

DRAFT

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
7:00 PM SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

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

ATTENDEES:

**Corey Sweeney
JoAnna Lamb
John Doherty
Sharon Inskeep
Cody High
Dale Bates
Chad Doherty
Erick Chick
Bill Kuhn**

Absent: None

Members of the Public: Barb Orwick

On Zoom: Tom Wolff, Adam Doherty, Andrea DiSalvo

1. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Call to Order. Corey Sweeney called the September 11, 2023 meeting of the City of Heppner City Council to order at 7:00 PM.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance. Corey Sweeney led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- C. Announcements - None
- D. Correspondence – None
- E. Requests - None
- F. Presentations

Barb Orwick gave the August report for the Neighborhood Center. They gave out 80 food boxes, which fed about 400 people. (9/13/23: Barb called to correct this to 78 food boxes that fed 183 people for August) Their hours are now 10-3. There is a bag

sale every Wednesday. In July the Capeco truck delivered 5,600 pounds of food. In August it was half of that. Capeco said that they will have to get used to smaller deliveries. The food drive will be on November 2nd. Leave a donation on your porch, leave the light on and it will be picked up. They are still receiving many donations of garden produce.

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. August 14, 2023 City Council meeting minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes with changes by Sharon Inskeep. Seconded by Dale Bates. Motion Carried

B. Approval of Monthly Bills

Dale asked about the \$18,000 bill for repairing the Fire Hall doors. It was for the bay door that fell that was covered by insurance.

Cody High asked if the \$329.00 for dog poop bags was for the whole year. Chad said it should last for about a year.

Motion to approve the monthly bills by JoAnna Lamb. Seconded by John Doherty. Motion Carried

C. Financial Statement – For information only

4. REPORTS

A. Fire Chief Report

8 Lift Assists for EMS
2 Secure Landing Zone
1 Natural Vegetation Fire Mutual Aid to N. Gilliam Co.
1 Motor Vehicle Accident with Injuries Life Flighted
2 Natural Vegetation Fire Mutual Aid to S. Gilliam Co.
1 Motor Vehicle Accident, Non Injury
1 Smoke Check in City Limits
1 ATV Accident with injuries

151 Calls to Date. 21 Chief Calls.
Awaiting Ready to Build with options of a Type 3 Engine for RFPD.
Conducting Burns around the City.
4 Fire fighters completed NFPA Firefighter 1. Awaiting Certification.

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Working on 911 Stairclimb Event. Community turnout was low and they received about \$4,000 total. This will be split between Heppner, Lexington and Lone. Spoke at Senior Meal site on Fire Safety and Smoke Detector Program.

B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department

There was no one from the Sheriff's office to give the report. There were 457 hours for August. Cody High would still like to see a breakdown of hours. Why were the Sheriff and Undersheriff included in the totals of the hours report?

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

Water Dept. – Raised and repaired the fire hydrant in front of the Senior Center on Main Street. Took lead and copper samples. Awaiting the results.

Sewer Dept. – Cleaned the contact basins twice. Did 10 Septic dumps. Reset the sludge pump at the wastewater treatment plant. It had broke loose from its set point. Finished hauling biosolids. We hauled 27 loads, which is about 106,500 gallons.

Streets Dept. – Painted the Shamrock. Set up and took down the parade cones and barricades. Pulled weeds on Main Street. Swept and cleaned the streets for the Rodeo Parade. Cleaned up N Chase St. lot for the new fence. Removed the crosswalk on N Chase St. Installed a new crosswalk on N Chase St. Fixed multiple broken irrigation lines on Main St. Fixed the drop system line on Main St that was hit by a vehicle. Painted the crosswalk at the Elementary School. Pulled puncture vine at Chase St. lot and on Morgan St. by the Guardrail. Replaced the road sign at the corner of Cannon and Green Streets. Measured cracks for the crack seal project. Moved the drip system line at the corner of Center and Main. Hauled spoils to the city dump.

Parks Dept. – Replaced all 4' pop up sprinklers at Heritage Park.

Other. – Changed the oil in the 2018 Ram 1500. Annabelle McDaniel put in her notice and has now moved on. We have hired Kosta Terzis as her replacement.

D. City Manager Report

Tom Wolff's report was included in the Council packet. He asked if there were any questions regarding the report.

#25 Lease Agreement: Tom found some unsigned lease agreements in the Manager's office. Tom got them signed and they are good through the end of 2023.

#24 Rod Wilson Utility Connections: This is to add sewer and water connections to two lots on Chase Street. Rod will be building houses on the lots. Public Works will be

working on this next Wednesday. Chad believes this can be done without turning off the water to any customers.

#57 City Council Vacancy: This will be advertised in next weeks Gazette.

5. BUSINESS

A. Old Business

1. Sewer Project Update – No update
2. Water System Update – Tom Wolff met with Kim Cutsforth and Melissa Lindsay. They want to get a reservoir on “Cross Hill”. This will help develop a subdivision in that area.
3. Street Project Update – No update
4. Flashing Crosswalk Lights – Nothing has moved forward on this. Tom has not heard back from the State of Oregon. The agreement has not been signed.
5. Potential Claims Against ODOT Project

Tom Wolff is contemplating filing claims against the ODOT project.

A. The missing red strip of cement in front of Thomson Square. It acted as a psychological barrier to separate the food court from the sidewalk. They removed it and replaced it with regular cement.

B. The engraved memorial bricks were removed and thrown aside. They should be replaced.

C. The cinder rock in front of “The Loop” bus shed. They cut out a large part of the lot. It appears that they ran out of asphalt to replace it and filled it in with red cinder rock. There is no curb or anything. It should be corrected.

The loose red rock that they used is already scattered all over town. Those areas are already getting filled with trash. Chad previously requested that they use raised stamped concrete instead but this did not happen for some reason. The idea behind this was so that blind people could tell the difference between those areas and the sidewalk but it wasn't necessary for every area that they filled with the loose rock.

6. Crack Sealing Update – Chad measured the cracks and this has gone out for bids.

7. Cross Street Vacation Update- Bill Kuhn has been working on the “Lauritsen Request”. There is now a full legal description of the property. The neighbors will have to sign the consent forms. That should be done soon.
8. Some of this was covered under #2. State Senator Hansell will be in town during the first part of October to review the area. Kyle Robinson may donate the footprint needed for the project in exchange for utility connections. Work will need to be done to determine the best location for a well and reservoir tank.
9. Feral Cat Information Sheet

Tom put together an information sheet for citizens. Bill Kuhn has been researching Ordinances and penalties for feral cat feeding stations. The council discussed possible penalties and/or limiting how many people can own. There currently is no limit on cats or dogs.

B. New Business

1. Grievance Against ODOT Project

This was discussed under Old Business. Chad will work with Tom on a list of all the issues with the project.

Motion to move forward with filing a grievance with ODOT by Dale Bates.
Seconded by JoAnna Lamb. Motion Carried

6. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS – For information only.

7. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY – Bill Kuhn has also been working with the City Manager on an easement with Heppner Community Foundation for the back of the old City Hall building. HCF will grant an easement and Right of Way to the City. He also reviewed the ODOT crosswalk contract.

8. REPORT FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCILORS - JoAnna Lamb said that the road closure at the Elementary School has been better after the issues they had with the ODOT contractors the first time.

The Council thanked Tom Wolff for his service as Interim City Manager. They thanked John Doherty for serving on the council and welcomed him as City Manager.

9. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM