

# NYSSA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

14 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Nyssa, OR 97913  
01/11/22 - 7:00 p.m.

## Roll Call:

Mayor Betty Holcomb, Councilors: Patricia Esplin, Pat Oliver, Ron Edmondson, Roberto Escobedo \_\_\_\_\_  
Krissy Walker Staff: Police Sergeant Greg Armenta, City Manager Jim Maret, Administrative Assistant  
Marla Roberts, City Attorney Mike Horton, City Engineer Doug Argo. Absent: Council President  
Morganne DeLeon.

Audience: Amanda Grosdidier, Steve Wilson, and Lalo DeLeon.

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance

Patricia Esplin made a motion to adopt the agenda. Pat Oliver seconded the motion. Six ayes. Absent:  
Council President Morganne DeLeon.

Consent Agenda: Motion Action Approving Consent Agenda items

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting December 14, 2021.
- B. Staff and Committee Monthly Reports December 2021
- C. Correspondence and information FYI

Patricia Esplin made a motion to approve consent agenda A-C. Edmondson seconded the motion. Six  
Ayes. Absent: Council President Morganne DeLeon

Krissy Walker made a motion to approve Accounts Payable \$135,439.88 and Current Payroll \$49,816.78.  
Roberto Escobedo seconded the motion. Six Ayes. Absent: Council President Morganne DeLeon.

**Public Comment Period** - None

## Guest Speakers:

**Gene Pelham with Rogue Credit Union** – He appreciates Jim Maret contacting him to see what they can do to help Nyssa from a financial services perspective. When he heard US Bank was leaving, he thought about Malheur Federal Credit Union, they started in the basement of one of the grade schools in Nyssa, so he would like to come back to Nyssa. He is retiring in April of this year so there will be a new CEO coming on board there are thirteen other communities that have also lost financial services in their community that has approached them. He could become a consultant for the City of Nyssa after he retires in April to help us with any questions etc. that we would need to overcome the challenges ahead, he can help with the resources. If you want to go out and pursue another financial institution you need to decide what financial needs you have, is it just coins, loans, deposits? With technology, small branches in rural communities are having more challenges. M&W will be the key financial services provider for the community after US Bank leaves.

The Chamber needs to get with the local businesses and help to find what the needs are and support this effort, if the community wants to solve this it will take effort.

Bobbie with Malheur Federal Credit Union & Rogue Bank spoke briefly about the merger and services they provide.

**Auditor Brian Richins CPA report for 2020-21 Audit for the City of Nyssa** – Audit completed and went well and have submitted to the Secretary of State. Brian reviewed charts and audits with Council. Plan of Action for the Secretary of State recognized by

the council and will have the resolution 1418-22 due to extra expenditure in the Police Dept. Kari Ott gave a summary of increased overages, PERS costs increased with new laws in place. Vehicle repairs and uniforms were also part of the increased costs.

### **Department Reports:**

**City Engineer Report - Doug Argo** gave a summary of grant funds Business Oregon awarded the City of Nyssa of three million for the water expansion to tie in at the Northside of town to the site for the reload facility. We will be able to use it to replace one well that is starting to fail and if needed expand another well which will also be addressed with these funds. The parks grants are opening this year we will be looking at up to 75,000 grants which the City would have to produce a 15,000 match, we are limited by matching funds, the application is due the second week of May 2022. He recommends having 3-5 members on the Parks Committee. He discussed the paint issues they had concerning the hydrants, he said they only need RUST-OLEUM paint.

**Police Report and Police Business – Greg Armenta** – Had second annual Christmas drive and ended up with over \$1,400.00 from donations in the community and were able to give gifts to twenty-three children in our community, and next year hopefully do more through donations and fundraising. They were also able to help cook and serve at the Christmas dinner at the Senior Center. Chief Ballou is at Oregon Assoc. of Chiefs of Police training. He and Officer Bunker will be attending a zoom meeting for the next two weeks so they can interview children and not depend on the center in Ontario.

Mayor Holcomb - We appreciate the Fire Dept., and the Public Works Dept. the Firefighter of the year was Randy Fales, Rookie Fire Fighter of the year was Miyo Castro and the Fire Dept. answered 101 calls in 2021. Public Works employees watching them work through the winter so hard makes us appreciate the work they do.

**Old Business:** Mayor Holcomb would like to address the issue that Dion Blackburn brought up last month when she asked about changing the ordinance to allow the slaughtering of chickens in town and the selling of eggs. She read the minutes from 10.11.16 where they discussed extra eggs that made mention of donating them to the food pantry. If you have too many eggs you could give them away or give the chickens away. There is no way to dispose of the slaughtered chickens so it would not be a good idea with dogs getting into trash etc. Consensus of the Council - They do not want to change this Ordinance they would like to leave it as it is.

### **New Business:**

Mayor Holcomb – There is a Sinclair sign now at Co-op, so she spoke with Joe at Valley-Wide, and he said their contract was up with Cenex, they were offered better branding, so they switched to Sinclair. Claudia Toledo is opening a new business on the corner of Thunderegg and Bower Avenue, she called and said Idaho Power finished with their part, they are just on hold due to the weather, it will be a mobile food truck and if it went well, they would like to build a building there. LOC bulletin the small cities meeting will be Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center at 11:00 am all are invited just let Jim know. The following LOC meeting in March or April will be in Nyssa.

Councilor Oliver made a motion to adopt Resolution 1418-22 Accepting the City of Nyssa Plan of Action recognizing deficiencies FY 20-21 Audit. Councilor Escobedo seconded the motion.

### **LOC Bulletin – FYI**

**Manager Report** – Information is given to Council – Lighted crosswalks are now operational. He met with Claudia Toledo today and asked about what food they will be serving, and it will be authentic Latin American Cuisine the name will be “The Lunchbox”

The Community in Action is coming in with low-income housing assistance with help on their water bills. The information is at City Hall.

Amanda Grosdidier with Ani-Care City Council introduced to Council.

Adjourned: 8:13 pm

Executive Session: ORS 192.662. (2) (h)

*Marla Roberts, CMC*

*City Recorder*

*City of Nyssa*

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Agenda posted on 01/07/22 at Nyssa Co-op, M&W Market, Chevron, Nyssa Senior Center, Nyssa Library, Nyssa Post Office “*City of Nyssa is an equal opportunity provider, employer.*” [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)”