

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL

March 23, 2021

Officials present:

Mayor John Demarais

Councilpersons Ward I: David Rummel

William Hicks

Councilpersons Ward II: Bonnie Wiederrick

James Sintler

Clerk/Treasurer: Lorie Bond

Shop Foreman: Eric Witmer

Others attended: Pam Smith Wolsey - PhillCo, Gary Knudsen, Bryan Benton, Jenifer Anderson – Hiline Future Foundation, Park & Rec Director Sally Wright, Assistant Park & Rec Director Kristina Benner, Pool Manager Kelly Cederberg, Bob Church – Great West Engineering and Mark Foss from PCN

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that Bishop Inc. had removed most of its equipment and belongings from the City lot on the east side of town.

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 Rummel and Hicks presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve claim checks 26841 to 26854, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. Shop Foreman Witmer reported two sewer lines had been jetted last week and the remaining cardboard bales had been hauled to the landfill.
2. Shop Foreman Witmer reported that four members of the city crew and two office personnel had attended an AED, CPR, First Aid Training put on by the Rhei Tharp of the Phillips County Ambulance Service.
3. Shop Foreman Witmer reported that the sweeper had been out and the blade would be out blading the alleys.
4. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current check register, the current shut off list and the revenue and expenditure actual vs budget reports.
5. Clerk Bond asked Council if they would object to having the Malta Future Farmers of America chapter rototill the volleyball court and horseshoe pits at Trafton Park. Clerk Bond stated that the City Crew hadn't had the time yet to complete the task and the City could support the FFA program by having them do it. Councilperson Sintler moved to have the Malta FFA chapter complete the rototilling projects for the City, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
6. Clerk Bond reported that she had attended a virtual town hall meeting put on by the Montana League of Cities & Town's that had discussed the American Rescue Plan. Clerk Bond stated that she had included a printout of the handout in everyone's council

packet. Clerk Bond reported that the City of Malta was slated to receive \$450,582 which could be used for water and sewer. Someone had asked if it could be used for road repairs and the answer was no but the MLCT would update everyone at the next virtual city hall meeting. Clerk Bond stated that she would let Council know when the next town hall meeting would be taking place.

7. Clerk Bond reported that the new Christmas decoration of the elf feeding the reindeer had been delivered.
8. Clerk Bond reported that Mayor Demarais had received an email from Nora Hughes asking him to send a happy birthday letter to her mother Katherine Eve (Daellenbach) Taylor whose family had homesteaded in Brookside in Phillips County before moving into Malta after WW1. Clerk Bond read the email and letter from Mayor Demarais to Council.
9. Clerk Bond reported that Janni Wiese had asked if it would be possible for them to lease the city property between the new landfill and her property when the current lease was up. Clerk Bond stated that Ms. Wiese wanted to control the outbreak of leafy spurge on the city property bordering her property. Clerk Bond reported that she had asked Ms. Wiese to come attend a Council Meeting in November and make her proposal. Mayor Demarais informed Council that they should consider resting the old landfill leased land for a year or two due to it being over grazed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais called on Bob Church from Great West Engineering. Mr. Church stated that he had seen that the City of Malta would receive \$450,582 from the American Rescue Plan. Mr. Church reported that the city had not had a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) done since 2005 and there would be grant money available in June. Bob Church stated that the CIP would cost at least \$30,000 and there was a potential to receive \$15,000 grant funds. Mr. Church stated that it was good to have an updated CIP because the information would be needed when applying for grants. After, some discussion Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond to place Great West Engineering CIP on the next agenda.
Bob Church stated that in his opinion the Trafton Lift Station was the most important building in the City of Malta. Mr. Church asked Council to reconsider Great West's proposal to compile a technical memorandum on the lift station. Mr. Church stated in his opinion it would be better to rebuild the Trafton Lift Station then rehab it. Also, there would be a great opportunity to get grant money for the project. Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond to place the Great West Technical Memorandum on the next agenda.
2. Mayor Demarais called on Jenifer Anderson from the Hiline Future Foundation. Ms. Anderson asked Council for an update on the pool house project. Ms. Anderson stated that they wanted a financial report on how their \$40,000 donated funds for the pool house. Clerk Bond reported that so far \$100,362.56 had been spent on the pool house rehab project. Clerk Bond presented Ms. Anderson a file containing copies of every invoice/statement paid by the City on the pool house project. Ms. Anderson asked if the City still wanted to update the existing swimming pool. Park & Rec Director gave a brief update on the pool house project. Ms. Anderson asked if the City had plans for the pool project because a plan is needed to apply for grants. After much discussion, Mayor Demarais stated that PWD Truelove would contact her when he returned from vacation and thanked Ms. Anderson for attending the meeting.

3. Mayor Demarais called on Pam Smith Wolsey from PhillCo. Ms. Wolsey presented council with the invoice for \$2,500 the yearly PhillCo contribution. Ms. Wolsey reported on all the grant writing PhillCo had done in the past. Ms. Wolsey reported that there had been two inquiries about purchasing lots in the MBID property. Ms. Wolsey reported that the old DEQ agreement had expired and need to be resubmitted and new plats and a plan for storm water drainage also need to be updated. After much discussion Councilperson Rummel moved to pay PhillCo half (\$1,250.00) now and half later, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.
4. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the Hi-Line Retirement Center Community Development Block Grant, Draw #2. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve HLRC CDBG Draw #2, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
5. Mayor Demarais called on Pool Manager Kelly Cederberg. Pool Manager Cederberg presented Council with resolution 1296. A resolution amending the pool fees. Pool Manager Cederberg reported that the fee for swimming lessons would be increased from \$35 per session to \$40 and increase the pool rental fee from \$45 to \$100. After some discussion Councilperson Sintler moved to adopt resolution 1296, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
6. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the Bear Paw Development request for the first half of the City's share funding for FY2021. Councilperson Hicks moved to pay the first half of the City's share funding for FY2021 to BPD, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. None

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:17pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer

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5. Clerk Bond asked Council if they would object to having the Malta Future Farmers of America chapter rototill the volleyball court and horseshoe pits at Trafton Park. Clerk Bond stated that the City Crew hadn't had the time yet to complete the task and the City could support the FFA program by having them do it. Councilperson Sintler moved to have the Malta FFA chapter complete the rototilling projects for the City, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
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