

Meadow Town Council Meeting

March 19, 2024
Meadow Firehouse
7:00 p.m.

*****THESE MINUTES HAVE BEEN APPROVED *****

Attendance: Mayor Gary Bishop, Councilmember Justin Jensen, Councilmember Sunny Guild, Councilmember Channing Stott, Councilmember Jim Beckstrand, Clerk Monica Dearden, Haley Abplanalp, Shayne Sampson, Stetson Dahl, Zane Murnan, Ed Zmitravich, Tony Cowley, Lloyd Robison, Dennis Bond, Andee Holdaway, Allen Erickson, Lee Anderson, Ranae Williams, Tammy Beckstrand, Camille Jensen, Ray Stewart

1. **Opening ceremonies:** Mayor Bishop welcomed all that are in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Justin opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. **Review of minutes: Town Council Meeting- February 13, 2024:** The council members noted a few spelling errors. Channing motioned to approve the amended minutes from the town council meeting. Jim seconded. All were in favor.
3. **Declaration of conflicts with or personal interest in any agenda items:** No conflicts declared.
4. **Public agenda topics (time allocations for presentations is seven minutes. Additional time may be allocated to the topic as determined by the Town Council and/or Mayor to address questions or follow up with a presentation).**
 - a. **Stetson Dahl- FFA trip sponsorship:** Stetson is headed to Washington DC in June with the MHS FFA. He is wondering if the council would be willing to sponsor or donate to this. He shared some of the things that they will see and do on the trip. Mayor Bishop shared with the new council members that in the past the town has sponsored past students for \$300 with the expectation that they will return and report what was seen and learned. Jim motions that we provide a donation. Justin wonders if there is a way for the students to provide some time to do some community improvement to help give back for donations. Channing seconds the motion, but wonders about those that live outside of the town boundaries and wonders if this sets a precedent for anyone. The council held a discussion about how to handle that. Sunny loves the idea of students coming to present to the council and also maybe seeing where there is a need and pitching in to help. Jim wonders if now is the time to set a precedence. All in favor.
 - b. **Hunter Ashworth- FFA trip sponsorship:** Hunter wasn't able to make it tonight as he had a baseball game.

- c. **Ranae Williams- Meadow Easter Celebration:** Ranae wondered about a donation from Meadow Town to help with the Easter Egg hunt. The council is willing to match what was given last year. Channing motioned to approve that donation. Jim seconded the motion and all were in favor.
5. **Public Comments: Issues and/or matters to be discussed and expressed by the public. (Limited to three minutes per person.)**
 - a. Tony Cowley has a request for Sunny that she can take care of in the Electric department portion of the agenda. He would like Sunny to share what she learned and give a summary from her attendance at the UAMPS meeting in Fillmore.
 - b. Lee Anderson wonders if there is a reason there is no longer a big dumpster at the Meadow dump and if there is a way to get it back. Mayor Bishop reported that that is a county facility and that he had expressed the town members displeasure to the commissioners and no changes have been made. Tony Cowley said that he saw a long dumpster in Fillmore today. Mayor Bishop advised Lee to call the county.
6. **Accounting Reports**
 - a. Review and approve payments: Monica reviewed the current claims. Justin motioned to approve the payments. Sunny seconded. All were in favor.
7. **Water Department:** Channing reported there have been some maintenance issues that they have been taking care of.
8. **Electrical Department:** Sunny attended a meeting in Fillmore on the 12th with Jackie Coombs from UAMPS which was helpful and very eye opening. She would like Jackie to come to Meadow Town and present where things stand, but she isn't able to come on the regularly scheduled meeting date. The council had a discussion and plan to move the May meeting to Monday May 20 and invite Jackie to attend and present.
9. **Road Department:** Justin has been looking over the roads and noting where the potholes are that need some work. He would like community members to reach out to him if they see needs also. Justin asked Monica to pull a history of the road work that has been done over the past 12 years. He is planning to reach out to a few road companies and get some bids. The question was asked if the inmates could be contracted to do our crack sealing. Mayor Bishop wondered if while Justin is getting bids if 200 East could be looked at where the road ends to the south. Channing agreed that it would be especially helpful when plowing and wondered if some kind of cul-de-sac turnaround could be created and also at 100 East, even maybe a gravel option.
10. **Parks and Cemetery:** Jim shared that it is almost time to get started on the park and cemetery. He will get in touch with the employees and work with them to get the season started. Mayor Bishop shared that the past couple years CJ has ordered a dumpster for the summer months at the park. Monica will contact Holt Waste and get that set up for mid May so that it will be there for the Memorial breakfast.
11. **Fire Department:** No business.

12. Planning and Zoning

- a. **Discussion and possible scheduling of short-term rental ordinance public hearing:** Mayor Bishop asked the council if they had read the Short Term Rental draft ordinance. The council members discussed it and feel that there are some things that could use some polishing. Channing wondered if this was something that the town has to do, is it required by the state. Jim feels like changes are coming and we need an ordinance in place for the future. The Council agrees that they like the ideas, but would like some cleaning up and revisions made. Mayor Bishop asked the Councilmembers to do some reading and let him know their thoughts, things they like and things that may need some work to pass onto Andrew and the Planning and Zoning members.

13. Building permits

- a. **Potential building permit request for a temporary dual occupancy of a lot to build a new home and then remove the old home:** Mayor Bishop had spoken with a homeowner about possibly pursuing a building permit and the town received their application last night. To share some context; they would like to live in their standing home while they build a new home behind the existing home which will be demolished upon completion of the new home. This isn't traditional and there were some questions about how long before the demo, double meters, etc. The council decided to support the request.

14. Administrative

- a. **Discussion and possible decision on tree removal at 100 North and 100 East:** There are four spruce trees along the street, two living and two dead on the town's property. These trees have a shallow root system. The question that was discussed was to remove all four trees or just the two dead trees? Will there be liability issues down the road if only two are removed and the others cause damage later down the road. The council decided to get multiple bids and then revisit and make a decision.
- b. **Nuisance dogs discussion:** Mayor Bishop has recently received many phone calls about dogs; barking, chasing, bites etc. He asked the council to be creative and help him come up with ideas about what can be done to help dog owners be responsible. The discussion also moved to kennels, breeding and selling taking place with no business licenses. Ray Stewart commented that Meadow is a small town and dogs can't be eliminated. It's a problem with no solution right now.
- c. **Update and discussion on vacant positions:** Mayor Bishop reported to the council that we had some great applicants for the vacant position. He asked for their support in hiring Haley Abplanalp as the town treasurer and Lee (LeRoy) Anderson as the sexton. Monica will begin training Haley and Russ will be working with Lee to get him up to speed.
- d. **Discussion regarding creation of five year business plans for each department:** Mayor Bishop asked Jim to walk through what a five year plan would look like. Jim stated that the purpose of this would be to

identify the needs for each department and then to prioritize those needs in increments of one year, two years etc. and then having a rolling update of those yearly. This would be helpful for transparency. Mayor Bishop asked the council members for feedback on this idea. Channing said that he and Andrew have talked about what will need to be done in the future, but never had an official plan. Jim described this sort of plan as a living document that doesn't need to be lengthy and include a lot of detail. Mayor Bishop said that this would be helpful as we begin to work on the budget for the upcoming year. He asked each council member to commit to working on a budget for their department.

- e. **Schedule possible budget work meeting in April:** Mayor Bishop told the council that we need to look at scheduling a budgeting work meeting in the near future.

15. Other business: None

16. Closed Session (UCA 52-4-205 & 205) to discuss one or more of the following (if necessary): The character, professional competence or physical or mental health of an individual; collective bargaining; pending or reasonably imminent litigation; the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares; the sale of real property, including any form of water rights or water shares; deployment of security personnel, devices or systems; investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct; contract negotiations, the disclosure of which would be detrimental to the city's bargaining position.

17. Any action necessary as a result of the Closed Session: None

18. Adjourn: Justin motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded. All were in favor.

Monica Dearden
Meadow Town Clerk