

**CITY OF NEW MEADOWS SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA AVENUE
APRIL 10, 2015 – 9:00 AM**

Agenda Item 1) Roll Call, Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Tony Koberstein called the meeting to order at 9:04AM. Mayor Koberstein and Council Members; Brad Steiner, Julie Good and Shannon Fairchild were present. City Clerk / Treasurer Jacob “Mac” Qualls, Public Works Supervisor Doug Buys, Animal Control Officer Leonard Wallace, and Office Assistant Kim Jackson were also present. Public in attendance: Dixie Jeffs

Koberstein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 2) Budget Workshop

a) Review of previous fiscal years Water Expenses & Revenues

Good reviewed previous fiscal years water expenses and revenues. There was a discussion between City Council Members regarding expenses and revenues.

b) Discuss / Decision on adjusting water rates

Council Members discussed the current base rate of \$34.00 for the allotted 3,000 gal of usage. The average water bill is currently about \$45.00 which includes debt, but does not include depreciation.

Council President Good stated that the city should be looking at calculating the cost per gallon and figuring projects seven to ten years out. Qualls stated the auditor has suggested the city evaluate increasing the rates by 3% to 5% per year as expenses continue to increase. The auditor has reported that small adjustments are easier for customers to understand than large ones every five to ten years.

Qualls suggested that whatever rate is done, that it be simple enough for staff to be able to explain to customers or for customers to be able to figure on their own. After discussion between Council Members it was decided to have a 0 gal base rate and customers would be charged based on the amount of water they use beginning in October. A price per gallon charge will include some depreciation, current debt, as well as maintenance and operation costs. A cost for the upcoming year appears to be 1.2 cents per gallon for residential customers.

The cost of depreciation and debt will be assessed to those that have “Will Serve” letters as well. It was discussed the city cannot hold connections for developments that are not in the process of actively developing their lots. These customers will be assessed on an annual basis, and future “Will Serve” letters will have an expiration date.

The council discussed Bulk Water Users. Bulk Water Users will be assessed a Service Call fee plus 1.2 cents per gallon based on truck size.

Connection fees for new developments or lots that do not have a connection will remain the same; however the current sale of only \$1,000 per water connection will be discontinued at the end of the current fiscal year.

Agenda Item 3) Adjourn

- Steiner moved to adjourn the Special City Council Budget meeting. Fairchild seconded the motion. Voice vote indication no opposition to the motion with all Council Members signifying Aye. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:57AM.

/s/ Anthony J Koberstein
Anthony J Koberstein, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Jacob M Qualls
Jacob M Qualls, City Clerk