

CITY OF NEW MEADOWS MAYOR'S REPORT

November 27, 2023

Well, winter has come, but the snow is a little late in arriving. We are still hoping for great weather during the Downtown Christmas Celebration. This year, the Parks and Rec Committee has come up with some great ideas to create an extra special event.

We will be holding our Christmas Decoration contest again this year – one for businesses and one for residences. Brown's Market holds the trophy from last year's competition and I've heard they are working hard to keep it again this year. We will be giving out prizes for the homes that win the contest.

The water project is being finished up with some final details still being worked out. Part of the water project includes reviewing the water rates to make sure they cover the loan payments and operating costs. Tim Farrell, formerly of Mountain Waterworks, is working with Clearwater Financial to create an overview of our options. Several other parts of the water project, including the SCADA upgrades, generator for the Booster Station and security cameras are still in the works.

Our attorney will be presenting a plan for moving forward with the annexation of the property on the east side of town. This will be an important process and we want to be sure the City proceeds correctly. It is also important that the City Council understands the process.

The updated billing policy was distributed over 30 days ago to local residents giving ample time for arrangements to be made to get delinquent accounts caught up. We have updated the payment arrangement form to help residents plan for the full amount they will need to pay each month while they are getting caught up.

The work on the dog pound is almost completed. There is just some electrical work to be finished up and then we can impound dogs and release them to their owner once the fine is paid. This is a much better incentive to keep dogs from running at large.

I would like the City Council to consider not having a City Council meeting on December 26th, due to the holidays. That item is on the agenda for your discussion and vote. The City Hall closures for the holiday season is also up for review and vote.

As we approach a season of joy and celebration, remember this is a difficult time for those who have suffered loss and are grieving. Let's look out for our neighbors and find ways to spread kindness.

Lastly, I am thankful for the great team the City has in place and am very honored to be working with each one of you.

"Wear gratitude like a cloak, and it will feed every corner of your life." Rumi