

CITY OF NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2021, AT 6:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA, NEW MEADOWS

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

Present at City Hall were Council Members Jeff Parnett, Shiloh Ryker, Kaytlyn Gilliam, and Mayor Julie Good. Present via Zoom was Council Member Darla Weber.

Staff present at City Hall were Kyla Gardner, Dana Kautz and Angie Mettie. City Attorney Dick Stubbs was available via Zoom.

Mayor Good opened the meeting at 6:37 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reports

Staff Reports

The Council reviewed staff reports. One issue included many dog complaints. Mayor Good suggested that the community help with dogs by taking photos and sharing on social media when dogs are lost or found. The Sheriff's office could be contacted only as needed for vicious dogs.

Council Member Weber shared information about the spay/neuter program at McPaws for community cats and will give an article to the mayor on the topic.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Good stated that Mountain Waterworks will be available at the August 23rd meeting to discuss the water project.

Both the Post Office owner and C&N Electrical have agreed to have their parking areas paved when the Heigho sections are paved. Darcy McDaniel stated that her parking area can be used for parking during the paving process for postal customers.

The next Citizen Advisory / Parks & Rec forum will be held in the park on Tuesday, August 24th.

Discussion Items

Zoning Code Discussions – Parcel / Lot Definition

Mayor Good read portions of the zoning code pertaining to lots and parcels. The code defines a lot as a "plot, parcel, or tract of land," and uses the terms interchangeably. The County refers to plots of land based on its taxing parcel number, which can contain multiple lots. Therefore, three lots in New Meadows may be one taxing parcel at the county. City Attorney Stubbs will contact Jerry Mason regarding this issue.

Water Project Review

The Council chose August 23rd prior to the meeting to hold the water project review. Information on this portion of the meeting will be sent out before the meeting.

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City Cleanup

The Council chose to hold a final city cleanup event the third Saturday in September. A community-wide yard sale might be held the prior Saturday, and leftover items could be picked up on September 18th.

ARPA Funds

\$57,000 has been received in ARPA funds, which must be used towards infrastructure, water, sewer, or broadband. The Council chose to use the funds toward the water project, in order to refrain from passing on costs to the water/sewer customers.

- Council Member Ryker moved to use ARPA funds to fund the water project; Council Member Weber seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

City Code 5-8-1 Camping in Public Places Ordinance Amendment

- Council Member Gilliam moved to introduce Ordinance TBD-2021 and suspend the rules requiring three separate readings on three separate days and read by title only once; Council Member Weber seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

City Clerk Gardner read the ordinance amendment by title only.

- Council Member Gilliam moved to approve the Camping in Public Places Ordinance Amendment TBD-2021; Council Member Weber seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

Developer's Discount

The Council reviewed the developer's discount for both residential and commercial developments. Acquiring more homes on the water system will spread out the cost of water/sewer for customers. Therefore, acquiring new customers is more important than the high cost of a hookup. Mayor Good will revise discount percentages for approval at the next meeting.

Water Usage Request – Rory Mehen

Rory Mehen discussed his April water usage with the Council, stating that it was his slowest month, yet his highest bill. He shared graphics and scenarios to show how long it would take to use the amount of water he was charged for, and how many tanker trucks it would take to hold that amount of water. The Public Works department inspected the meter and could find no cause for the usage. The Council stated that the meters must be trusted, and that there was not really any way the meter could run when no water was going through it. Therefore, they chose to allow Mehen extra time to pay the bill. They also stated that they would assist in routing the drain in front of the hotel, as ITD would not take responsibility for the drain.

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Water Utility Application Request – ShawnDale Howard

ShawnDale Howard is remodeling a home to rent. The water is currently turned off for non-payment. She had requested the water be placed in her name and turned on. She would pay the water from this point forward, and the property owner could work on paying the delinquent bill. The Council chose to adhere to the policy stating that the bill must be paid in full in order to have the water turned back on, as it was the property owner's responsibility to pay the bill if he wants to allow renters in the home.

Notary Fee

The Council chose to remove the notary fee and make it a public service offered by the city.

- Council Member Ryker moved that the City of New Meadows cease charging a notary fee; Council Member Weber seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

Temporary Employee Wages

Public Works Director Wallace is in need of extra workforce in paving the Heigho sections of road, which is funded by a grant from LHTAC. Doug Buys, Devon Buys, and Johnny Brown Jr. will be temporary employees for this job, and Wallace suggested a pay rate of \$20 per hour.

- Council Member Weber moved to provide temporary employees for the Heigho project at \$20 per hour; Council Member Gilliam seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda included minutes from July 12th, July 26th, and August 4th, 2021, paid and pending claims, and July 2021 payroll.

- Council Member Parnett moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Council Member Gilliam seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

Future Meeting Topics

Future meeting topics included the budget public hearing, developer's discount, zoning information from Stubbs, water project review, Executive Session, ITD report from Tankersley, and an update for the Heigho street project.

Adjournment

Mayor Good adjourned the meeting at 8:12 P.M.

Julie A. Good, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Kyla Gardner, City Clerk