

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
7:00 PM JANUARY 9, 2023**

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

ATTENDEES:

**Jim Kindle
Corey Sweeney
Dale Bates
JoAnna Lamb
Sharon Inskeep
Adam Doherty
Kraig Cutsforth
Chad Doherty
Steve Rhea
Bill Kuhn**

Absent: John Bowles

Members of the Public: Nathen Braun, Drew Coe, Jace Coe, Sharon Harrison, Jordan Sweeney, Brandi Sweeney, Brooke Sweeney, Kristen Marshall, Trisha Sweeney, Pat Sweeney, Mindy Wilson.

On Zoom: Barb Orwick, Cam Sweeney, Andrea DiSalvo.

1. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Call to Order. Jim Kindle called the January 9, 2023 meeting of the City of Heppner City Council to order at 7:00 PM.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Kindle led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. Announcements – Corey Sweeney said that there is a change in the appointments resolution. Position 3 of Utilities Commission will be vacant.
- D. Correspondence - None
- E. Requests – Senior Meals: Jackie Alleman and Jerry Conklin.

Jackie Alleman and Jerry Conklin work for Hospice. They attend and/or deliver senior meals. They are working on getting the Senior Meals back at the St. Patrick's Senior Apartments.

F. Presentations – Installation of Councilors

Mayor Jim Kindle swore in incoming Mayor Corey Sweeney.

Mayor Corey Sweeney swore in Councilors Dale Bates, Adam Doherty and Sharon Inskeep.

- 2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** – Barb Orwick gave a report for the Neighborhood Center. They gave out 215 food boxes in December with assistance from CAPECO. There are 6 clients that get meals delivered once a week, 24 total for the month. They gave assistance for electric to one household, one household received water/sewer assistance, one household received help with their propane bill. There were 26 families sponsored by the giving tree. There will be more information in this weeks newspaper.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. December 12, 2022 City Council meeting minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes by Adam Doherty. Seconded by Dale Bates. Motion Carried

B. Approval of Monthly Bills

Sharon Inskeep asked why there were two separate checks for Columbia Basin Heating and Cooling. One was for the new system in the shop, the other was for maintenance. Sharon asked if there was a service contract for Columbia Basin Heating and Cooling and if the warranty was effective on the City Hall system. Kraig said there was not a contract and the warranty on the system is 5 years.

Motion to approve the monthly bills by Dale Bates. Seconded by JoAnna Lamb. Motion Carried

C. Financial Statement – For information only

4. REPORTS

A. Fire Chief Report

Steve Rhea read the report.

6 lift assists

1 secure landing zone

2 motor vehicle accidents with injuries
1 water heater explosion
1 cancelled enroute EMS call
1 citizen assist
3 motor vehicle accidents, non injury
1 controlled burn that was not called in
1 motor vehicle accident with 3 extrications
28 Chief Calls

It slowed down a bit in December. Working on ISO survey review. Awaiting Ready to Build with Options of a Type 3 Engine for RFPD. Completing VFA Grant Award Purchase of Loose Equipment. 205 calls for service in 2022. 174 calls in 2021. 316 total Chief calls for 2022. 267 Chief calls for 2021.

B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department

Nathen Braun read the report. There were 400.50 hours for December. There were 3 theft calls, 24 citizen contacts, 1 animal complaint. Total incidents for December was 271.

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

Water Dept. – Made and installed lids on Vaults at Well #1 and Reservoir #1. Repaired a broken water line at 55805 Willow Creek Road. Fixed a water leak at 550 Sperry St. Cleaned up some missed meters on GIS and updated the meters. Replaced meters at 275 Gale, 190 Rock, 239 N Main, 580 Riverside, 485 Main and 61245 Hwy 207. Responded to 6 frozen meters. Responded to two after hours call outs for meter shutoff due to broken pipes in homes.

Sewer Dept. – Cleaned the contact basins once. Did 11 septic dumps. Cleaned Sewer lines on Rock, Thompson, Barratt Blvd and Fairview Way as part of the yearly cleaning schedule. Replaced the packing on the sludge pump and fixed the stroke.

Streets Dept. – Sanded and plowed streets multiple days. Applied deicer multiple days. Hauled spoils to Balm Fork property.

Parks Dept. – Picked up leaves in parks. Attended the Christmas tree/Heritage Park lighting and turned on the lights.

Shop Dept. – Took the John Deere 35d excavator to Pasco Pape for repairs. Burned the debris pile at the City Yard. Changed the oil in the 2016 Ram Utility and 2014 Ram 1500. Met with Perkins Door for overhead door repairs and installation of new power doors.

D. City Manager Report

Kraig has been part of a group for the Natural Hazard Plan and one for Economic Development Housing Study with Morrow County. They have scheduled a public meeting for February 13th at 6:00 PM at City Hall. This will be right before the February Council meeting.

Had meetings with, Chamber, WCVEDG, ODOT, and County Planning.

Worked with Anderson Perry on the sewer project and for updated Water Master Plan.

Visited with ODOT on HB2017 project closeout.

Working with Ferguson Engineering on HB2017 project wrap up.

Worked on the list of items to do for the city current and in the future.

Had a Zoom meeting with group developing Natural Hazards update study.

Had a Zoom meeting with Housing Inventory Project group.

Reviewed final draft of Water Management and Conservation Plan. Follow-up.

Visited with Auditor on some different subjects about the audit.

Looked for a street sweeper for Public Works.

Took a complaint on squeaky windmill at the museum. Windmill was chained down.

The heater in the big shop was replaced.

Visited with CREZ representative about CREZ meeting reschedule.

Sidewalks repaired on Main Street and Jones Street.

Worked on Public Works garage doors repair and lift installation.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS -None

6. BUSINESS

A. Old Business

1. Sewer Project Update – Not much change. Still working with Anderson Perry.
2. Water System Update – The Water Management plan went to the state for review.
3. Street Project Update – Trying to do the closeout on this. Agenda items 7 and 8 address this.
4. Goal Setting Meeting Reminder: January 19, 2023, 5:30 PM

The Goal Setting Meeting has been rescheduled to January 26, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

B. New Business

1. Elect a City Council President

Motion to elect John Bowles as City Council President by Adam Doherty.
Seconded by Dale Bates. Motion Carried

2. Check Signers

Motion by Dale Bates to remove Jim Kindle and David Gunderson as check signers for the City of Heppner and appoint Corey Sweeney and Adam Doherty as check signers. Seconded by JoAnna Lamb. Motion Carried

3. Dickenson Chiropractic Lease Renewal

Motion to approve the lease renewal for Dickenson Chiropractic by JoAnna Lamb. Seconded by Dale Bates. Motion Carried

4. Howard and Beth Bryant Foundation Lease Renewal

Motion to approve the lease renewal for The Howard and Beth Bryant Foundation by Dale Bates. Seconded by Adam Doherty. Motion Carried

5. Resolution 1049-23, A Resolution Ratifying Appointments to City Committees, Boards, Commissions, and Positions

The #3 position for utilities will be vacant for now. Eric Chick, Adam Bergstrom and Trevor Rhea will be added to Fire Advisory. Joanna will be Council Representative for Fire Advisory. Sharon Inskeep will be Council Representative for St. Patrick's Committee.

Motion to approve Resolution 1049-23, A Resolution Ratifying Appointments to City Committees, Boards, Commissions, and Positions with changes by Adam Doherty. Seconded by Dale Bates. Motion Carried

6. Resolution 1050-23, A Resolution Correcting a Misprint on Page 9 in the Current 2022-2023 Budget Under Water Expenditures

There was a misprint on page 9 of the approved 2022-2023 Budget. A section was copied and pasted into the wrong page. It didn't change any numbers in the Budget. A corrected copy of has been delivered to Morrow County. Sharon Inskeep asked what the \$75,000 on line #26 was for. It was set aside to replace/repair the telemetry system, as it is not working correctly.

Motion to approve Resolution 1050-23, A Resolution Correcting a Misprint on Page 9 in the Current 2022-2023 Budget under Water Expenditures by Dale Bates. Seconded by Sharon Inskeep. Motion Carried

7. Ferguson Engineering Request for Additional Compensation

When we started the HB2017 process, a contract with Ferguson was signed to set an hourly rate. Inflation due to Covid has occurred since then. In bidding out the project it was assumed that we would be able to complete Gale Street, parts of May, Willow, Center and Chase. There were about 10 bids which ranged from 2.2 to 5 million. City Council chose the low bid at 2.2 million. We added Church, South Chase Street, part of Willow Drive and Jones Street. It required Ferguson to do more surveying and engineering. They asked about their rate at that time and Kraig held them to that rate. He told them that if there was money left over at the end they could ask Council and see. Kraig would like to give them about a 7% increase on what they have been paid. If we don't he fears that we will have trouble getting engineers in the future. At this point, we are about 80 thousand below what we were allowed to spend. These costs will be refunded by the State of Oregon. Sharon Inskeep pointed out that the first three invoices on the list are dated back in 2019. This is before Covid. She doesn't see how this is saving face with anyone. They did not complete on time. Corey Sweeney said that there were many change orders which cost the city extra. Adam Doherty feels that this sets a precedence. It is hard to accept these additional charges. They had an agreement and it is impossible to tell what the future will be. There were PPP funds available for this purpose. We don't know how much or if they got any funding. We had a hard time getting them here and when they did they are charging for the change orders. Now we are done and they want another 18 thousand? The work has already been done, the bill has already been paid. JoAnna Lamb said that since Heppner is hard to get to we may have to make some variances. Adam asked why are we paying more? Whether it comes out of the House Bill or not, it sets a precedence. Corey asked Bill Kuhn how he feels about this. Bill said from a legal perspective the City Manager is asking for additional funds which the city does not have to pay. It is within the Councils prerogative to pay it, but the city manager has to make sure that it doesn't cause a problem with the state. If they approve it there isn't a city liability but there is also no city obligation.

Motion to approve Ferguson Engineering request for additional compensation by Dale Bates. Seconded by JoAnna Lamb. Dale Bates and JoAnna Lamb voted to approve. Corey Sweeney, Adam Doherty and Sharon Inskeep voted opposed. Motion Failed

8. Premier Closing Bill

We are basically 99% done. One of the things that is not done is the striping and stop bars. Stripe Right was supposed to complete it this fall and they did not show up. It did not get done. They may not be able to get back until May or June. The state will not pay for anything that is not done. If we want to have

Stripe Right complete the job we have to ask the state for an extension of the contract. We have three choices: 1. remove the striping from the contract and don't do it, 2. Get an extension from the state as the contract expires at the end of March, 3. Have Public Works do the work and have ODOT buy the material. That will not include striping but will cover stop bars and crosswalks. The center stripes aren't as important and do not last as long. The city would do torch down markings. If we are able to get the material in a reasonable amount of time, we could get reimbursement from the state. Chad thinks that it would be good training for the Public Works crew. It would be better to do the extension and have Stripe Right come back and do it as this is a lot of additional work. Torch downs will last longer than paint and Stripe Right would be painting all of it. This will be tabled until February to gather more information.

9. Appointment for Council Position #3

The Councilors discussed the three applications that were submitted and whether they should make a decision or wait and discuss it further or use ballots to vote. Adam said they might as well make a decision tonight. Any of the applicants would be a good choice, but one of them has more experience.

Motion to appoint Cody High to Council Position #3 by Adam Doherty.
Seconded by Sharon Inskeep. Adam Doherty, Sharon Inskeep, and Corey Sweeney voted to approve. Dale Bates and JoAnna Lamb voted opposed.
Motion Carried

7. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS – For information only.

8. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY – He was available for a few consults, nothing significant to report.

9. REPORT FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCILORS - Corey Sweeney thanked his family for attending tonight's meeting. He is excited to be Mayor. His #1 goal is to keep the Circuit Court in Heppner. #2 is the Sewer Project.

10. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM