

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

## MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL

April 12, 2022

Officials present:

Mayor John Demarais

Councilpersons Ward I: David Rummel

William Hicks

Councilpersons Ward II: Bonnie Wiederrick

James Sintler

Clerk/Treasurer: Lorie Bond

Public Works Director: James Truelove

Others attended: Sheriff Jerry Lytle, Shaye Bodine from DNRC, Leila Sintler, Margie Clausen, Marla Sisco, Marilyn Taylor, Drew Brewer, Park & Recreation Director Sally Wright, Assistant Park & Recreation Director Kristina Benner and Mark Foss from PCN.

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

1. Mayor Demarais thanked Council President Bonnie Wiederrick for running the previous meeting in his absence.
2. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had been elected President of the Montana Rural Water Board.
3. Mayor Demarais informed Council that after the Montana Rural Water Conference a contingency from Rural Water had traveled to Washington DC to meet with representatives about funding for Rural Water.

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

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

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Rummel moved to approve claim checks 27570 to 27611 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve March 2022 payroll, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove thanked Council for allowing him to attend the Montana Rural Water Conference in Great Falls.
2. PWD Truelove reported that there had been three digs since the last Council meeting and there would be another dig next week to repair leaking water lines.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the city crew had found most of the garbage cans that were lost in the wind. PWD Truelove stated that they had to fish one out of the river and one out of the pond at the golf course.
4. PWD Truelove reported that the city crew was busy getting the parks ready for the summer season, especially Riverside Park ready for the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday.
5. PWD Truelove reported that he had ordered a new motor for the leaf collection truck.
6. PWD Truelove reported that he had ordered parts for the UV building and he was getting everything lined out at the lagoon for the summer season.

7. PWD Truelove reported that he had city crew members picking up litter around the fence line at the landfill. PWD Truelove stated that the landfill operator needed to be more proactive when covering the trash dumped in the landfill to decrease the amount of trash blown about by the wind.
8. PWD Truelove reported that pool season was coming and he had received a price on the needed chemicals and the price had increased substantially.
9. Councilperson Hicks asked PWD Truelove if the City Landfill was being closed during times of high winds. PWD Truelove stated that he has been closing it during high wind events.
10. Clerk Bond presented Council the March financials, current check register, current shut off list and the expenditure and revenue actual vs budget reports.
11. Clerk Bond reported that the lagoon loan refinance was on hold for now because of the fluctuations of the interest rates at this time.
12. Clerk Bond introduced Shaye Bodine from DNRC. Clerk Bond reported that she had met with Ms. Bodine earlier in the day about current, past and future floodplain permits and they would be touring floodplain permit areas tomorrow.
13. Mayor Demarais called on Sheriff Jerry Lytle. Sheriff Lytle presented Council with the law enforcement statistics for October 2021 – March 2022. Sheriff Lytle reported that a deputy had just graduated from the law enforcement academy, another would be attending the next session and he had hired a new deputy with prior law enforcement experience. Sheriff Lytle reported that there had been a major drug bust at a local hotel last month and the Sheriff's department would be purchasing a K9 and the dog would be a great addition to the force.
14. Assistant PRD Benner presented Council with handouts containing information on the new basketball backboards they wanted to purchase for the basketball court in Trafton Park. This was followed by much discussion of the price and need for purchasing new backboards vs refurbishing the existing backboards. Councilperson Rummel moved to purchase the new backboard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Nay. Motion Carried.
15. PRD Wright reported that the Annual Color Run would be taking place on the evening of June 3, 2022. PRD Wright asked Council to approve the changes to the Color Run. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve the new Color Run schedule, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
16. Councilperson Wiederrick reported that a wedding had taken place at the Event Center on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and everything had gone well and the Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts had their Pinewood Derby there last weekend.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Mayor Demarais called on Mrs. Leila Sintler. Mrs. Sintler stated that she was disgusted by how bad the City of Malta looked with all of the junk cars and messy yards. Mrs. Sintler reported that this is the worst she has ever seen it. Mrs. Margie Clausen stated that there's no pride anymore when it comes to yard upkeep. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he and PWD Truelove had driven around town taking pictures of properties that needed to be cleaned up. Mayor Demarais stated that he had dropped the ball when it came to enforcing Ordinances. This was followed by much discussion of junk vehicles, messy yards, what the city can do and the annual spring cleanup put on by the city. Mayor Demarais thanked the ladies for attending the Council Meeting.

2. Mayor Demarais called on Shaye Bodine from DNRC. Ms. Bodine reported that her job is to support the community's floodplain program and she was here advising Clerk Bond with the city's floodplain permits. Ms. Bodine reported that she had no updates from the Corp about the new mapping of the Milk River. Ms. Bodine presented Council with floodplain pamphlets for them to look over.
3. Mayor Demarais called on Drew Brewer. Mr. Brewer stated that wanted to purchase a lot owned by the city located in the north east corner of the Legg Addition next to a lot he wanted to build a house on. This was followed by much discussion about what would be needed to be done to the undeveloped lots, installation of water, sewer and storm water drainage system and minimum lot sizes. Mr. Brewer was asked why the lot he wanted to develop was not in his name. Mr. Brewer stated that the owner of the lot had said he would sell him the lot. Mayor Demarais stated that he would look into what would be needed to be done to develop the lot/lots. Clerk Bond reported that the city would have multiple steps to complete before the lot could be sold which would include having the lot appraised and advertised for sale to the public. Mayor Demarais stated that the process would take time. Mr. Brewer stated that he needed answers as soon as possible because if he couldn't purchase the city lot he would proceed with the build on the single lot.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the Malta Future Farmers of America had postponed the event that needed the street closure.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the quotes from Bruco to refinish the gym floor, the gym stage floor and the upstairs dance room floor. Clerk Bond reported that after talking with the Bruco representative it was decided that the last finish applied to the gym was water based so he had to send her a new quote for water based finish. Clerk Bond presented Council with the new quote to finish the gym floor for \$ 3,376.80 (\$505 more than the oil quote), a \$1,800 quote to finish the floor on the stage in the gymnasium and a \$1,800 quote to finish the upstairs dance floor. Clerk Bond reported that the Bruco representative had met with Custodian Lesa Williamson and herself and instructed them on the pre-cleanup procedures that needed to be completed before the Bruco crew could apply the finish to the floors. If the City chose to have Bruco completed the pre-cleanup the City would be charged an extra .10 per square foot. This was followed by much discussion about what needed to be re-finished and the cost of having Bruco do the pre-cleanup. Council agreed that the stage floor did not need to be re-finished at this time. Councilperson Rummel moved to approve the Bruco Contract to apply a water based finish to the gym floor for \$3,376.80 + \$337.68 for the pre-cleanup equaling \$3,714.48 and approve the Bruco Contract to apply an oil based finish to the upstairs dance room for \$1,800 + \$180 for the pre-cleanup equaling \$1,980, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Wiederrick. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the 2022 BigSky Turfworx Weed Control Contract for \$8,200. Councilperson Sintler moved to approve the 2022 BigSky Turfworx Weed Control Contract, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.

#### **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 6:43pm.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer