

(Minutes subject to council approval)

CITY OF NEZPERCE, IDAHO

REGULAR MEETING

April 9, 2026

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEZPERCE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEZPERCE, IDAHO, HELD ON April 9, 2026

PLACE: Nezperce City Hall, 606 Maple Street.

Time: 7:00 AM

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Tyler Nelson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT were Councilmembers Tyler Nelson, Kelby Heartburg, Jim Zenner, Kimberly Ingram (via Teams), and Mike Jensen; Maintenance Supervisor Craig Cardwell, Clerk/Treasurer Rhonda Schmidt, and Deputy Clerk Leigh Ross. Fire Chief Dave Kuther was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No one in attendance offered public comments.

MINUTES of the previous meetings of 3/9/2026 were approved by a motion by Cm. Heartburg, motion was seconded by Cm. Zenner, motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT AND MONTHLY BILLS:

The Clerk's Monthly Treasurer's Report dated March 9, 2026, was examined and approved, showing the following:

Funds on Hand \$ 425,867.62

All bills and payroll disbursements were examined and approved for payment upon motion by Cm. Zenner and seconded by Cm. Heartburg, motion carried. Disbursements totaled \$67,205.62, including \$186,983.90 in grant disbursements under check numbers 18607 through 18657. Receipts from the last meeting totaled \$219,259.47. Checks and stub approvals were appropriately signed by all parties, and all parties in attendance signed the April Claim Approval Report.

BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED

1. **Land App Project Update:** Maintenance Supervisor Craig Cardwell reported that not much is happening right now. The contractor was here recently to move things around in preparation for installing the sprinklers. Pumping to the reservoirs has been paused to avoid overdrawing the lagoons. There will be a change order coming as Cardwell found a pipe that needs to be stabilized. The discussion then turned to seeding the field, planned for June, and the process for harvesting the hay. It was decided that three custom farmers will be contacted to obtain seeding rates. Clerk Schmidt will confirm whether the seed purchase is reimbursable through the grant. She will also verify if the same bidding process applies. The council agreed that the selected farmer must adhere to a timeline that aligns with irrigation and ensures timely hay removal.

2. **Avista Franchise Agreement** – Mayor Nelson informed the Council that the agreement has been reviewed by the city attorney, then forwarded to Avista for their review. Avista, in turn, reviewed the document and returned it to the attorney, McKenzie Lewis, to respond to Avista’s questions. McKenzie reviewed and commented on the document, and it was returned to Avista. McKenzie called and asked that the council address the “30-day comment period” in section 3.1. The council felt that 30 days is reasonable, given that it meets monthly.
3. **Surplus List** – Recycle Bins: The council agreed to allow Clerk Schmidt to advertise on Facebook Marketplace and in the paper, as well as any other location she feels would help promote their sale. The council set a price of \$5,000 or best offer for all, to be sold as a single lot. A motion was made by Cm. Heartburg to sell the bins for the above set price. The motion was seconded by Cm. Jensen. The motion carried.
4. **Arbor Day 2026** – Project Planning: Mayor Nelson presented a list to the council of the trees that are available for sale. Mayor Nelson recommended purchasing spruce trees at \$3.25 per tree, and the project will need approximately 450 trees. The council agreed to the recommended tree type. Mayor Nelson also stated that spruce holds up very well around town and seems to handle heavy winds, he will call and order the trees.
5. **“Just for the Hill of It”: Hospice Donation** – Mayor Nelson presented a donation request from Syringa Hospital & Clinics for hospice support. Clerk Schmidt noted this is an annual contribution requested by the previous mayor. Cm. Jensen moved to donate \$40 to the “Just for the Hill of It” fundraiser; Cm. Zenner seconded. Motion carried.
6. **Legion Hall Multi-Use Rate for Vacation Bible School:** Clerk Schmidt asked council to consider a multi-use rate for Vacation Bible School to rent the Legion Hall for the week of June 13, 2026, due to loss of access to the Teen Center kitchen. Cm. Jensen moved to charge \$150 for the week; Cm. Heartburg seconded. Motion carried.
7. **Equipment Needs** – Compactor: Cardwell reported the need for a new jumping jack compactor, as the current unit is 25 years old and parts are no longer available. Cm. Jensen moved to purchase a replacement for \$2,500; Cm. Zenner seconded. Motion carried.
8. **Pickleball Courts** – Update: Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell attempted to contact Knox Construction with no response. When he was unable to reach them, he obtained an estimate from another company for an overlay at approximately \$100,000. Cardwell met with resident Stan Boyer to review concerns; together they inspected the court, and Mr. Boyer identified a 20-foot section in the northeast corner where the concrete has shifted and requires grinding. Cardwell recommends grinding the high spot across the area, repainting court lines, and drilling holes for the nets. Cm. Ingram has a concrete grinder available, and Bryce and Mike are experienced operators; she added that we need to price out new lights for the facility. Also, sometime soon, he will need a core driller to drill holes for the poles for the new nets. These issues appear to be a straightforward repair.
9. **Legion Hall – Update:** Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell reached out to Grace Construction and is awaiting a bid. The council feels this project will continue to move forward, though at a very slow pace, as they explore options to improve the facility.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

1. **Maintenance:**

Water: They will be relocating a meter on resident Stach's property. They did a pee Foss test last fall, and they are getting ready to do another one this spring. They have fixed the leak on Beech and are waiting for the ground to dry out before they can finish smoothing the surface.

Clean up: Nezperce Market has requested that roses be placed in the planters in front of his store and has purchased roses for that purpose. The maintenance crew started mowing and pruning this month, along with cleaning up the RV park. At the beginning of spring, a water leak was discovered, and they have been working to repair it. However, the weather has again hindered some of the progress on the final clean-up. Once the weather improves and dries out, they will add topsoil and seed the RV spaces.

Pine Street: The culvert project will be done today, hopefully, and then they will be able to seed it too. They will attempt to grade the hillside once it has dried enough for them to do so without making a muddy mess. A lot of the work being done has not been fully completed due to the weather.

Fire alarm/Noon Whistle: Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell received a call from Priest Electric out of Caldwell, who is repairing the horn. They estimate it will cost \$5,800 to repair it. Cardwell reached out to Mayor Nelson and told him the quote. Mayor Nelson approved the amount, and the system is getting repaired. Cardwell is aware that this seems like a high price; however, he feels that the city needs some type of warning system in place.

Bridge by City Park: Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell stated that he and the crew will need to remove the old walking bridge next to the park, as kids have caused some damage. There is another bridge that can be used, so maintenance will remove the bridge.

Gazebo at the Park: Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell keeps catching kids turning the gazebo lights on. He has asked them to turn the lights off when they are done, but they are denying that they are even turning them on. He recommends we install a timer switch on the lights, so they turn off on their own. Council agreed.

2. Clerk:

Airport: Clerk/Treasurer Schmidt reported that she received information regarding resealing the runway, as it has been a few years since it was completed. Once she receives more information, she will let the council know. Also, when the new numbers were painted on the runway in 2023, they were placed in a manner that shortened the runway. With the new sealing, we can put the numbers back where they were before and return the runway to its prior length.

Retirement of Clerk/Treasurer Schmidt: Clerk Schmidt informed the council that she will be retiring in December and is planning a retirement party on December 31, 2026. She asked the city to donate the rental of the Legion Hall for the event. The council agreed to donate the rental hall for her retirement party.

Flowers for maintenance staff, Ben Mauer- Clerk Schmidt asked the city to donate flowers or a plant to the funeral of Ben's mother-in-law, and the council agreed.

Bill Baldus on and off- Clerk Schmidt reported that she had a conversation with resident Bill Baldus regarding his property located at 501 Beech Street. He wanted to know if the council would agree to a six-on-six off water and sewer arrangement, as he would only use these services for about 6 months out of the year. The council discussed this and decided not to set a precedent, so they declined to enter into this type of agreement.

3. **Fire Department:** No report

4. **Code Enforcement:** Code Enforcement officer Bateman was not present. He reported to Clerk Schmidt that he is mowing the yards with overgrown grass. The council discussed Patty Epeldi's house and asked that the

clerk's office draft a friendly letter letting her know that the city and residents are willing to help her remove items from the city's right-of-way. Also, the council is ready to move forward with a summary judgment against resident Jeremy Montgomery. The clerk's office will reach out to the city attorney, McKenzie Lewis, to request that she begin the judgment.

COUNCIL COMMENT/OTHER: Cm. Ingram asked when Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell would inspect the tennis court lights and replace any that are broken.

ADJOURNMENT: Cm. Heart moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 a.m. The motion was seconded by Cm. Zenner and the motion carried.

Other/Upcoming Events:

Upcoming Council Meetings: May 11 and June 8 at 7:00AM

AIC District Meeting – April 15 in Moscow

Fireman's Fundraiser – April 18

Arbor Day – April 24th

Citywide Yard Sale – May 9

The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 7:00 AM at City Hall, the meeting was postponed until May 12, 2026 due to a conflict for Mayor Nelson.

Tyler R. Nelson, Mayor

Rhonda J. Schmidt, Clerk-Treasurer