

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

## MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL

April 13, 2021

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: Janet Berg and Mark Foss from PCN

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had met with the independent Girl Scout Troop leaders and would cover it later under new business.

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

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

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Rummel moved to approve claim checks 26855 to 26896, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve March 2021 payroll, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Wiederrick. Motion carried unanimously.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that all of the gypsum had been delivered and the spreader truck had been delivered. PWD Truelove stated that he had been in contact with the PWD from Harlem and they would be needing a spreader to spread gypsum in Harlem. PWD Truelove asked Council if they were okay with him working out an arrangement with Harlem so they could use the spreader. Council thought that would be okay.
2. PWD Truelove reported that Trafton Park was open but the bathrooms are still closed.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the grass cans had been put out around town. The sweeper had been out and the blade is out blading the alleys around town.
4. PWD Truelove reported that the landfill was now open on Saturday.
5. PWD Truelove reported that the new blower had been installed at the lagoon. On start up the variable frequency drive failed and a replacement will be installed later in the week.
6. PWD Truelove reported that the city crew had been vacuuming out the storm drains when the manpower was available.
7. PWD Truelove reported that the city crew would be digging up the intersection by Stretch's Pizza to repair a storm drain that was damaged and capped off during the water project.
8. PWD Truelove reported that he had ordered more outfall line piping and he would like to start on the second phase of the outfall line replacement project May 1<sup>st</sup>.
9. Mayor Demarais ask PWD Truelove to check if all the city streets have street signs and install new signs were needed.

10. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the Trafton Park Arena Committee had contacted him about running water to the concession stand at the arena. This was followed by discussion about the logistics of connecting water to the concession stand.
11. Councilperson Hicks asked PWD Truelove if they were going to paint the outside of the pool house. PWD Truelove stated that the outside would be painted sometime in May.
12. Clerk Bond presented Council with the March financials, the current check register, the current shut off list, the March payroll overtime, vacation, sick leave reports and the revenue and expenditure actual vs budget reports.
13. Clerk Bond presented Council with a letter from Cole, Amestoy & O'Brien informing the City that their fee rate will be changing as of July 1, 2021.
14. Clerk Bond presented Council with the 2021 primary & general election calendar.
15. Clerk Bond reported that she would be placing participation in the SFY 2022 City Park Rest Area Program. Clerk Bond asked Council to let her know of any improvements needed at the rest area that could be placed on the request.
16. Councilperson Hicks asked why the Park & Rec Department were advertising for lifeguards when they said they had enough lifeguards for the season. Mayor Demarais stated that the lifeguard positions were temporary positions and needed to be rehired every year.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had met with the independent Girl Scout Troop leaders at the Women's Club House. Councilperson Rummel stated that he would like to see the building used. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the building would need a good cleaning, the bathroom would need to be moved upstairs, and it would need a new furnace, new hot water heater and a new back porch. Councilperson Wiederrick asked who would be responsible for the cleaning and pay for the new furnace, hot water heater, back porch and the relocating of the bathroom. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he estimated everything would cost under \$5,000 and the troops could use their grant money to have the building cleaned. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to make the needed repairs to the Women's Club House, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Great West Engineering Contract for \$8,700 to complete the Trafton Lift Station Technical Memorandum and SRF Application. Councilperson Rummel moved to have Mayor Demarais sign the contract, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the proposal to have Great West Engineering complete a Capital Improvement Plan for the City. At the last Council Meeting Bob Church reported that the CIP would cost about \$30,000 and half of it could be paid using grant money. After much discussion of what would be in the CIP, Mayor Demarais stated that Great West Engineering would go through the whole system and supply a report on what needs to get done. After more discussion, Councilperson Rummel moved to table Great West Engineering completing a CIP for the City of Malta to the next Council Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye,

Sintler Aye. Motion Carried. Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond to locate the CIP from 2004 so Council could see what it contained.

4. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1297 – A resolution calling for a primary election to be held on September 14, 2021 for the open Malta City Council Positions in Ward 1 and Ward 2 and the Mayor position and notifying the Phillips County Clerk & Recorder’s office of the City’s desire to conduct the 2021 general election by mail ballots. Councilperson Hicks moved to adopt Resolution 1297, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
5. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the Big Sky Turfworx 2021 herbicide/fertilizer service contract. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve the contract, 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.
6. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the VFW’s Street Closure Application. The VFW requested the closure of 1<sup>st</sup> Street in front of Veteran’s Memorial Park from 1:30pm – 2:00pm on May 31, 2021. Councilperson Sintler moved to approve the street closure, 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. Councilperson Wiederrick asked Mayor Demarais if the people had vacated the RV’s they were living in in town? Mayor Demarais responded that he did not know.
2. Councilperson Wiederrick asked Council for suggestions on how to control the weeds on the city property previously leased to Bishop Inc.? Mayor Demarais stated the city should seed it with native grasses.
3. Councilperson Wiederrick asked about the recent dog issues. PWD Truelove stated that he was called out on Saturday about a viscous dog at large and he could not locate it. He had talked to the girl’s mother and she was chased but not bitten. He had talked in length today with Judge Stahl and had a game plan if it happened again.

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer