

# City of Prairie City

## Special Meeting

### July 19, 2017-6:00pm

1. Attended: Jim Hamsher, Mayor
2. Carole Garrison, Councilor
3. Dottie Miller, Councilor
4. Les Church, Councilor
5. Georgia Patterson, Councilor
6. Frank Primozic, Councilor
7. Joe Phippen, Councilor
8. Taci Philbrook, City Recorder
9. Chris Camarena, Public Works Director
- 10.
11. The Mayor opened the special meeting at 6:00pm. Roll Call was taken.
12. All councilors were present.
- 13.
14. Public Works Director, Chris Camarena, began his update on the water/well
15. situation. During the storm while TV'ing the wells lightning hit the system
16. frying modems, and alarms. Chris was on a medical transport in Bend when he
17. got the call from Ray saying our system was fried. They could run the system by
18. hand, but the reservoir system pumped out. We were at our lowest level of four
19. feet (since the 4<sup>th</sup> of July). Because of the low water, or the electronic read, Well
20. #2 is out. Well #3 is still maintaining a low level. Kevin the well driller was at the
21. site all night. ACS was called in. They did a flow test. The test showed gravel at
22. the bottom. At that time they made a plan to "scrub it". It took four days to scrub
23. it. Kevin and Chris sat at the site another night due to the transducer and meters
24. not working.
- 25.
26. Chris says the reservoir is gaining during the day, and falling at night. He has
27. enlisted the assistance of city hall to notify any violators of the water restrictions.
- 28.
29. As a lot of the much needed parts are obsolete, Chris has been ordering parts
30. from E-bay.
31. Chris thought it would be prudent to declare a State of Emergency, but ACS came
32. by yesterday, and found a programming error by the SCATA guy done in 2008.
33. Now the system is filling up about two feet a day. Chris was scheduled for a
34. Public Announcement on KJDY but cancelled it in the hopes our problem is

35. resolved.

36.

37. Chris has spoken to the Drinking Water Program. We did have a hit on a sample,  
38. but they figured it was off the electric tape used during the install of the pump  
39. which could result in a bad read. They pulled a new sample, and are hopeful we  
40. get the results back tomorrow. The Drinking Water Program said it may have  
41. been a fluke. If it is a violation it will clear up with the next sample.

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43. Mayor Hamsher, and the council, commended the public works department for  
44. going above and beyond.

45.

46. Chris then reported on the leaks on the highway, tree damage, and the damage to  
47. the tin roof at the plant. He also reported the lagoon roof lost its antennae. The  
48. city has filed a claim with insurance for all the storm damage. Mandy (our agent)  
49. said she will turn it in on one claim so we only have one deductible.

50.

51. Chris is encouraging the council to plan for the future. He says it could cost  
52. upwards to a million dollars to refurbish Theiman well. Chris is recommending  
53. we punch a new 10-12 inch round, 1000 foot deep well next to well #2. He  
54. figures a 1000 foot deep well could pump 800 gpm. Chris thinks it would cost  
55. upwards of \$250,000 to develop a new well.

56.

57. A Water Master Plan would create a plan for our future. The first step would be  
58. an RFP for Engineers. There was some discussion about different firms outside  
59. our area. There was some discussion about Anderson Perry having “everything”  
60. regarding our system. Chris reminded the council Anderson Perry could find us a  
61. Grant for half the cost (\$20,000). It was commented that Moles or Marciel can't  
62. drill deep enough and that we would probably have to hire someone from out of  
63. the area with the ability to drill as deep as 1000 feet.

64.

65. Discussions about the future included healing relationships with the land owners  
66. of Theiman, and maybe putting in another reservoir up Dixie Creek.

67.

68. The council concurred the next step was putting out an RFP for engineers. **MSP:**  
69. **Mended motion to put out an RFP for an engineer to develop a Master**  
70. **Water Plan giving priority to develop another well.**

71. **Councilor Garrison / Councilor Patterson. All in favor.**

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73. **The Mayor adjourned at 7:35 pm.**

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77.

78. Submitted by:

79.

**80.** \_\_\_\_\_

81. Taci Philbrook, City Recorder

**82.**

**83.**

**84.**

**85.**

86.

Approved by the City Council this \_\_\_\_\_

87.

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017 and

88.

signed by the Mayor:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Hamsher, Mayor

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