

CITY OF NEW MEADOWS TEMPORARY ROADS AND STREETS  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES HELD TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19,  
2024 AT 6:30 PM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 401 VIRGINIA  
STREET, NEW MEADOWS IDAHO

Present at City Hall were the members of the Roads and Streets Committee: Doug Buys, Johnny Brown, and Ken Crogh. Also present was New Meadows City Council Member Josh Carr and Mayor Julie Good. City Staff present was Hunter Brown. Public present was Philip Good. Grae Harper of Keller Associates was present by phone.

Mayor Good began the meeting by reporting back on volunteers working on City projects. ICRMP, the City's insurance carrier, does cover volunteer labor, but it was noted that any volunteer activities need to be overseen by the City's Public Works Department so those activities do not interfere with City projects. Any insurance claims submitted due to volunteer actions would result in an increase in premium for the City. Ken Crogh asked about helping with small projects, such as moving supplies back to the City's shop area or other tasks that would assist Public Works staff in their duties. It was noted again that coordination with the City is necessary for any volunteer activities. Johnny Brown suggested that local volunteers could create a coalition to put in low bids on projects and use their own equipment so the liability is not on the city.

Grae Harper, City Engineer, discussed possible funding through LHTAC for up to 3 million dollars for two designated streets – Heigho and Commercial. The grant must be submitted in January so the committee is tasked with deciding what they feel would be best regarding this possible funding and submitting their recommendations to city council.

There was much discussion on the need for stormwater drainage to be considered, whether the project should include curb and gutter, what infrastructure would need to be considered before the project could be finished and the required match. Grae was asked to find out from LHTAC if the 7.34% match could be materials provided by the city, labor and services or if it had to be cash. Snow storage and culverts were also discussed. Grae had already contacted LHTAC to ask about including the McClain section that connects to the school parking lot as part of the project since

access to the school is such an important part of transportation. It was noted that, if funded, the project would be funded in the fall of 2025 with one full year allowed for engineering, and another year to two years for actual construction. Grae will send the information he receives from LHTAC to Kyla who will distribute to the committee for review before the next meeting. At the meeting in December, the committee will decide what recommendations to send to the City Council regarding the project.

Doug Buys asked if the City Council would require engineering for any work that is done on the City roads. After much discussion, it was noted that any roads that are reconstructed will be prepared for potential paving in the future so engineering is a necessary part of the process. Doug said he needs the cost of the engineering before he can come up with how much it will cost to do sections of roadway. Grae will work with the Transportation engineers at Keller and present a cost per 100 ft for engineering. Making sure that any work that is done is ready for future projects was recognized as a priority.

Doug Buys noted that the City's Comprehensive plan listed streets as the designated fund for any Local Option Tax funds and asked if that is still the plan. Mayor Good explained that the City is still pursuing the possibility of qualifying with the State as a city that can have a Local Option Tax and any conversations the City Council has had in the past had referenced streets as the designated fund if an LOT is passed. She did note there has not been a vote to approve that designation and that vote wouldn't happen until the city can move forward with an LOT application.

Doug Buys said he has spoken to the White family who was previously not in favor of excavating the rock source by the land app, as noted in previous City Council meetings. Doug said there was reluctance but the family agreed to allow the City to begin excavating that source which would supply rock that could be used on City road projects, potentially saving the City millions of dollars. They agreed with conditions to mine the rock that included reclamation of the area with a 5 yr or so time frame.

Doug Buys said he also talked to Andy Mork, the head of the Mining Division of the Department of Lands and was told that if the area being excavated was under 2 acres, a reclamation plan is not required. It was noted that a reclamation plan would be the best way to proceed and Mayor

Good agreed that the City would want to make sure that a reclamation plan is done. There was discussion about the possibility of bringing in a crusher or purchasing crushed rock. Grae offered to contact Gary Kelly at Payette to see if their small rock crusher might be available. There was discussion about coordinating with the PAWG group members for access to extra equipment in exchange for some of the material proposed to be mined from the city's source.

There was discussion on which section of road to start with. Miller was noted as being the road most needing work. Doug Buys asked that City Council approve rebuilding and paving Miller Street from the Highway on both sides back to the alley, as was previously done on Heigho. Mayor Good noted that the City had planned to use LHTAC construction funds for Miller, just as they had done for Heigho, but since the project was not shovel ready and other projects in the transportation group were, the City did not score high enough to apply for that grant this year. The Mayor noted that the north section of S. Norris is constantly being cold patched and she plans to visit with the County about possible solutions since it connects to a County road on the South end.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. Next meeting is December 17, 2024 at 6:30 pm.