

## CITY OF NEW MEADOWS MAYOR'S REPORT

November 13, 2023

The City's Christmas tree is planted in the park and will be decorated with lights for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Downtown Christmas Lighting Event. This year, the Parks and Rec Committee is putting together even more awesome opportunities for an epic celebration on December 3<sup>rd</sup>!

I participated in the Blue Cross Foundation Mayor's Walking Challenge again this year and will be putting the \$500 from that event into the Parks and Rec fund for events that encourage children to be involved in healthy outdoor activities.

I attended the West Central Mountains Economic Development Council Economic Summit where I had an opportunity to share as part of a leadership panel along with the leaders of McCall, Donnelly, Cascade and Valley County. It is always a great privilege to highlight the community we call home. The Summit was an amazing networking opportunity as well.

I was interviewed and participated in a discussion with Agnew Beck, the firm that is creating a Housing Needs Assessment for the West Central Mountains region and for each community in the region. I believe the discussion was productive and there will be opportunities for local input regarding housing challenges in our region.

The Trunk or Treat event just happened to occur on the coldest, windiest day we've had in a long time. Regardless, we had a great turn out of children and had plenty of trunks filled with treats to hand out. We are hoping for warmer weather next year!!! A big thank you to Angie Mettie and the Parks and Rec Committee for putting this event together. City staff member Hunter Brown won the prize for the best costume!

The new billing policy terms have created questions and phone calls regarding the possibility of having their service disconnected if payment is not received or a 3 month payment plan put into place and followed. Individuals who have concerns are given the option to bring their request for a waiver before the City Council for review. I believe the current policy is excellent and should be followed so the City can continue to operate in a financially responsible manner.

We will be scheduling a field trip to see the new booster station and water tank at the second City Council meeting in November. Details to follow.

*"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does!" William James*