

City of Heppner votes to move forward with grievance

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Kim Cutsforth of the Howard and Beth Bryant Foundation and Melissa Lindsay of Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group.

“They’re laying groundwork to move forward with their subdivision above Rock St., which has got to coordinate with the city’s new water project,” Wolff said. “And they’re very interested in helping with moving the city’s potential well and reservoir project ahead, because their project pretty much depends upon it.”

Wolff said the Howard and Beth Bryant Foundation had taken point on the Cross Hill water project, and Sen. Bill Hansell was supposed to be visiting the town to assess the situation and talk about funding possibilities but said new Heppner City Manager John Doherty would need to stay on top of the situation and “keep the ball rolling.”

Hansell’s visit is tentatively planned for the beginning of October. Wolff said he had also met with Kyle Robinson twice, and the landowner seemed amenable to working with the city if he could get water for his remaining lots.

“That is going to make those lots a lot more valuable,” Wolff said. “He’s talking of donating the footprint of a parcel needed for the well and the potential reservoir.”

Wolff said he thought the next step would be to start determining the best location for the well and reservoir.

The city council also revisited the feral cat issue at last week’s meeting. Wolff said he had made up information sheets with several different resources for citizens, including four organizations that will accept feral cats and kittens from Eastern Oregon. The sheet will be available at Heppner City Hall.



Cement by Thomson square. -Photo by Cindi Doherty

Heppner City Council Bill Kuhn said he had done some research and had the outline of an ordinance against feeding feral cats but asked if a penalty of \$250 was reasonable. Heppner Council Member Cody High questioned whether those feeding feral cats would have the funds to pay the fine, but Heppner Councilor JoAnna Lamb responded that the fine for not picking up dog waste is \$350.

“And we’re not talking about strays,” added Inskeep. “We’re talking about having a feeding station, somebody actually going out and putting the food available. Because if you don’t have food available, they don’t stick around.”

Kuhn said a feral cat will be defined as one for whom there is no apparent owner.

“[But] everything I’ve read says that removing feeding stations does not get rid of your feral cat problem,” Kuhn pointed out. “They’re still there.”

The council directed Kuhn to draft the ordinance with a \$250 fine and to limit cat ownership to five cats. Heppner has not previously had a limit on how many cats or dogs a person can own, but Lamb said that Irrigon has limits on both.

In other business, Lamb reported that closing Stansbury St. morning and afternoon on school days was proving a good move.

“The first day was a mess, because the contractors also closed Quaid at the same time,” she said.

“Since then, closing Stansbury has been really wonderful, because we have so many people moving so many different directions. It has helped a lot.”

She said the school has been closing the street for about a half hour in the morning and a half hour in the afternoon.

Barb Orwick of the Neighborhood Center reported that the Heppner High School students will be conducting a food drive for them, probably Nov. 2. The date is subject to change.

Heppner Assistant Fire Chief Eric Chick reported that calls are a little higher than this time last year. He said they are also still waiting on the build for the Type 3 engine, and that it would probably be another year.

“That’s a little disappointing,” he said.

He also said that the firefighters’ 9/11 memorial stair climb was a success. He said they raised \$1,000 prior to the event and another \$2,000 at the silent auction, with more continuing to come in. The funds will be divided among the three South Morrow fire departments. Eighteen firefighters participated in the stair climb.

Regarding the request by the Lauretsins that the city vacate part of an alley in exchange for land the Lauretsins own that is part of a city street, Kuhn said he had a full legal description of the property and now needs to send out consent forms to the neighbors. All the affected neighbors need to consent before the city can proceed to vacate the property.

The council also thanked Wolff for his service as interim city manager. Newly-hired manager John Doherty takes over the position this week.

The next meeting of the Heppner City Council is scheduled for Oct. 9 at 7 p.m.

Congratulations Bill and Merilee McDowell on 50 years of marriage!

You are a daily source of inspiration. We love you, Kacie, Danielle and Henry. Please join us in celebrating this amazing couple on



Friday, September 22nd, 6:30pm at the Heppner Elks Lodge for drinks and dessert. The elks will be serving their dinner menu.



Ione Education Foundation Dinner & Auction

September 23, 2023
Ione American Legion Hall

SOCIAL HOUR - 5 PM
DINNER - 6 PM
AUCTION - 7 PM

Smoked brisket & chicken dinner with roasted potatoes, baked beans, salad, bread & dessert

TICKETS
\$30 Adult
\$15 age 7-12
Free age 6 & under

Tickets available at Bank of Eastern Oregon in Ione or at door night of event

Silent & live auction, raffle & games!

NEW! - Baker Auction Co will be our auctioneer & MC for the evening!

Now accepting auction item donations.
Contact Shelley McCabe at (541) 980-3205

Join us for a FUN evening in support of
Ione Community School!



This classic split level 2 bed, 2 bath home overlooks Heppner with a relaxing back deck and beautiful backyard. 1 car garage leads into the lower game room/office with bathroom. New furnace in 2020 with ac and air purifier, new roof in the last 5 years, new carpet in 2021. Cozy living room, dining room and bedrooms. Upper and lower Sqft is approximate. 140 S Gilmore St. MLS#:23505395

177 N. Main
P.O. Box 337
Heppner, OR 97836
Chris@sykesrealestate.net



This house is ready to go. Recently updated windows, kitchen and bathroom. Heat on demand water heater, new paint, fridge, washer, dryer and dishwasher. Large back yard. Within walking distance of the Heppner pool, high school and softball field. 485 W Morgan St. MLS#: 23328135

Broker
Chris Sykes
541-215-2274



Three bedroom, one bath home on quiet street in Heppner. Real wood floors and knotty pine walls give a warm and comfortable feeling when you walk inside. Large fenced backyard with excellent soil will give you a great garden, and there is an access gate off the back street (Riverside) for additional parking. A full walk-in basement is waiting for you to finish out and add lots of additional living space. New pellet stove. 335 W Union Ave, Heppner
MLS#: 23220466



A beautifully remodeled 2-story home in Heppner. This spacious residence boasts approx 2,400 square feet of space, featuring 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms. This house has undergone extensive renovations, with almost everything being brand new. New dry wall, paint, flooring, bathrooms, kitchen, water heater, windows. 510 S Main St. Heppner MLS#: 23687525



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Great school and excellent location! This 2,471 sqft home and two lots totaling 13.12 acres could be the perfect property to keep your horses and livestock. Pasture and dry land. Tax ID 5378 and 8939. Selling as-is. MLS#: 23292049

All reasonable offers will be considered.
62886 HIGHWAY 74 - Ione



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For sale: Prime commercial lot on Main Street, Heppner, Oregon. Property presents a golden opportunity to establish your presence in a vibrant community. Embrace the potential and seize this chance to make your mark in Heppner, Oregon. Act now and turn your visions into reality. Main St MLS#: 23022056



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