

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
7:00 PM August 8, 2016**

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

ATTENDEES:

**Skip Matthews
Joann Burleson
Corey Sweeney
Teresa Bedortha
Adam Doherty
John Bowles
Dale Bates
Kim Cutsforth
Chad Doherty
Rusty Estes
Bill Kuhn, City Attorney**

Absent: None

Members of the Public: Judy Healy, Sheryll Bates, Deanna Koerner, Ryan Miller, Sharon Miller, Joe Miller and Dave Sykes.

1. GENERAL BUSINESS.

A. Call to Order. The August 8, 2016 meeting of the City of Heppner City Council was called to order by Skip Matthews at 7:00 PM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance. Skip Matthews led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Skip Matthews said that before the meeting starts he would like to say a few words about Bob Jepsen who recently passed away. Skip said he was a personal mentor of his, a past Mayor of Heppner, and a leader in the Community, County and the State. Skip then asked to have a moment of silence in honor of him.

C. Announcements – None

D. Correspondence - None

E. Requests – None

F. Presentations – None

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

3. CONSENT AGENDA.

- A. July 11, 2016 City Council meeting minutes.
- B. Monthly Financial Statement
- C. Approval of Monthly Bills

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

4. REPORTS.

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

- 1 Lift Assist
- 1 Structure Fire in town
- 4 Wildland Fires
- 4 mutual aid, 1 to tribal, 3 to lone
- 3 Motor Vehicle Accidents
- 3 Secure Landing Zones
- 31 Chief Calls

B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department – John Bowles reported 469 hours for July, the police calls report was not available. Skip asked how the Ruckus in the Boonies went. John said that it went well, no complaints. Attendance was down from last year.

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

Water Dept. – Sam Bellamy did a quote for the Well 4 rehab. Chad is working with him on scheduling the work. Chad worked on the operation and maintenance manual. Replaced 3 broken water meters.

Sewer Dept. – Cleaned the contact basins twice. Did 15 septic dumps. Took the sludge truck to Northwest Equipment sales for service. Put in the sewer service for the taco truck.

Streets Dept. – Removed a tree by the Gale Street Bridge. Swept Main Street in Heppner and Lexington for ODOT. Fertilized the hanging flower baskets 3 times. Prepped the area for the electric car charging station. Removed the bush on the corner of May and Chase St, as it is a visibility problem. Replaced the brush on the street sweeper.

Parks Dept. – Repaired a broken picnic table at Memorial Park. Trimmed all of the arborvitaes in the parks. Fixed a water leak at Heritage plaza. Have had one employee steadily working in parks.

Other – Continued to train Caleb for his CDL. Took the booth down after the fireworks sale. Hauled off spoils from the yard.

Kim asked Chad to brief everyone on the Well 4 rehab issue. Chad said that Well 4 is an Artesian well on Jack Meligans property. The City has a water right of 250 gallons per minute. If the City were to get all the work needed on the well to use it for a water source, it only has about 4 hours worth of water until it runs dry. You would then have to wait for it to refill. The best option is to clean up the area and cap the well. Even though the City will not be using the well, it will still maintain the water rights.

D. City Manager. Kim Cutsforth read the City Managers report:

1. Kim attended several meetings with the Fire Hall contractor. The project is scheduled to be completed August 18th but there will be a delay in paving until August 23rd to allow for the City's Chase Street project.
2. Chad and Kim attended a Rural Community Assistance Corporation training in The Dalles. This training covered Google Earth Pro mapping and Capital Improvement Project Management. It was an excellent training and will be very useful for the upcoming sewage project.
3. Skip and Kim went to the League of Oregon Cities small city meeting in Pilot Rock. This meeting was a legislative recap and a discussion of issues that impact our communities and what the LOC was doing to help. Discussion at the meeting included recreational immunity and the threat to municipalities and there was an in depth overview of Marijuana, community impacts, revenues, revenues and enforcement. We should expect to be seeing some changes in the distribution of revenues and the branch of governmental oversight for medical marijuana.
4. Kim completed a grant to ODOT for the Special City Allotment of \$50,000. The application was for a chip seal project on Riverside Ave. The City will not be eligible for the funds until 2018 but the city is encouraged to apply and keep their name on the list.
5. Kim and Skip attended a MCEDTF meeting in Boardman. This meeting included other Morrow County managers and elected officials. The main topic of discussion was economic development in our area and our own community issues and projects.
6. The Chase Street paving project is scheduled for August 23rd. The City Public Works Department will be doing some preparatory work on the 22nd. ODOT has agreed to assist the City with this project as our public works department was so helpful to them during their chip seal project. Cody the ODOT area supervisor commended our crew on the sweeping and traffic control they provided for ODOT. He stated that they went above and beyond in their help to his crew. Kim will be mailing an

update to the residents of Chase and the other impacted streets. Also there will be a story in the paper.

7. Kim continues work on nuisance abatement.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Permit for Utility Relief

Discussion: Bill Kuhn has reviewed the sample "Permit for Utility Relief". Since this is a change in policy the City would need to do an Ordinance change. At the July meeting the Council decided to go forward with the permit process. Since this is an Ordinance issue Council approval is need to go forward. This will take some time as there needs to be a public notice advertised and a public hearing.

Motion to approve going forward with an Ordinance change for the Permit for Utility Permit by Joann Burseson. Seconded by Theresa Bedortha. Motion Carried.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 901-16, Special City Allotment

Discussion: This was approved by a phone poll and signed on August 3rd to go along with the application that was submitted to ODOT.

Motion to approve Resolution 901-16, Special City Allotment by Corey Sweeney. Seconded by Joann Burseson. Motion Carried.

B. Resolution 902-16, A Resolution Extending City of Heppner's Compensation Coverage to Volunteers of the City of Heppner.

Discussion: This is a yearly Resolution that is required by the City's insurance that offers workers compensation coverage to the volunteers for the City of Heppner. This coverage is for the Fire Department, Mayor, Council and other volunteers.

Motion to approve Resolution 902-16, A Resolution Extending City of Heppner's Workers Compensation to Volunteers of the City of Heppner by John Bowles. Seconded by Dale Bates. Motion Carried.

C. Resolution 903-16, A Resolution Setting a Fee for the Disposal of Septage at the City of Heppner Wastewater Treatment Facility and Maintaining an After Hours Fee.

Discussion: Resolution 896-16 set the fee for dumping septage at the wastewater treatment facility at \$.25 per gallon. There has been some push-back from the

businesses that dump septage in Heppner. They were not happy with such a large increase. Kim and Chad have had meetings with those businesses and everyone seemed to agree on the rate of \$.16 per gallon. Also there is now a clause for scheduling so that a public works employee will not have to be pulled away from a project in order to meet someone at the treatment plant. Septage dumps usually take anywhere from 30 to 60 minutes and this can be very disruptive. Chad said that the goal is to try to schedule this for the morning when someone will already be at the plant doing chores. Ryan Miller said that he agrees with all of this and does not think that the scheduling is unreasonable. He said that his main concern with the \$.25 per gallon price is that this cost would have to be passed on to the customer and he would be worried that the increased cost would stop people from having maintenance done on their septic tanks and they may wait until they have a problem before they get anything done. A septic tank that has gone bad would be harder for the treatment plant to process.

Motion to approve Resolution 903-16, A Resolution Setting a Fee for the Disposal of Septage at the City of Heppner Wastewater Treatment Facility and Maintaining an After Hours fee by Dale Bates. Seconded by Adam Doherty. Motion Carried.

D. Schedule City Manager Evaluation.

Discussion: The yearly City Manager evaluation needs to be scheduled. The Council agreed that the best time would be immediately following the September 12th Council meeting.

8. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS. For information only

9. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY. – Bill Kuhn said that he has been assisting with the Utility Relief Permit and he has been researching nuisance abatement. He has also been looking in to what it would take to allow the City to hold landlords responsible for their tenants unpaid utility bills. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. Kim said it would be more cost effective to do that and the Permit for Utility Relief at the same time since both of those issues will require an Ordinance change.

10. REPORT FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCILORS. – None

11. ADJOURNMENT. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.