**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MALTA CITY COUNCIL**

**MALTA CITY HALL**

March 8, 2022

Officials present

Mayor John Demarais

Councilpersons Ward I: David Rummel

William Hicks

Councilpersons Ward II: Bonnie Wiederrick

James Sintler

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer: Laurie Barrett

Public Works Director: James Truelove

Others attended: Mark Foss from PCN.

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

1. The Mayor informed Council that he was unable to attend Executive Forum in Choteau due to illness.

Councilperson Hicks moved to approve the minutes, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve the agenda, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Rummel moved to approve claim checks 27503 to 27523, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve February 2022 payroll, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Motion carried unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED**

1. PWD Truelove reported that they had been doing some meter work.
2. PWD Truelove reported that they had been plowing streets with some removal to still be completed on Front Street that would be done tomorrow.
3. PWD Truelove reported that wrestling practice at the Malta Event Center is over for this year and the mats had been removed with some being stored in a closet for now. The Club was glad to have the space at the Event Center and would like to utilize again next year. Councilperson Rummel asked how many wrestlers they had, Mark Foss informed them that they had 82 kids signed up.
4. PWD Truelove reported that the painting at the Malta Event Center was done except for the doors and jams. He also presented the Council with a template of the new double-sided sign, approximately 5’ long by 30-36” high with solar lights, to be placed out by the highway. Mayor Demarais asked PWD Truelove to check with Marcus Green with the State Highway Department to see if a sign permit is needed.
5. Deputy Clerk Barrett presented Council the February financials, current check register, current shut off list, February payroll overtime, vacation, sick leave reports and the expenditure and revenue actual vs budget reports.
6. Mayor Demarais informed Council that Levi Sandvick and Dave Wilkes had been hired back to pick paper at the landfill and help with cardboard with limited hours for now.
7. Mayor Demarais stated that he had approved a zoning application from Robert Twiford requesting to put up a fence and small (10X8) granary to be used as a portable bar in the empty lot adjacent to the Mint Bar.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the bid proposal for the LED lighting upgrade to the fire hall. Option 1 - $6990.00 with $1706.00 probable rebate to install new LED lighting fixtures and Option 2 - $5673.00 with $448.00 probable rebate to retrofit existing fixtures to LED. Councilperson Hicks moved to approve Option 1, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the Great West Engineering Contract Task Order to complete the Capital Improvement Plan. The City of Malta received a $15,000 grant from Commerce for the project leaving the City’s obligation $15,000. Councilperson Sintler moved to approve, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the request to file satisfaction of mortgage for old Community Block Development Grant (CDBG) from the 1980’s for Karl Harms, Randy Rhoads, Armand Tremblay and Rick Woods. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for roll call vote. Councilperson Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye.
4. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the information to participate in the SFY 2023 City Park Rest Area Program. Councilperson Rummel moved to approve, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for roll call vote. Council Person Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye.
5. Mayor Demarais opened the discussion in reference to cardboard. He informed council that letters had been sent to the businesses currently receiving cardboard pick-up stating that effective immediately the cardboard must be broken down before putting in their bins (which will be replaced with dumpsters in the future) or the City will not pick-up. There was a discussion with Mayor Demarais, PWD Truelove and Council members about the research they had done checking how other towns handle their cardboard with the majority stating they just have residents and businesses put it in the dumpsters. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the fenced area across from City Hall would be completely emptied and the fence taken down by the end of next week and a sign would be placed informing the community of the new policy. Mayor Demarais & PWD Truelove will get together and decide how may cans will be needed for the businesses. Mayor Demarais asked if Council had any other ideas or suggestions.

**OTHER COMMENTS**

1. Councilperson Wiederrick was approached with questions from community members as to why we have so many broken dumpsters? PWD Truelove stated that the cold temperatures and a batch of bad cans as well as the drivers using the wrong setting for the arm that picks the cans up are the major causes. PWD stated that we have plenty of replacement cans.
2. Mayor Demarais asked Mark Foss when he would have time to get together with himself and PWD Truelove to do a story about the cardboard.
3. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he is having shelves built for the vault at the Malta Event Center to have the old Minute Books moved out there for fire safety reasons.
4. Mayor Demarais informed Council that Matt Mudd from Great West Engineering would be coming to stake out for a RV Dump site near the bulk water station.
5. Councilperson Hicks asked about all the recent dog complaints with only 5-7 licensed within City limits.

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer