

Meadow Town Council Meeting

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

*****THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED *****

Attendance: Mayor Gary Bishop, Councilmember Justin Jensen, Councilmember Sunny Guild, Councilmember Channing Stott, Councilmember Jim Beckstrand, Clerk Monica Dearden, Lynn Bond, Zane Murnan, Tony Cowley, Mark Cowley, Lloyd Robison, Ed Zmitravich, Dennis Bond, Andrew Flake, Bruce Giles, Andee Holdaway, Liz Stott

Excused- Treasurer Haley Abplanalp

1. **Opening Ceremonies (three-minute limit)-** The Pledge of Allegiance was said and Andrew Flake offered a prayer .
2. **Review of minutes: Town Council Meeting- July 15, 2024-** There was one clarification. Jim motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Channing seconded and all were in favor.
3. **Declaration of conflicts with or personal interest in any agenda items-** None
4. **Public comments: Issues and/or matters to be discussed and expressed by the public. (Limited to three minutes per person.)**
 - a. **Tony Cowley-** Tony asked Mayor Bishop how he felt about the wake up call from the Department of Drinking Water. He says that the funds don't exist and now the bond is in default. After a GRAMA request Tony has a copy of the letter that was sent to Meadow Town declaring the technical default. Tony made the statement " I was right!" He said he repeatedly asked questions of Mayor Bishop and Channing and stated that he was met with rudeness, arrogance and ignorance. Now the only options are to pay it off or refinance the accounts. Tony wanted Jim to know this was poor leadership. He would like the letter scanned in with the minutes.
 - b. **Bruce Giles, representing Meadow Ward-** Bruce shared that the Pioneer Day celebration that was held on the 24th of July was enjoyable and that there were many people that worked together to make it happen. In the past the Meadow Ward and the Town have had a longstanding partnership to make this event successful and are hopeful that this can continue. He produced some receipts and a letter from Bishop Williams asking if the town is willing to help. Monica noted that UAMPS has given \$700 and Millard County Tourism is expected to contribute \$500, in the past the town has donated around \$1500. Sunny stated that this was her first time to attend the celebration which was well done and thanked those who helped to make it happen. Bruce shared that there was a good turn out and they had planned food for 300 and they ran just a bit short. Monica noted that there is a line item in the budget for community events.

Justin motioned to help the ward with the bills for this event with the UAMPS & tourism money and the remainder of the total of the receipts coming from the community events budget. Sunny seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- c. **Lloyd Robison-** Lloyd stated that Mayor Bishop had talked about the promptness of the flags on main street being put up for the last few years. He feels that the attention should be paid to the bond issue.

5. Accounting Reports

- a. **Review and approve payments-** Monica went over the current claims with the council. Jim motioned to pay the bills. Justin seconded. All were in favor.

- 6. **Water Department:** Channing said that everything looks good and in this case no news is good news. Andrew reported that the well is running less than average for this time of year probably close to 50% well, 50% springs. He doesn't think there is a need for a crew to come in and clean around the springs, that will need to be watched and done on an as needed basis and not necessarily yearly. Mayor Bishop thanked them for their hard work in keeping up with everything.

- a. **Water Bond discussion-** Mayor Bishop moved onto the bond issue and stated that Tony was correct in reporting that the bond issue had been reviewed and found in default. Mayor Bishop has been in contact with them and is waiting on some answers to questions that he has asked as to what the implications will be if we fund the accounts or possibly pay off the bond. Either option will require the budget to be opened and money to be moved, which will require a public hearing. The council decided to schedule a public hearing before the Town Council meeting in September to discuss and make an informed decision.

7. Electrical Department

- a. **UAMPS billing payment discussion-** Sunny shared with the board that the UAMPS bill is due by the 10th of each month, after that date we can incur a 1% interest charge. This becomes problematic because the meeting is held after that date each month and the bills are not paid until after they have been approved in the town council meeting. Justin asked for Lloyds input as to what had been done in the past. Lloyd stated that with the past administration the clerk and treasurer were approved to pay the bill before it was approved in the meeting. Mayor Bishop commented that what worked in the past may not now because of complaints and that the council needs to be careful and observe things with an eyes wide open approach. Monica will call and ask UAMPS some questions.

- b. **Tree clean up-** Sunny received a bid from Penney's Tree Removal for trimming of trees around electrical lines and removal in some cases. The bid came in at \$6850.00. There were some spots that were noted that would be open for input and discussion. It was discussed if this was something that was done annually, as needed and how to approach the private property aspect of this trimming. Sunny would like to be proactive to possibly avoid future outages. Lloyd stated the recommendation for clearance requirements was 10 feet all around including overhangs.

Monica emailed the bid to the Mayor and Councilmembers so that they can take a look to be prepared for a further discussion and decision.

8. **Road Department-** Justin has been working since January to get the larger snowplow up and running. He's had the battery on a charger, but it looks like it will need new batteries which he can get from Steven's Truck power. The smaller snow plow could also use some work and can be underpowered sometimes. Justin asks what the council thinks. Channing feels that generally the smaller truck is fine if we don't let the snow pile up. It's probably worth getting the larger truck running as a backup, but primarily use the smaller plow.
9. **Parks and Cemetery-** Jim shared that with all the rain we have received, Jordan has not had the water on at the park for the past week. He will watch it and turn it back on as needed. Jordan needs some restroom supplies and will get them from Roper's. We received the report from USU Extension on the core samples from the cemetery lawn. It showed a bacterial blight and summer patch which are now gone. Now they know what supplies to use and how to treat it next year if needed. Monica was given copies to include in the minutes. They also advised aerating, nitrogen fertilizer and raising the mower blade to 3 inches. Mayor Bishop asked how long we usually keep the Holt Waste dumpster at the park. Monica looked it up and it is usually removed after Halloween.
10. **Fire Department-** None
11. **Planning and Zoning-** Andrew shared that the takeaway he was getting is that the town is concerned about their liabilities with the short-term rental ordinance that they have been working on and that it might be helpful to pass the draft onto the town's legal counsel which has been done. It was discussed in planning and zoning meeting that maybe a self assessment checklist could be an option and then no inspector would be required and that would take some liability off the town of Meadow. After looking at the draft ordinance, Justin Wayment (legal counsel) wondered who would enforce the fines and do the inspections. He wondered about an interlocal agreement between Millard County and Meadow Town in which the Sheriff and the county attorney work with Meadow Town to enforce the codes and any fines stay with the county. Mayor Bishop told the council that the ball is now theirs to get feedback to the Planning & Zoning Commission and thanked Andrew and the commission. It was also noted that an alternate member is needed for Planning & Zoning.
12. **Administrative**
 - a. **Schedule September meeting-** September's meeting will be held on the third Monday which is September 16, 2024 immediately following the public hearing which will begin at 7:00. The question was addressed of possibly changing the day of the meeting to a different day than the third Tuesday each month. Mayor Bishop thought that this would require a public hearing and that maybe we would look at scheduling that in October.
13. **Other business-** None
14. **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.

15. Any action necessary as a result of the Closed Session- None

16. Adjourn- Channing made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sunny seconded that motion. All were in favor.

Monica Dearden
Meadow Town Clerk