

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF HEPPNER CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HEPPNER CITY HALL, 111 N. MAIN STREET, HEPPNER, OREGON
7:00 PM AUGUST 10, 2026**

ATTENDEES:

**Corey Sweeney
Ralph Klock
Sharon Inskeep
Joe Armato
Ian Murray
Dale Bates (on Zoom)
Adam Doherty
John Doherty
Chad Doherty
Eric Chick
Bill Kuhn
Nathen Braun**

Absent: None

Members of the Public: Gus Peterson

On Zoom: Michael Miller, Zoe Johnson, Heppner Gazette

1. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Call to Order. Corey Sweeney called the August 10, 2026, 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 – None

2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – None

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. July 13, 2026, and July 22, 2026, Special City Council meeting minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes by Ralph Klock. Seconded by Sharon Inskeep. Councilors Sweeney, Klock, Armato, Murray, Bates, Doherty and Inskeep voted unanimously to approve. Motion Carried.

- B. Approval of Monthly Bills

Motion to approve the monthly bills by Joe Armato. Seconded by Ralph Klock. Councilors Sweeney, Klock, Armato, Doherty, Murray, Bates, and Inskeep voted unanimously to approve. Motion Carried.

- C. Financial Statement – For information only.

4. REPORTS

- A. Fire Chief Report – Eric Chick reviewed the report that was provided for the council.
- B. Morrow County Sheriff's Department – Nathen Braun reviewed the report that was provided for the council.
- C. Public Works. Chad Doherty reviewed the Public Works report that was provided for the council.
- D. City Manager Report – John Doherty reviewed the report that was provided for the council.

5. BUSINESS

A. Old Business

- 1. Gilmore Street update

We were awarded the \$250,000 ODOT Small City Allotment Grant for the Pioneer loop around the hospital. This will now be included in the Gilmore Street Project which has already started. There are bi-weekly meetings with the engineers and contractors. MCHD is invited to attend so they can have traffic information. Water system and sewer main testing will be done soon. There will be a change order as they discovered bedrock on the south end of Gilmore. They also found that we do not need to replace as much water line as was previously thought. It is possible that there may be funds left over for other additions.

2. 2026 General Election update – deadline reminder

John Doherty gave a reminder that applications need to be turned in to the City Manager on August 25th by 5 PM.

3. Animal Permit Ordinance draft review

The council approved the draft Ordinance and moving forward with the advertising process.

B. New Business

1. HRFPD -vehicle surplus

The Fire Department would like council approval to surplus a 1979 Pierce-Chevrolet Fire Truck. The council decided to advertise it locally before listing it on GovDeals. It will be advertised with a \$2,500 minimum bid. Sealed bids will be opened at the September 14th council meeting.

2. MCSO contract review

The contract has been revised to one year with no vehicle purchase. The service area radius is reduced to 1.5 miles. The next contract review will be prior to April 2027.

Motion to approve the Mayor and City Manager to complete and execute the contract by Ian Murray. Seconded by Adam Doherty. Councilors Sweeney, Klock, Armato, Doherty, Murray, Bates, and Inskeep voted unanimously to approve. Motion Carried.

3. CM contract approval

Motion to approve the City Manager contract as presented by Joe Armato. Seconded by Ralph Klock. Councilors Sweeney, Klock, Armato, Doherty, Murray, Bates, and Inskeep voted unanimously to approve. Motion Carried.

6. MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETINGS – for information only.

7. REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY – Bill Kuhn has been busy working on the ATV Ordinance, Animal Ordinance, Habitability Ordinance, attended the Police Commission meeting, reviewed the Police Contract and researched the Estes application.

8. REPORT FROM MAYOR, CITY COUNCILORS – Mayor Sweeney reminded the councilors that all recommendations and correspondences need to go through the City Manager to the employees and not directly from the councilors.

9. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.