

## CITY OF NEW MEADOWS MAYOR'S REPORT

March 25, 2024

We are nearing the end of the City's water project – finally. This project took much longer than anticipated, but the City Council's decision to move forward only when funding was available will have long lasting positive effects on the community. Ed Stowe will be presenting a final report on the project this summer. There are several final items being finished including the installation of the permanent generator at the booster station and the SCADA programming. Kirk, Kyla and I met with Dick Rush, the new State Director of USDA and Noe Rameriz of USDA to tour to the new facilities and discuss the project. Part of the discussion was possible funding for the upcoming wastewater facility plan and the availability of funding for streets. More to come on those subjects.

We will be planning another tour of the City's new water facilities this summer. Several individuals toured the booster station facility during the Goodbye Winter, Hello Spring event.

It is important for the public to have a chance to see what has been accomplished.

Kyla, Dee Fredrickson and I met with Jenny Hay to discuss the contract for the funding for the Childcare Center. This is a very big project and will require City Council involvement in decisions and policy. I am asking City Council to approve the creation of a Childcare Advisory Panel comprised of participants from City Hall, MV School District, Early Learning Collaborative, MV Public Library, and other individuals interested in collaborating on this project. This is a community project and we want the community to be part of the process. A final building plan will be presented for City Council approval once completed. What an exciting time for our community as we work together to meet the challenge of childcare needs through partnerships around the region.

The City Pound is in operation and the first dogs were impounded since the remodel was completed. Hopefully, the current ordinance and impoundment procedure will serve its purpose to provide for a safe community and responsible dog ownership.

As we move into a season of public hearings and quasi-judicial zoning decisions for land use, I would like to remind the City Council that any discussions with the public regarding the projects that the City Council will be voting on will need to be disclosed in full before any action is taken. The best practice is to invite interested parties to the public hearing when it is scheduled and refrain from making comments and presenting input regarding the projects outside of City Council meetings.

A special thank you to all those who work behind the scenes to make projects successful!