

NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
HELD MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 AT 6:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA STREET, NEW MEADOWS, IDAHO

Roll Call / Pledge of Allegiance

Present at City Hall were Council Members Josh Carr, Jeff Parnett, Kaytlyn Goodwin, and Mayor Julie Good. Council Member Shiloh Ryker was excused.

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

Public present at City Hall were Sandy Schiffman, Kayrene Brown, Jack Hellbusch and Rhy Lund. Present via Zoom was Drew Dodson.

Mayor Good opened the meeting at 6:31 P.M. and Kyla Gardner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Reports

Adams County Sheriff Update

Sheriff Zollman introduced Deputy Matt Smith, who has been with the department as a deputy for 8 months. Zollman stated that New Meadows now has three resident deputies. The department has been receiving approximately 40 calls on an average weekend, which is down from previous years. He stated that a traffic counter is showing approximately 1000 vehicles per day on the highway at Council. He will make sure that reader boards in Grangeville and Weiser reflect any accidents in the area to help prevent backup of trucks and extra traffic.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Good stated that the dog pound project was given to Hunter Brown and Ivan McDaniel. Having limited hours on the park restrooms is working well, and will be re-evaluated as winter approaches. A burn ban has been enacted until further notice due to the dry conditions and weather patterns. Radar signs and a crosswalk will be installed soon. The transportation plan update should be completed by the end of the year.

Staff Reports

The Council reviewed staff reports. Kyla Gardner summarized information on different mass texting options for the city. Mayor Good clarified an incident in Hunter Brown's report regarding a tarp that was hanging on a power line. The power was shut off to remove the tarp, which affected the well because the generator was turned off for a moment.

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Public Hearing – Design Review for Family Dollar Addition

A design review hearing is held per city ordinance on any expansion of a commercial building. An application was received from Family Dollar to expand their building to the south by 21 feet.

Mayor Good opened the public hearing at 7:02 P.M. Rhy Lund with Willow Flats, (Developer) was present to share about the expansion of Family Dollar for more floor space. An updated plan was shared via email, but a large version was not available to the Council. Lund stated that the power poles might be an issue, but after speaking with Idaho Power, he felt that the lines might be buried to solve this problem.

Public Input – In Favor

There was no public input in favor of the project

Public Input – Neutral

Jack Hellbusch, residing at 306 Katherine, expressed concerns of access for fire and emergency vehicles when the freight truck was present. He provided a photo of the truck unloading and blocking the entire driveway and alley on the south side of the building. With the new addition, trucks would be forced to park parallel to the building. He also stated that visitors use the Family Dollar dumpsters for their personal use. The dumpsters should be enclosed to prevent this. They are always full, and garbage is stacked around the dumpsters because of this.

Sandy Schiffman, residing at 416 N Heigho, stated that she owned the building next to Family Dollar, and would consider selling it to Family Dollar. During the last year, snow from the Family Dollar parking lot was pushed onto her building and damaged it. She also stated that the store and grounds are in disrepair, weeds are tall, and garbage can be found around the store. She would like to see Family Dollar be a part of community involvement and would like the local store to have a say in the community, instead of having to go through corporate headquarters for local requests.

Other comments from the community were reviewed, which reiterated the need for repair to the outer structure, cleanup of the property, and lack of staff to appropriately manage the store. Mayor Good also noted that there is no way to contact local management at Family Dollar, as only corporate information is available. Items such as weeds, should be handled locally.

Public Input – Against

There was no public input against the project.

Applicant Rebuttal

Lund stated that many of these issues should be addressed at the local level, and that he would contact the district manager and store manager regarding these issues. He also discussed moving the freight door to better allow accessibility for the truck. It was also noted that the current plan did not show the power poles in the driveway.

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Questions from the Council

Mayor Good asked about the siding on the addition. Lund stated that it will be metal to match the original building, but would not have the rock on the front or side. Mayor Good also asked about the curb, which was not shown in the diagram. The curb would need to be installed and should be reflected in the updated plans.

Final Comments

Mayor Good stated that the decision will be placed on the next agenda, contingent on an updated plan reflecting the items discussed, as well as answers to the Council's concerns.

Close of Public Hearing

The public hearing was closed at 7:33 P.M.

Action Items

Bull Sculpture

An artist provided photos of a bull sculpture and offered to place it in the community. The sculpture is metal and is eight feet tall. Council Member Parnett appreciated the idea and felt that art brings in tourists. It would be a good representation of our community, which is largely ranching. He suggested the depot for a location. Council Member Goodwin felt that the park would not be an appropriate location, due to having children playing in the area, and the sculpture possibly having sharp metal and possibly rusting. Council Member Carr stated that art in the community is a great idea, but that it should be placed in an area where it would fit with the surroundings. It might fit well with a future pocket park or an art park. Council Member Goodwin asked if they would be willing to donate it to a cause, raffle it off, and use the money for that cause, such as the youth center. Other options included possibly Brundage, Miss Kitty's or the bare lots at the intersection of Highway 55 and 95. Mayor Good will talk to the owner and the item will be added to a future agenda.

Overnight Training & Travel – IRWA Conference October 5-6: Hunter Brown

- Council Member Goodwin moved to approve overnight training and travel to the IRWA conference on October 5th and 6th for Hunter Brown; Council Member Carr seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

City Hall Closure: September 21st and 22nd

The Council approved City Hall to be closed Wednesday and Thursday, September 21st and 22nd so that Gardner and Mettie could attend training.

- Council Member Goodwin moved to approve the City Hall closure on September 21st and 22nd for training; Council Member Carr seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

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Variance Moratorium

The Council reviewed the Variance Moratorium as discussed at the last Council meeting.

- Council Member Parnett moved to introduce Ordinance TBD-2022, placing a moratorium on variances in New Meadows, and suspend the rules requiring three separate readings on three separate days and read by title only once; Council Member Carr seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Parnett – yes, Carr – yes, Goodwin – yes. Motion carried.

City Clerk Gardner read the ordinance by title only.

- Council Member Parnett moved to approve Ordinance TBD-2022, placing a moratorium on variances in New Meadows; Council Member Goodwin seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Parnett – yes, Carr – yes, Goodwin – yes. Motion carried.

Noise Ordinance

The Council reviewed the draft Noise Ordinance. Mayor Good asked if the decibel chart from 10-2-2 could be added in. Council Member Parnett felt that the table was ambiguous. Sheriff Zollman stated that the department does not have a decibel meter to determine noise levels. Attorney Stubbs stated that he felt the definition for noise was too vague. He referred to two cases that were overturned for vagueness. Stubbs will help draft a better definition. The item will be added to the next agenda.

August 8th and August 29th City Council Minutes

Kyla Gardner polled the Council Members and all stated that they had read the minutes. Council Member Goodwin noted that the August 8th minutes used both Gilliam and Goodwin as her last name. She would like to be referred to as Goodwin.

- Council Member Goodwin moved to approve the August 8th and August 29th City Council minutes with change to her name; Council Member Carr seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

Executive Session 74-206 (b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student; & (f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated.

- Council Member Goodwin moved to go into Executive Session under 74-206 (b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student; & (f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated, at 8:07 P.M.; Council Member

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Parnett seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

Executive Session ended at 8:07 P.M. Council Members Parnett, Goodwin, Carr, and Mayor Good were present.

Employee Evaluations & Wage Changes

- Council Member Goodwin moved to approve a \$1 per hour raise for Gardner, Mettie, and Brown. McDaniel will be moved to permanent full-time, with full benefits and a fifty-cent per hour wage increase; Council Member Parnett seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried.

The changes will take effect on September 16, 2022.

Selling Portion of City's Wiley Street Property

Mayor Good stated that John D. Rhodes asked to purchase 28.8 feet of the property owned by the City near the well house on Wiley. This would leave the City with 20 feet, which is unused space. John Stone was contacted and saw no issue with the sale. Kirk Kundrick is tracing a drain in the floor of the wellhouse. An easement for the drain field may be necessary if it drains onto this property. This sale would require a lot line adjustment and Rhodes has offered to move the fence. The suggested price was \$20,000. Attorney Stubbs stated that the sale seemed straightforward. The paperwork for the sale will be drawn up after approval.

- Council Member Goodwin moved to approve selling a 28.8-foot section of the city's Wiley Street property for \$20,000 and splitting the closing costs with the buyer; Council Member Carr seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Parnett – yes, Carr – yes, Goodwin – yes. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda included Paid and Pending Claim, August 2022 Payroll, and July 2022 Financials.

- Council Member Parnett moved to approve the Consent Agenda; Council Member Carr 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 bull sculpture, noise ordinance, Family Dollar decision, reader board, hammer arresters vs cement blocks, Clearwater Financial presentation, ideas for community service projects, and the county property.

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Adjournment

Mayor Good adjourned the meeting at 8:44 P.M.

Julie A. Good, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Kyla Gardner, City Clerk