the Public: Shelley Wight, Dave Sykes, Judy Healy, Jay Keithley, Tom Gonty, and Deanna Koerner.

1. GENERAL BUSINESS.

- A. Call to Order. The July 13, 2015 meeting of the City of Heppner City Council was called to order by Mayor Skip Matthews at 7:00 PM.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Skip Matthews led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. Announcements –None
- D. Correspondence-None
- E. Requests-WC Construction noise permit.

Discussion: City code 5-1-4E allows construction between the hours of 7:00 AM and 6:00 PM, except upon special permit granted by the City Council. They want permission to begin work at 6:00 AM. They have contacted the neighbors and no one has objected to them starting earlier. WC Construction has been advised that if the permit is granted it is still subject to revocation if there are complaints.

Action: Motion to approve WC Construction noise permit by Joann Burleson. Seconded by John Bowles. Motion Carried.

F. Presentations-Morrow County Public Health, Shelley Wight.

Shelley Wight from Morrow County Public Health gave a presentation to the Council about possibly creating an Ordinance against smoking in the City Parks. She gave a list of Cities that have already gone smoke free and 5 reasons why they are doing this.

1) Tobacco free parks promote healthy outdoor recreation. This creates a healthy and safe environment for users of all ages and reinforces the fact to children and youth that most Oregonians don't smoke.

2) Tobacco free parks protect users from exposure to unsafe secondhand smoke. Children do not have a choice of being exposed to secondhand smoke. Outdoor smoke can be just as harmful for health risks and air pollution as in indoor smoke, according to a 2007 Stanford study.

3) Tobacco free policies protect youth from exposure to dangerous emerging products. Some examples are e-cigarettes and vaping devices which currently have no state or federal age restrictions on purchase or use.

4) Tobacco free parks are good for the environment and wildlife. Cigarette and tobacco litter can harm animals that ingest it. Cigarette butts are the number one litter item found by litter cleanup volunteers in Oregon.

5) Tobacco free policies save money. It lowers maintenance and operation costs, reduces the risk of damage to park equipment, and lowers the risk of fire.

She commented on how much work the City does to make the parks look nice, and the smoking ban would help keep them that way. She said that enforcement has not been much of a problem in the other cities. There are signs posted and most people respect the rules. If someone is seen smoking, they are asked to stop and in every case so far they have done so. She said that the difference in the park in Baker City is very noticeable. In Morrow County there are 8,313 adults and 3,112 children. 1,300 Adults in the County are smokers. This means that 88% of adults in Morrow County are non-smokers. A smoking ban would support the majority of Morrow County's population. If smoking is banned in the parks the City would be able to provide a healthy place for kids to play. She said that second hand smoke causes cancer and that the youth are being exposed to it in public areas.

Corey Sweeney asked if this is something that they could discuss at the Goal Setting meeting in January. Kim Cutsforth said that the Ordinance process takes at least 60 days. If this was to be discussed in January and the Council decided that this was something that they wanted to pursue it would be possible to have an Ordinance in place about the time that spring starts.

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC. None

3. CONSENT AGENDA.

- A. June 8, 2015 City Council meeting minutes.
- B. Monthly Financial Statement
- C. Approval of Monthly Bills

Action: Motion to approve the consent agenda by: Joann Burleson. Seconded by Teresa Bedortha. Motion carried.

4. REPORTS.

A. Fire Chief report

- 1 Ambulance Lift Assist
- 3 Wildland Fires
- 2 Mutual Aid to Boardman
- 2 Mutual Aid to Lone
- 5 Secure Landing Zone
- 1 Motor Vehicle Accident
- 2 Structure Fires
- 2 Rekindles
- 22 Chief Calls

B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department – John Bowles read the hours report and asked if there were any questions. There were none. He said that the suspicious activity calls are starting to slow down a bit.

C. Public Works. Chad Doherty reported the following:

Water Dept. – The crew flushed out dead end lines on Baltimore and Center Streets. Changed out a service side meter stop on Sperry Street. Finished the Consumer Confidence Report for the Drinking Water Program and City Hall mailed it out to consumers.

Sewer Dept. – Cleaned the contact basins twice. Moved the chlorination point to before the contact basins at the treatment plant. Re-plumbed the recirculation pump at the treatment plant. Chad wrote an emergency response plan for the treatment plant, as required from LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee).

Streets Dept. – Fixed pot holes on West Church and Morgan Streets. Installed the last three bike racks on Main Street. They were placed by the NW Motel, Library and Windwave. Swept the streets once in town and once in Lone for their 4th of July celebration. Fixed the chain-link fence on the walk bridge behind the museum.

Parks Dept. – Put in new Dogi Pot station at Heritage Plaza. Fertilized the hanging baskets twice. Fixed many sprinklers at the City and Hager Parks.

D. City Manager. Kim Cutsforth reported the following:

1. Kim prepared and submitted a Transportation Growth Management Grant to ODOT for funds to update and amend Heppner's Transportation System Plan.

2. Attended an ODOT NEACT meeting in La Grande. Transportation funding was discussed and she met with Michael Barry to review the upcoming Special City Allotment Grant.
3. Kim met with Brad Baird of Anderson Perry to discuss the Water System Master Plan and the overall water system, to discuss the status of the waste water plan and certifying Well 5.
4. The City advertised for sidewalk replacement and repairs on Willow Street. The City received one bid that was over the estimated budget. Kim is negotiating with the contractor to see if we will be able to start this project.
5. The City advertised for reconstruction of the pump building at Reservoir 2. We received no bids. We have contacted individual contractors. One has given us a bid and we will be moving forward with this project.
6. Kim prepared and submitted reports for the Community Rating System Review that allows Heppner to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program at a discounted rate.
7. Members of the Fire Department Advisory Committee and Kim met with CK3 to review revised plans for the proposed Fire Hall and to fine tune the changes and requirements. We then met with the Heppner Rural Fire Department to present our preliminary plans for a new Fire Hall. As a group we toured the proposed site and the existing Fire Hall. We also discussed working on a joint bond measure. This discussion is ongoing.
8. Kim attended the WCVED meeting to discuss grant funding opportunities for small city projects and park improvements.
9. Kim met with the County Road Department to discuss amending the County's conditional use permit to allow for changes to the paving plans for Gilmore Street.
10. Began to take bids for crack sealing projects around the City.
11. Continued to work on nuisance abatement issues.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS- None

6. BUSINESS

A. OLD BUSINESS - None

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion for a letter of Council support for the ODOT curb to curb chip seal on Main Street in 2016.

Discussion: ODOT will be doing a curb to curb chip seal on Main Street in the summer of 2016. They are requesting a letter of Council approval. On the list of recommended projects from Heppner's Transportation Systems Plan in 2003,

there was a recommendation to change the parking spaces on Main Street from an 80 degree angle to 60 degrees. This would improve visibility but re-striping is a very costly project. ODOT has agreed to do the new striping at no cost to the City.

Motion to approve a letter of Council support for the ODOT curb to curb chip seal on Main Street in 2016 by Joann Burleson. Seconded by Teresa Bedortha. Motion Carried.

2. Fireflow Charges

Discussion: At the June 18, 2015 Utilities meeting they discussed whether a customer that has a Fireflow fee should still be charged when the Water and Sewer services are turned off. Current policy is that Fireflow is always charged on those accounts whether it is on or off. The Utilities Commission decided to recommend to the Council that the City stop those charges when the services are turned off and the building is vacant.

Motion to approve not charging Fireflow fees when a service is turned off by, John Bowles. Seconded by Corey Sweeney. Motion Carried.

3. Resolution 878-15, A Resolution Ratifying Martha Doherty to the Beautification Commission.

Discussion: All Commission members are ratified every January by the Council. If there are any changes or vacancies that are filled, they need to be ratified.

Motion to approve Resolution 878-15, Ratifying Martha Doherty to the Beautification Commission by Joann Burleson. Seconded by Adam Doherty.

4. Resolution 879-15, Special City Allotment.

Discussion: Every year ODOT gives out Special City Allotments to small cities with a population under 5,000. This grant is for a maximum of \$50,000.00 per city. In order to apply for this grant, ODOT must have documentation that the Council supports the application.

Motion to approve 879-15, Special City Allotment by Adam Doherty. Seconded by Teresa Bedortha. Motion Carried.

5. Motion for approval the change Conditional Use Permit for paving changes on Gilmore and Willow.

Discussion: The original Conditional Use Permit for the Morrow County Courthouse project was approved on the conditions that Willow Street be

paved by the County. It has since been discovered that the County does not have equipment that can pave such a steep street. They have proposed paving from Morrow St on Gilmore Street to Hager and also paving Cannon and August, in lieu of paving Willow Street. They have also agreed to help with the drainage issues on Willow. These changes require Council approval. Motion to approve changes to Conditional Use Permit for paving changes on Gilmore and Willow by Adam Doherty. Seconded by Teresa Bedortha.

6. Motion for approval to pursue a General Obligation Bond for Capital Construction of a City/Rural Fire Hall.

Discussion: Council approval is required to enable the City Manager to pursue a Bond Measure to fund the construction of a City/Rural Fire Hall.

Motion to for approval to pursue a General Obligation Bond for Capital Construction of a City/Rural Fire Hall by Corey Sweeney. Seconded by Joann Burleson. Motion Carried

7. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS. For information only

8. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY. – They have assisted with a few minor items. There isn't much to report this month.

9. REPORT FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCILORS.

10. ADJOURNMENT. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.