

**CITY OF NEW MEADOWS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HELD MONDAY, MARCH 31st, 2025 AT 6:30 PM
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING, P & IN DEPOT FREIGHT ROOM 101 S.
COMMERCIAL NEW MEADOWS, ID 83654**

Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Present at the P & IN Depot were Mayor Julie Good, Council Members Jeff Parnett, Traci Foster, Shiloh Ryker, and Josh Carr.

Staff present at the P & IN Depot were Sonya Brodhecker & Kyla Gardner.

Public present: see sign in list.

Mayor Good opened the meeting at 6:31 P.M. followed by roll call & The Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Good requested an addition to the agenda to approve Emergency RV permits for dry camping due to the Hwy 95 road closure.

- Council Member Ryker made a motion to approve Amending the agenda to add an action item Emergency RV permits for Dry Camping, Foster seconded the motion. Voice Vote indicated no opposition to the motion with all members signifying yes. Motion carried. Roll Call was called after Foster– yes, Parnett-yes, Ryker-yes, Carr-Yes.

Presentation

Adams County Historical Society Presentation

Richard Nine gave a presentation on behalf of Adams County Historical Society regarding the proposed transfer of ownership from the ACHS to the City of New Meadows.

City of New Meadows Presentation

Mayor Good and Council Members Foster, Ryker, Parnett & Carr made presentations on behalf of City of New Meadows regarding the proposed acquisition of the depot by the City of New Meadows.

Discussion Items

City Hall Acquisition of The Historic P&IN Depot

Mayor Good called upon those who had signed in and noted they would like to speak regarding the proposed acquisition of the depot by the City of New Meadows.

Johnny Brown residing at 3705 Hot Spring Rd stated he grew up on Commercial Street watching the Railroad be disbanded. He felt blindsided because this was on the hush hush. He regrets the fact of the expansion of the depot building. Also had some concerns for the secondary Egress for the 2nd level & wheelchair access. He believes if the City Government has this building it will change forever.

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Mayor Good explained why the heads up was not given as the City needed to make sure that ACHS was completely satisfied with the agreement & in favor of moving forward. The City wanted to make sure that we honored the ACHS with the move and the City will only use the 2nd floor for storage.

Marla Krigbaum, from the Adams County Historical Society explained that 30 years ago the suggestion was made for the expansion in the building by the State Historic Preservation, for the future rental of the facility. She explained that they are not tired of being on the board for ACHS but tired of the maintenance and with the City being in the building it gives more opportunities for them to operate as an historical society. She also noted that everything done to the building has been approved by the State Historic preservation.

Darlene Loper residing at 201 S. Morgan stated that first thing she noticed when she moved into the area was the Depot Building and said to her self that ~~this is that~~ it was the center of the town. She had served on the ACHS board but became tired and with her own business didn't have the time to commit. She thinks it's a Win Win for the City of New Meadows!

George Bevan residing at 3701 Highway 95 stated that the 99 year lease caught his attention. For 6 years he's been donating to the ACHS. Being president of an HOA he understands the time invested by volunteer boards. He agrees with the proposed action if the ACHS endorses it. He expressed concerns of where the donations would go.

Mayor Good let the public know that the City of New Meadows and ACHS funds will be separate. She also explained that there are state tax credits available for donations to a museum that is open regularly so it will benefit the ACHS when the city hall and museum are fully operational.

Jessica Lilliehaug residing at 103 Wiley St- Jessica stated that her husband's family is from around here. She was concerned that the City is so short-handed already that they would have to work more hours and work later in order to take care of the extra responsibilities.

Mayor Good explained that the city workers will not be working longer hours and will not be responsible for museum tours or other ACHS responsibilities.

Tracy Peterson residing at 400 S. Heigho Ave stated that first of all she wanted to thank the ACHS for everything they did for the Depot & they truly did an amazing job. Tracy mentioned that she read through the MOU & that the Mayor had touched on some important points. She wants to know how the city will keep up on the Maintenance, also wants to know the cost of Insurance for Liability and any of those costs. Mayor Good said that we sent in for a quote on the insurance and the preliminary estimate was that it could be about a 30% increase, possible a little more due to leasing out part of the space. Kyla said that it costs about 13 thousand for insurance for everything the city owns from graders to everything else. For the City Hall, the cost is approximately \$2200 so it would be an approximate 30% increase on \$2200.00. Tracy explains that her next concern is with the donations. She said that she would not donate to something that was owned by the City but she would donate to the historical society. Marla with the ACHS explained that they are their own entity and since they won't have to spend all their time on maintenance, their focus can be on what the donations should be used for. Tours will not be

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expected by the office staff or the City. Mayor Good explained that the museum will still take place out in the Lobby, as well as providing a place for donations and purchasing from the Museum as well. Tracy's next concern was whether there are any current restrictions and if the building can be sold. Mayor Good explained that the building can not be sold & if for some reason the City ceases ownership of the building then it goes back to the historical society. Tracy's next concern is with the deed. She said she went back to research the deed and there was not one. Richard Nine of the ACHS board and Mayor Good let the public know that all the deeds and transfers regarding the property are in the records held by the City and ACHS. Her next concern was that on the agenda it says that it's the lease versus acquisition wanting to know if this is a lease or an acquisition. Mayor Good explained that the City is acquiring the building from the Adams County Historical Society and then leasing them a space to use in the building for 99 yrs which are two separate documents to be approved by the City Council. Tracy explained that she is not completely opposed to this but the request to the public was very, very, very, very lacking, and felt it is too premature to approve this and due to the Road closure there could be others with input. Also, she said there should have been a proposal from The City & ACHS.

Julia Olson residing at 3818 Osprey Circle stated that she understands how hard it is to find volunteers and a lot of times it's up to the board members. Also wanted to give thanks to the historical society and thanks to City Council for the time they have put into this decision.

Doug Buys residing at 505 S. Norris stated that the only thing that made him cringe is the opening argument of not knowing the cost it will take to heat this place and or to run the place. The other is relying on grants and said that grants run out. He said that you have to have a contingency. He also said there are too many unknown for the cost if we do not have those grants.

Stefani Garino residing at 3178 Timber Ridge stated she is a volunteer Grant writer and pointed out that some grants take a long time to get and that there is currently a freeze on grants and possibly we might not get any. She says this feels rushed and that there should be a budget for the move to go along w/ the MOU.

Council member Ryker stated that she is a paid grant writer and noted that the city is not relying on grants for the operation of the City Hall at the depot or to support the move. Funders love to see partnerships and this definitely will help with grants for future projects in the building.

Mayor Good read from the presentation she gave at the beginning of the meeting that the City is not looking for grants to cover the cost to maintain this building. The only way to find out the cost of running this building is to move in and start the process. Mayor Good apologized if it came through that we were going to need grants to fund the move to this Building and to run it since that is not the case.

Sandy Dryden residing at 3220 HWY 55, stated that she is so excited for the possibilities for the maintenance & preservation of this building. She is very excited that the building will be occupied and will have someone to look around and make sure something isn't going wrong. All Board members live out of town and often don't get into town very often to check on the building. She is looking forward to people enjoying this building.

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Mayor Good stated that working with the Historical Society to continue to preserve and maintain the depot is wonderful and great but there is also a need for the City Hall to have a good working environment. She went on to explain that there is not enough storage in the building where City Hall is currently located and that the water from the outside of the building comes in the walls and seeps into the carpet and there are issues with mold in the building. It's not cost effective to rebuild so when we say a win-win, it's not only for the ACHS but for the community because we need a new City Hall. We have a beautiful Fire Department building and Library building and it is now time for a beautiful City Hall that is being gifted to us. The other option is to spend more money on a new City Hall. This will be good for many years to come. In addition, Meadows Valley will now have a museum for visitors and locals to enjoy.

Action Items

Approval of MOU with ACHS

- Council Member Foster moved to approve the MOU with the Adams County Historical Society, Ryker seconded the motion. Council Member Carr abstained from voting. Roll Call Foster– yes, Parnett-yes, Ryker-yes. Motion Carried.

Approval of 99 year lease with ACHS

- Council Member Parnett moved to approve the 99 Year Lease with the ACHS; Council Member Foster seconded the motion. Council member Carr abstained from voting. Roll Call Foster– yes, Parnett-yes, Ryker-yes. Motion Carried.

Approval of City Acquisition of The Historic P&N Depot

- Council Member Ryker moved to approve the acquisition of The Historic P& IN Depot by the City of New Meadows; Council Member Foster seconded the motion. Council member Carr abstained from voting
Roll Call Foster– yes, Parnett-yes, Ryker-yes. Motion Carried.

Emergency Dry Camping with 14 day RV Permits Due to the Road Closure between Council and New Meadows

- Council Member Ryker moved to approve the use of Emergency RV permits for Dry Camping with the understanding to vacate premises after 14 days, Foster seconded the motion. Roll Call Foster– yes, Parnett-yes, Ryker-yes, Carr-yes. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Mayor Good adjourned the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

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Julie A. Good, Mayor

ATTEST:_____
Kyla Gardner, City Clerk

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