

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

## MALTA CITY COUNCIL

### MALTA CITY HALL

April 11, 2023

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: Laura Gouker, Park & Recreation Director Sally Wright and Pierre Bibbs from PCN.

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. None

Councilperson Hicks moved to approve the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve the agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claims.

Councilperson Rummel moved to approve claim checks 28268 to 28306 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve March 2023 payroll, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Hicks asked Mayor Demarais about all of the overtime and if it was because of snow removal. Mayor Demarais stated that it was caused by snow removal and call outs because of water/sewer issues.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PRD Sally Wright reported that the Color Run would be taking place the morning of Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup> and asked for permission to have the event. Councilperson Sintler moved to approve the 2023 Color Run, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Shop Foreman Witmer reported that the crew had used all the available mix filling pot holes and would continue filling the pot holes with gravel.
3. Shop Foreman Witmer reported that the city was on flood protocol and they were checking the levee and the Milk River levels daily.
4. Shop Foreman Witmer asked Mayor Demarais when it would be okay to bring back City Crewmember David Wilkes for the season. Mayor Demarais stated that he could be brought back this coming Monday.
5. Shop Foreman Witmer reported that a window was installed in the office at the Event Center.
6. Shop Foreman Witmer reported that crewmember Justin Anderson had put in his notice and would no longer be working for the city. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he would be posting the job internally and if none of the current employees submit a letter of interest, the position would be advertised to the public.
7. Mayor Demarais informed Council that there were two options for repairing the leak on the old water tank. The best option would be to have divers weld the leaking seam on the inside of the tank and the second option would be to drain the tank and have someone weld the leaking seam on the outside of the tank.

8. Clerk Bond presented Council with the March financials, current check register, current shut off list, payroll overtime, vacation & sick leave report and the budget vs actual report.
9. Clerk Bond presented Council with pictures of the new Trafton Park Sign and the new window that was installed in the Event Center.
10. Clerk Bond presented Council of a list of the Municipal Summit trainings that would be taking place this spring and asked Council to let her know what session they wanted to attend so she could sign them up. Clerk Bond reported that the nearest Municipal Summit would be in Chinook.
11. Clerk Bond reported that the City's application for a RRGL grant to help pay for the completion of a water system preliminary engineering report was ranked eight out of forty nine applications. However, only the top seven applications would be funded.
12. Clerk Bond reported that Rena Larsen was hired to fill the open custodian position.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Mayor Demarais called on Lara Gouker. Ms. Gouker stated that she lived at 417 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street West and that she was interested in purchasing the small city owned lot located next to her property. The lot in question was not a buildable lot due to its small size and would be a good addition to her current property. This was followed by much discussion about selling the property and what steps needed to be taken to sell the property. Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond to contact the City Attorney and see what steps needed to be taken before the property could be put up for sale.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Great West Engineering Task Order No. 3 – Amendment 3 - Malta Effluent Discharge Pipe & Ezzie's Lift Station Improvements. Clerk Bond present Council with the response from Matt Mudd from Great West Engineering about their questions from the last meeting about omitting the Ezzie Lift Station Improvements and replacing it with Robinson Pump House repairs. Mr. Mudd responded, "For funding purposes, we have to keep sewer with sewer, and we have both the lagoon work and anything with Ezzie's Lift Station tied to the funding for Trafton Lift Station as add-ons for more sewer work. The amendment can be kept the same and if nothing is done to the Ezzie's Lift Station, Great West Engineering will not charge the city for that part of the amendment." Councilperson Rummel moved to approve Great West engineering Task Order No. 3 – Amendment 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the request from Phillips County Emergency Medical Services to have the rental fees waived for the use of the Event Center for EMT Testing on May 2, 2023. Councilperson Sintler moved to waive the rental fees, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1327 - A resolution approving the revised gym lease agreement & fees - Malta City Hall. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the lease agreement now contained, "All parties wishing to lease the City Hall Gymnasium for events that require the tarp to be put down on the gymnasium floor are required to be placed on the City Council Agenda and present a plan for Council's approval of why they the need to use the City Hall Gymnasium vs the Malta Event Center." Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve the revised lease agreement, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the proposal to purchase a 1995 GMC Topkick 12 yard Dump Truck for \$7,500. Councilperson Hicks moved to purchase the dump truck, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

4. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he did not like the section in the current gymnasium/weight room membership agreement that requires people who had their membership terminated to be put on the City Council Agenda and appear before Council to request that their membership/key fob be reactivated. Mayor Demarais wanted it removed from the agreement. This was followed by much discussion about why it was needed and why it should be removed. No action was taken.

**OTHER COMMENTS**

1. None

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:58pm.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer