

Meadow Town Council

September 16, 2024

Meadow Firehouse
7:10 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, Treasurer Haley Abplanalp, Zane Murnan, Tony Cowley, Mark Cowley, Lloyd Robison, Ed Zmitravich, Dennis Bond, Andee Holdaway, Allen Erickson, Camille Jensen

1. **Opening Ceremonies (three-minute limit):** Opening ceremonies were held in the public hearing immediately preceding this meeting.
2. **Review of minutes: Town Council Meeting- August 19, 2024:** Justin motioned to approve the minutes as edited. Sunny seconded. All were in favor.
3. **Declaration of conflicts with or personal interest in any agenda items:** No conflicts were declared.
4. **Public comments: Issues and/or matters to be discussed and expressed by the public. (Limited to three minutes per person.)**

-Lloyd said that in a few meetings back there was a discussion about weed spraying and asked if spraying was allowed? Is this just a blind eye situation? He then asked Mayor Bishop if permission had been given to Dennis to spray on the town's properties. He said there are witnesses that would provide a letter, have video and vegetation tests that would verify that spraying has been done. What is the policy? It seems to waffle back and forth, and he'd like an answer. Mayor Bishop shared that he has been in contact with a gentleman named Henry at the state level who oversees application of these chemicals. He specifically asked about Round-Up and was told that spraying it was not an issue. A person can spray on personal property. There are some chemicals that are controlled and require a license to spray. The landowner can spray or authorize others to spray on their property. Mayor Bishop has not authorized anyone to spray Meadow Town property. Jim questioned if spraying from the sidewalk to the road was permitted. Mayor Bishop's interpretation of the conversation he had with Henry was that they won't issue citations for that area directly in front of your property, but if you continue to spray down the street or at the firestation, then people will take pictures and turn you in. Mark entered the conversation and stated that Henry comes from a different environment from where we live here in Meadow, in his area the front of a property would likely be a small strip, where here in Meadow it could be and usually is a much greater area. He also noted that those spraying must follow the rules printed on the pesticide container when mixing and spraying. Mayor Bishop shared that he had

asked Henry in their conversation if he was familiar with Meadow and he was told that he was and that they get more complaints from Meadow than anywhere in the state of Utah. Tony agrees 100% that people should be able to take care of the place in front of their property if they take consideration for their neighbors, but we have people going 2-3 blocks away and spraying. He also noted that you can't spray on private property if it's in the well protection zone. He asked in June who was spraying in the well protection zone between 100 North and Center and he is asking again. Mayor Bishop stated that he has no idea who is spraying. Tony says the town council and Mayor should know, because someone is. The previous Mayor knew and was right on it when it happened and citations were issued. He stated that we could get the state down here again. There were no other comments.

5. Accounting Reports

- a. Review and approve payments:** Monica went over the current claims with the council. Channing motioned to pay the bills. Jim seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- b. UAMPS billing discussion and possible decision:** In order to avoid fee's the council decided to pre approve payment of the UAMPS bill each month. Justin motioned to pay the August UAMPS bill up to \$20,000.00 as soon as it comes in, upon receipt. Jim second to motion. All were in favor. Monica will also send a text to the Mayor and council members with the total when the bill comes in and before being paid. This will be added to each month's agenda.
- c. Water Department:** Channing said that it's been quiet and he had nothing to report.

6. Electrical Department

- a. Fast chargers discussion:** Meadow town has been approached about putting four fast chargers for electric vehicles at the gas station. Sunny has done some research, talked with UAMPS and Beaver City, as they do have fast chargers and also Dixie Power. Dixie Power told her that two fast chargers would use as much electricity as the cheese plant. Justin questioned if our infrastructure could even handle that, Sunny stated "No, not even close". Beaver City said that they have had some growing pains from adding fast chargers. Sunny feels that this is a beast and she would like to bring it to the meeting for input. Lloyd said that if we did that \$20,000.00 wouldn't even begin to touch the bill. He said it will raise everyone's rates as we'd have to buy from the open market and that our infrastructure can not handle it. Mayor Bishop sees there being a challenge when we hit peak usage we go onto the open market which means there is more expense to everyone and there seems to be no way to differentiate. All council members are in agreement that this is not something Meadow Town wants to pursue or allow.

The council also discussed tree removal. The total bid from Penneys Tree Removal was \$6850 or there is the option to focus on the primary concerns for about \$4800 and plan to deal with the others next year.

Mayor Bishop sent a letter a few weeks ago to the residents that this would impact and a few prefer to take care of it on their own and they have that right to opt out at their expense, others were happy to have Meadow Town take care of them. The decision was made to move forward with the primary lines.

7. **Road Department:** Justin reported that the orange truck is up and running and had been taken for a test drive. He has taken the smaller truck to Dearden Motors. They will look at it and fix all the issues and get it ready for the winter season. He said he has been told that in the past that the orange truck has been used to haul leftover dirt from the cemetery and that it is available if Jim or Lee needs to use it.
8. **Parks and Cemetery:** Jim asked how long Lee will continue to mow and get paid. Monica indicated usually through the end of October, and that both Lee and Jordan will need to get everything at both the park and cemetery winterized. Channing wondered if as part of the winterizing at the cemetery, if it would be possible for some reflector markers to be added to indicate the sides of the roads and commented how helpful this would be for whomever is plowing the snow. Monica will call Holt waste to have the park dumpster removed at the end of October. Jim mentioned that they may need to look for a new sexton for next year.
9. **Fire Department:** None
10. **Planning and Zoning:** Mayor Bishop talked to Andrew and they are waiting on a nod from the council to move forward on the short term rental ordinance.
11. **Administrative**
 - a. **Open the budget and adjust water funds to address 2006 water bond:** Channing motioned to open the budget. Jim seconded. All were in favor. There were two options, either to fund the accounts or pay off the bond. The rough estimate for payoff would be around \$106,000 paid from the water department. Jim motioned to pay off the water bond at the payoff amount as we receive it from the state of Utah. Justin seconded the motion. All were in favor. Monica will work with the Department of Drinking Water, Pelorus and also move funds in bank accounts to pay off the loan as soon as possible. Channing motioned to close the budget. Jim seconded the motion. All were in favor.
 - b. **Discussion and possible decision on changing the town council meeting time:** Many council members are struggling to make the third Tuesday of the month work for meetings and need to make a change to the date. This will require a public hearing. Monica will plan to schedule that before October's meeting. The council members agreed to meet on Monday the 14th of October.

12. **Other business:**
 - a. **Centracom:** Mayor Bishop reported that the Centracom contractor called and they are ready to start and estimate that they will have their part of laying the fiber underground done by Halloween and would like to schedule a meeting to discuss the particulars and expectations of the town. Mayor Bishop will reach out to them and include Channing and Andrew in the meeting.
13. **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.** No closed session was held.
14. **Any action necessary as a result of the Closed Session:** None
15. **Adjourn:** Channing made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded. All were in favor.

Monica Dearden
Meadow Town Clerk