

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
6:00 PM FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

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

ATTENDEES:

Corey Sweeney
Ralph Klock
Ian Murray
Cody High
Dale Bates
Sharon Inskeep
Adam Doherty: on Zoom
John Doherty
Chad Doherty
Bill Kuhn

Absent: None

Members of the Public: Dane Maben

On Zoom: None

1. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order. Corey Sweeney called the February 12, 2024 special meeting of the City of Heppner City Council to order at 6:00 PM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance. Corey Sweeney led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. BUSINESS

A. Anderson Perry: Upcoming Infrastructure Projects Review

Dane Maben from Anderson Perry discussed Upcoming City projects.

1. Wastewater Feasibility Study.

The current wastewater system is gravity collected and goes to a mechanical treatment plant. In the winter the wastewater is treated and the effluent is discharged to Willow Creek. In the summer it is stored and used to irrigate the Golf Course. There was a 2015 Wastewater Facilities Plan Update that was completed

by Anderson Perry. The purpose of the study was to evaluate improving the mechanical treatment plant in response to proposed ammonia limits for discharge into Willow Creek. DEQ sets the treatment parameters. The plan was done but there were no improvements made. In 2017 CES did a wastewater study and they looked at land application and a winter storage lagoon to stop discharging. In 2021 or 2022 they started working on today's document. Phase 1 is to upgrade treatment plant. It is not in good shape. With the upgraded plant the storage lagoon may not be necessary. Land application has changed a little bit in the last few years. It requires a lot more monitoring and soil testing. Phase 2 is storage and land application. Land could still be secured for a storage lagoon in the future.

2. Water System Master Plan

OHA requires a Water System Master Plan. A plan should be able to address the city's needs for the next 20 years. The current plan should be able to project until 2044. The Master Plan should have design criteria, evaluate the city's water supply system, water storage and distribution system. Any deficiencies that are identified will be included as recommended improvements. The study will look at well production, existing pump conditions, well pump building conditions, redundancy, telemetry system, water rights, disinfection, storage, operating storage, equalization storage, fire reserve storage, emergency reserve storage, and reservoir condition. Population growth estimates need to be considered. It's a regulatory requirement to use population estimates and forecasts from Portland State University's Population Research Center. They have estimated a -.2% growth rate through 2044. It doesn't make sense to assume negative population growth. This would cause everything in the plan to be undersized. The Council discussed population and housing and decided to plan for growth of 100 and see where it goes. The draft plan should be ready by June. In some places the distribution system is aging. They will create a digital water model that simulates normal flow through the system and will help identify inadequate pressure etc. Financing for future projects can be discussed. USDA Rural Development and Business Oregon are good sources of funding. The 2021 affordability rate looks at Heppner's median household income. Heppner is well above the affordability rate for water. This will help to qualify for low interest loans and potential grants. Heppner does not qualify for the Community Development Block Grant as the low to moderate income percentage is 46.3% and would need to be above 51%. Dane would like to hold another work session in May to work out details of the design plan.

9. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM