

(Minutes subject to council approval)

CITY OF NEZPERCE, IDAHO

REGULAR MEETING

June 8, 2026

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEZPERCE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEZPERCE, IDAHO, HELD ON June 8, 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, and Mike Jensen; Maintenance Supervisor Craig Cardwell, Clerk/Treasurer Rhonda Schmidt (via Teams), Deputy Clerk Leigh Ross, and Steven Schramm from JUB, Dave Taylor with Emergency Communication Solutions (via Teams).

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MINUTES of the previous meetings of 5/12/2026 were approved by a motion by Cm. Heartburg, the motion was seconded by Cm. Zenner, motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT AND MONTHLY BILLS:

The Clerk's Monthly Treasurer's Report dated June 8, 2026, was examined and approved, showing the following:

Funds on Hand \$ 348,659.13

All bills and payroll disbursements were examined and approved for payment upon motion by Cm. Heartburg and seconded by Cm. Zenner, motion carried. Disbursements totaled \$81,130.64, including \$19,560.06 in grant disbursements under check numbers 18701 through 18740. Receipts from the last meeting totaled \$28,891.53. Checks and stub approvals were appropriately signed by all parties, and all parties in attendance signed the June Claim Approval Report.

BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED

1. **Law Enforcement Contract** – Sheriff Davis presented his annual report and reviewed the proposed 2026-2027 contract, which includes a 3% increase. Report highlights included several new vehicles added to the fleet; a new side-by-side already used in a pursuit in an area inaccessible to full-size vehicles; two officers completing instructor development training, with all Lewis County officers now certified; the hiring of a part-time detective to handle investigations; a new K-9 assigned to ride with Sheriff Davis; a new mobile digital fingerprint scanner to assist residents who are homebound or lack transportation; a new School Resource Officer assigned to Highland School; work underway on in-car extenders to improve radio signal coverage; and submission of the STEP program to the BOCC. Cm. Jensen moved to approve the 2026-2027 contract. Cm. Zenner seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

2. **DIGB2 Fiber Project Update** – Dave Taylor presented a status update on the fiber project and shared a slideshow showing completed work areas. Project updates included delays caused by Avista's pole replacement project, which required a new survey; Avista's agreement to cover the cost of the replacement poles, resulting in no added cost to the grant; and ongoing reclamation of job sites, which is progressing well. The equipment building is scheduled to be placed next to the EMS building next week. Phase III is expected to go out to bid at the end of this week or next week. Providers such as Airbridge and Comcast will begin advertising once the fiber reaches town. The project remains on schedule for completion in December.

3. **Land App Project Update – Payne Property Services:** Steven Schramm of JUB reported on utility service planning for the Payne property. Schramm and Maintenance Supervisor Craig Cardwell inspected the site and determined that water and sewer service will require a vault and a 2-inch service line. JUB will engineer the project and submit it to DEQ for approval. The Council agreed that the City's obligation to provide service to the Payne property will be complete once this work is finished.

Wastewater Project: Schramm also provided an update on the wastewater project. Electrical crews are expected on site this week to install the panels, and irrigation startup is anticipated sometime after July 4. Seepage testing, originally planned for earlier this month, may be postponed. JUB is also reviewing portions of the pipe design and expects that some sections will need reinforcement. The QAPP (Quality Assurance Project Plan) is expected to be completed this week.

4. **Nuisance Update – Epeldi Property:** A dumpster has been placed at the Epeldi residence. Code Enforcement Officer Steve Bateman asked Maintenance Supervisor Craig Cardwell to place a travel trailer into the dumpster; however, Cardwell is reluctant to do so without Ms. Epeldi's approval. The Council directed staff to obtain written authorization from Ms. Epeldi before any further action is taken.

Lane Williams Property: The Council directed the City Attorney to send a letter to Lane Williams regarding his expired building permit and the condition of his property.

Grass and Yard Notices: Clerk/Treasurer Rhonda Schmidt reported that the Clerk's Office sent grass letters to three residents requesting that they mow their properties. The Council also directed staff to send letters to residents Lyons and Winton regarding their yards.

Rooster Complaint: The Council directed the Clerk's Office to send a letter to the resident who owns a rooster after receiving a complaint.

5. **Surplus Gravel – Request:** The City received a request from Mr. Arnzen to purchase the 3-inch-minus rock currently stored on his property as he is out of product; for the city to sell the gravel, the stock must be deemed surplus. Cm. Heartburg asked for the current market price of 3-inch-minus rock. Clerk/Treasurer Schmidt will research the current going rate and review what material was purchased for the wastewater project, as that rock has already been allocated. The Council added conditions to selling the rock including a condition that Mr. Arnzen haul rock for the Ash Street project as part of the arrangement. Until the necessary information is gathered, the Council directed that Mr. Arnzen's request remain on hold.

6. **Seal Coating (Action Item)-** The clerk's office received an email from Joe Forsmann asking if the city was planning to seal coat this year. Clerk/Treasurer Schmidt has budgeted for it. Cm. Jensen made a motion to approve one tanker for seal coating; the motion was seconded by Cm. Ingram. Motion carried.

7. **Colonial Life–Benefits available to employees-** The council stated that if any employee wanted to participate in this benefits plan, they could.

8. **School Sports Schedule Advertisement Donation** - The city received a request from On Time Sports regarding a donation for a sports poster. Cm Zenner made a motion not to provide a donation as they already support the Nezperce Booster Club; the motion was seconded by Cm. Jensen. The motion carried.

9. **Donation to Thrift on Fifth-** Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell bought tools from Thrift on Fifth, and they wanted a donation in lieu of payment for each item. Cm. Ingram made a motion to donate \$300.00 for the tools; the motion was seconded by Cm. Heartburg. Motion carried.

10. **Executive Session Idaho Code 74-206 (b) Employee Evaluation:** Cm. Jensen made a motion to move to executive session at 8:20 AM. The motion was seconded by Cm. Ingram, motion carried. The regular meeting resumed at 8:32 AM.

11. **Employee Evaluation – Review and Approve:** Cm. Jensen made a motion to accept Mayor Tyler Nelson's resignation and to have whoever is appointed as the new Mayor replace Mayor Nelson's seat on the CEDA Board; the motion was seconded by Cm. Zenner. Motion carried. Cm. Jensen made a motion to hold a special meeting later to appoint a new Mayor. The motion was seconded by Cm. Zenner. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

1. Maintenance:

Water: Maintenance reported the following water-related updates: the meter at the Braun residence will be moved from one side of the alley to the other; a water line at the RV park has been repaired; and, at a future date, the line serving the Calhoun residence will need to have a manhole installed.

Land Application Field Conditioning: Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell reported that he has identified two individuals with equipment small enough to condition the field. Because the work is expected to fall below the cost threshold requiring additional procurement steps, he will contact both individuals and hire the one who is available.

Lagoon Entrance Improvements: Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell reported that he would like to have pavement installed at the lagoon entrance to improve access during muddy conditions and assist with snow plowing.

Streets- Cardwell reported that he will be starting on the alley behind St. Johns Hardware. He will be grading several streets in town, and will be mag chloride, the alley by the shop, by the Seeds elevator, and Pine Street.

Part-Time Help: Maintenance Supervisor Cardwell reported that Gus Herndon expressed interest in working for the City during the summer. Cardwell would like to hire him to handle smaller tasks, allowing other maintenance staff to focus on priorities.

Volunteers: Maintenance had 20 volunteers participate in a city clean-up. They were able to replace the bark at Lions Park and remove all debris around the tennis park. Cardwell was very impressed with how much they achieved in such a short time.

Live-Wire: Cardwell is still waiting for Live-Wire electricity for a bid on the new lights at the tennis court.

Signs: Cm. Zenner requested that "No Trucks" signs be posted at both ends of Pine Street.

2. Clerk:

Current job openings: The clerk's office has received 3 applications for the open positions. There is one for the city treasurer and 2 for the city clerk.

3. Fire Department: No report

4. Code Enforcement: No report

COUNCIL COMMENT/OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT: Cm. Zenner moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 a.m. The motion was seconded by Cm. Heartburg and the motion carried.

Other/Upcoming Events:

Upcoming Council Meetings: July 13 and Aug. 10 at 7:00AM

Prairie Days: July 10-July 11

Budget Hearing: Aug. 10 at 8:00AM

City Hall Closed: July 3 and Sept. 7

The next regularly scheduled city council meeting will be on Monday, July 13, 2026, at 7:00 AM at City Hall but was moved to July 15th to accommodate scheduling conflicts.

Kim Ingram, Council President

Rhonda J. Schmidt, Clerk-Treasurer