

CITY OF NEW MEADOWS MAYOR'S REPORT

January 24, 2022

The heaters for the two Industrial Park units have been installed. I am waiting to get the report back on the status of the heaters in the meat shop. YMC did an awesome job getting the heater issue solved as soon as possible and the tenants are happy with the results.

We will begin looking at the personnel policy but this will take a couple meetings to discuss all the items that need reviewed. It will be good to get the policy updated with current ICRMP recommendations and have a document that can be easily understood and implemented. Kyla will give directions on the process of review at this meeting.

The public hearing that will take place at the meeting is something that a Planning and Zoning Commission would usually do, if the city had a P&Z. I would like to work toward creating a P&Z again, but would like to have individuals on that commission who have received training to carry out their positions in the best way possible. Zoning decisions still ultimately come to City Council for final approval, but the P&Z Commissioners are tasked with the research and discussion needed to make decisions in line with our zoning ordinances and development plans.

I would like the City Council to become more aware of the inner workings of the City. I feel we can all do our jobs better if we are better educated on why things work the way they do and presenting this information at a City Council meeting gives the public the ability to be aware, as well. Also, I would like city staff to be prepared to explain how things work in the City. So, each quarter, a presentation will be given on a specific area of operation in the City. Examples are:

The land app site – What is it and why do we need it

Water quality – How we operate and maintain a system that delivers unchlorinated drinking water

Public Records – What happens when someone asks for paperwork from the City

Meetings – What it takes to put together a City Council meeting

These presentations will be 10 minutes or less, but will allow for questions from City Council and the public (public will need to sign up as usual). I plan to create a separate video of each of these sessions for use on the You Tube channel (edited if needed).

I have spoken with Julia Olsen and the Farmer's Market is on schedule for the coming year. They have some excellent plans and changes that will create a very community-friendly program. I will ask Julia to bring an update on what is ahead once we get closer to their opening date. I would like to include information about the City at this event each Saturday and will be working with Angie on ideas on how best to do that.

"Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve." Martin Luther King Jr