

REGULAR CITY OF NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HELD MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA STREET, NEW MEADOWS

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome – Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance:

Present were Council Members Darla Weber, Julie Good, Carol Bond, and Mayor Darbey Edwards via phone.

Staff present were Mac Qualls, Angie Mettie, Dick Stubbs, Doug Buys and Gregg Tankersley.

Public present were Linnea Hall, Pam McConnell, Sherry Maupin, Jeff Parnett, Sandy Schiffman, Dave Manley, Philip Good, and Drew Dodson.

Council President Good opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 2 – Training – Misinformation:

City Clerk / Treasurer Qualls presented information to the Council and public on misinformation spread throughout the City. He stressed the importance of attending meetings and watching for press releases to obtain accurate information. Some of the misinformation spread recently included the idea that the City will shoot dogs and that neighbors can shoot dogs. Qualls stated that he received approximately 40 phone calls on the issue. At least 25% of his time last week was spent correcting misinformation. It is important to check city websites, city social media, and newspapers for correct information.

Agenda Item 3 – Audience Communication:

There was no input from the public.

Agenda Item 4 – Official Guests, Reports & Presentations:

Sherry Maupin with West Central Mountains Economic Development Council shared the accomplishments of the West Central Mountains Council over the past year. These included obtaining several grants and studying the possibility of a pathway from McCall to Cascade, and hopefully one day, New Meadows to Cascade. Adventure biking trails are also being created, and an educational portal was created to help businesses train employees, and help employees to gain certification for certain jobs. Maupin asked that the City Council consider funding the WCMEDC if at all possible. Council President Good asked Maupin how Meadows Valley has benefited from the WCMEDC. Maupin stated that the housing trust is providing affordable homes in New Meadows and that the community garden near the school was created with these funds. Good asked for a list of Meadows Valley businesses that have been aided by WCMEDC, as well as ways that New Meadows will benefit from their work in the future. These would be selling points to the public for any funding offered to the WCMEDC.

Agenda Item 5 – Action Items:

A. City Council Member Appointment:

Citizen Advisory Committee Member Jeff Parnett gave a letter of resignation from the committee in order to accept a seat on the City Council.

Mayor Edwards stated that Parnett had served previously on the Planning & Zoning Commission, and had also expressed interest in filling Edwards' seat when he resigned from the Council. Parnett is level-headed and firm, but fair. Edwards knew Parnett through his work at the school and felt that he would be a good addition to the Council.

REGULAR CITY OF NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HELD MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA STREET, NEW MEADOWS

- Council President Good moved to accept the resignation of Jeff Parnett from the Citizen Advisory Group; Council Member Bond seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying aye. Motion carried.
- Council Member Bond moved to accept Mayor Edwards' appointment of Jeff Parnett as a City Council Member; Council Member Weber seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Weber – aye, Good – aye, Bond – aye. Motion carried.

City Clerk / Treasurer Qualls swore in Parnett, and Parnett signed the signature card. Parnett joined the Council for the remainder of the meeting.

B. Suspending the Parks & Recreation Committee:

Mayor Edwards asked the Council about the direction of the Parks & Recreation Committee, whether the goal was to have them on the ground planning activities and fundraising, or whether it was to create policy. Edwards did not feel that the Committee should be doing both. Council President Good stated that the Parks & Recreation Committee was directed to create a mission statement and park plan so that the park would have a direction and so that the Council would have a standard when making decisions regarding the park.

Weber stated that the few members of the Committee were overworked and the addition of creating policy did not go over well. She did not feel the Committee should be suspended after all the work and progress that has been completed so far.

Council Member Parnett stated that the Council should set policy, and the Parks & Recreation Committee should follow the policy. Council President Good stated that the Council could create the policy and the Parks Committee would continue with park activities. The Committee will not be suspended, but the policy items will be removed from their agenda. Community Member Hall stated that two park plans were worked on in the past and should be available for their review when needed.

C. Street / Transportation Issues:

Buys stated that dust abatement is scheduled for June 7th & 8th. Roadwise out of Spokane will apply the product, which has been the best product so far. The cost will be approximately \$25,000.

- Council President Good moved to approve the dust abatement per budgeted amount for the first part of June; Council Member Bond seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying aye. Motion carried.

Buys stated that he agreed with Mayor Edwards to wait on painting crosswalks until they are certain that the Virginia Street project by ITD will be postponed.

A concerned citizen issued a complaint stating that it is difficult to see oncoming traffic when sitting on crossroads to Virginia street, when cars are parked along Virginia on both sides of the cross street. His example was a semi-truck parking in front of the library and a second vehicle parking in front of the clinic. The Council agreed that this issue occurs at most cross streets to Virginia. One idea suggested by the community member was a 10-minute parking limit. The Council felt this would be difficult to enforce. Mayor Edwards also noted that many of those parking along Virginia are passing through and spending money in New Meadows. Creating less parking for trucks and other visitors would hurt businesses. The Planning & Zoning Committee will be tasked with looking at parking.

REGULAR CITY OF NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HELD MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA STREET, NEW MEADOWS

Regarding the Virginia Street Project, Buys stated that ITD is trying to push the project back until next year. He heard they were going to bid the end of May, but could not bid until the money was collected. Carol Garrison of USDA said they were 99% sure they had the money. Buys said that the City is on schedule via the timeline ITD provided. Buys felt there was no action the City could take at this time.

D. Required Documents for Water Grant / Loan through Idaho Department of Environmental Quality:

The Council reviewed the Financial Policy necessary for the DEQ Water Project. On page 5, Good would like to add that all investments are approved by the Mayor and City Council. The Council chose to budget 3% for depreciation and have a goal of 20%. Scrivener errors were corrected on page 6, and the word "approved" was added to out of town purchases made by credit card on page 7. Deposits should be reviewed and initialed. On page 8, the time period for reviewing the resolution will follow an election each January. The Council will approve the Resolution at the next Council meeting with changes.

Drinking Water Loan Authorization (For DEQ Project):

The Council chose to approve this at the next meeting. It has already been through City Council.

E. Sewer Land Application Project:

Buys stated that on May 25th, an entire year will have been spent on this project. The deadline is June 1, after which he will not be able to discharge into the river. He stated that last winter, an extension was given to finish the project this spring, but it has not been completed. Tankersley stated that a schedule should be available tomorrow. The Council chose to allow Tankersley until Friday, May 18 to solve the issue. If not solved, the City Attorney will get involved, and the item will be added to the Council meeting on Monday, May 21st. As a last resort, liquidated damages could be discussed.

Buys discussed the work needing completed on the field before it can be farmed. He has talked with local ranchers and they do not have the time to plow the field. Buys found a rental tractor out of Boise, but the cost is \$5500 for one week, disk not included. Mayor Edwards will inquire about a local tractor. Buys stated that the work could be completed in 2-3 days.

F. West Central Mountains Funding Request:

Council President Good stated that she would like to see how this funding would benefit New Meadows. The item was tabled until more information is presented on the benefits to the local community.

G. Ordinance Reviews:

Regarding the animal control ordinance, Good stated that this ordinance is part of the codification workbook, which must be completed by July 17th. Instead of reviewing the ordinance and then reviewing it again in the codification workbook, she suggested reviewing the codification workbook, which would cover the ordinance.

Community Member Pam McConnell shared her concerns with the animal control ordinance. She had heard that feral cats were being trapped and taken away, and was worried that pets may be taken away by mistake. She also asked about the guidelines when a person enters your private property and is bit by a dog. Qualls will provide McConnell with the current ordinance and invited McConnell to give suggestions for the ordinance. Good suggested she bring her ideas in writing for the Council to work with.

REGULAR CITY OF NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HELD MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA STREET, NEW MEADOWS

The Council created a schedule to complete the review of the codification workbook. Titles 1-5 will be due by May 28th for review at the June 11th meeting. Titles 6-9 will be due June 11th for review on the 18th. Edwards, Qualls & Good will review title 10 and then disseminate it to the Council.

H. Consent Agenda (Single Roll Call Vote to approve all):

The Council reviewed the consent agenda items which included the minutes from March 12, 2018, April 9, 2018, April 16, 2018, April 30, 2018, payment of claims, financials, and payroll.

Committee Member Bond volunteered to review the claims at the next meeting. Council President Good noted that on the April 9th minutes, *cased* should be changed to *cases*. On the April 16th minutes, under commercial kennel, dog and cat should be plural.

- Council President Good moved to approve the consent agenda with above changes; Council Member Weber seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Parnett – aye, Weber – aye, Good – aye, Bond – aye. Motion carried.

Agenda Item 6 – Information (No Action):

Elected Official Pay: Council Member Bond noted that the ordinance for elected official pay had not been updated in almost twenty years and should be reviewed. Bond felt that there is a high turnover rate of council members, and if they were compensated more for the time they spent, quality members may be more apt to complete their terms.

Council Member Weber stated that she viewed the position as service to the community and was not even aware she was paid until she became a council member. She agreed that the job was difficult at times, but was doing it to benefit the community, not for the money.

Council Member Parnett suggested looking at the compensation of other cities of similar size.

Qualls stated that he had a wage study of various cities, and will share it with the Council.

Mayor Edwards stated that he also was unaware that the position was paid. He stated that if he received a pay increase, he would donate it back to the City.

Council President Good stated that from a bookkeeper's point of view, she did not know where the extra money would come from. She suggested looking at the rate study that Qualls will share.

General Fund Budget Review & Special Projects:

Qualls asked the Council to bring any additional projects, costs and funding mechanisms to the meeting on May 21st. Good stated that the water/sewer rates will be reviewed to comply with the current loan agreement and cover the budget for next year.

Planning & Zoning Update on RV Short-Term Ordinance and Residential R-3 Zoning Code Review:

The Council reviewed the recommendations for the RV Short-Term ordinance as suggested by the Planning & Zoning Commission. Planning & Zoning proposed a checklist instead of an age limit on RVs. The issue with the checklist was enforcement. They also suggested a 30-day permit and then the occupant must address the Council for additional time on a case-by-case basis. Good stated that they want to get away from the case by case basis and have a standard procedure that would not involve a council decision. Mayor Edwards suggested listening to the audio of the meeting to get their full intent. The Council chose

REGULAR CITY OF NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

HELD MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA STREET, NEW MEADOWS

to have a joint Planning & Zoning and City Council meeting on June 4th at 6:30 P.M. They chose to table the R-3 zoning code until the next regular City Council meeting.

MCPAWS Memorandum of Understanding:

The memorandum was not yet available.

Proceedings Review:

The Council reviewed minutes from the Parks and Recreation, Planning & Zoning, and Citizen Advisory Committees. There were no official guests. The Council reviewed staff reports. Buys suggested a plaque be placed at the park by the bush that was planted next to the Anne Frank Memorial to commemorate the young boy who was killed. Donations will pay for the plaque. He suggested engraving one of the bricks near the tree.

Buys also shared information on a small leak at the lagoon by the finishing pond. He said letters were sent to DEQ and the EPA, and that all protocols were followed exactly. He explained how the situation has been remedied and shared some ideas on how the leak may have occurred. He said an investigation and / or fine was possible.

Mailbag & Announcements:

Cleanup Campaign – Good suggested Stubbs create a liability waiver for future projects that volunteers might participate in. She also stated that the Community Center could use some help. Volunteers and projects are still needed.

Midas Gold will have a community presentation on May 31, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. at City Hall.

Agenda Item 7 – Items for the Next Meeting:

Wellhead & Surface Water Protection, Utility Rates & Fees, and additional DEQ required documents will be discussed at the special May 21st meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Law enforcement, building official and prosecution contracts will be discussed at the regular June 11th meeting. A Budget workshop will be held June 18th at 7:00 P.M.

Agenda Item 8 – Adjourn:

- Council Member Weber moved to adjourn the meeting; Council President Good seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Darbey Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Jacob M Qualls, City Clerk / Treasurer