

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL

MALTA CITY HALL

June 13, 2023

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: Kari Hould from PCN

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:07pm.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that on Thursday he would be attending a Bear Paw Development meeting in Fort Benton.
2. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had hired John Wright to fill the open Compliance Officer position.
3. Mayor Demarais informed Council that four individuals had been interviewed for the open City Crew position and he had hired Matthew VanWinkle to fill the position.

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

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

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claims.

Councilperson Rummel moved to approve claim checks 28370 to 28427 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve May 2023 payroll, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that the pool would be open tomorrow for open swim. Swimming lessons had started on Monday and lifeguard training was completed today.
2. PWD Truelove reported that the City Crew had two digs since the last Council Meeting. The dig east of Veterans Park was a difficult dig and took longer than anticipated.
3. PWD Truelove reported that he was still waiting for the cement work to be completed in front of the Villa Theater.
4. PWD Truelove reported that he is still waiting on parts for the sweeper and it will be out as soon as the parts arrive and are installed.
5. PWD Truelove reported that City Cleanup would take place all week and might have to be extended.
6. PWD Truelove informed Council that when the City receives over one inch of rain during a torrential down pour, the storm drains will back up because they are not designed to handle that volume of water. PWD Truelove reported that this had happened last Friday and he and his crew had no control over the storm drains that backed up.
7. Mayor Demarais reported that the mosquitoes were bad and the spray truck was out.
8. Mayor Demarais asked PWD Truelove if the alley behind the GN had been bladed. PWD Truelove reported that it was done last week and Mayor Demarais said it need to be done again.
9. Clerk Bond presented Council with the April financials, the current check register, current shut off list, the payroll overtime, vacation and sick leave report, the CD renewal report and the budget vs actual report.

10. Clerk Bond presented Council with copies of the following: MMIA Sidewalk Risk Management Bulletin, The 2022 water CCR (Consumer Confidence Report), A list of who had filed to run for city council as of June 6, 2023, Senate Bill 528 – ADUs (accessory dwelling units), Senate Bill 382 - Zoning, Senate Bill 262 – Licensing, House Bill 890 – 1st & 2nd Class Cities video/audio recording meetings (Malta is a third class city/town), House Bill 724 – Publishing meeting agendas if the local newspaper will do it for free and a thank you card from Girl Scout Troop 3995 for letting them use the Malta Event Center for their meetings.
11. Clerk Bond reported that the Riverview Park bathroom was vandalized again and locked up. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he reopened Riverview Park bathroom because it is not fair to city residents to close bathrooms because of vandalism. The City will cleanup/repair the vandalism as it happens and keep the bathrooms open. This was followed by much discussion about installing cameras, the increasing amount of vandalism and reporting every incident of vandalism to the Sheriff's department.
12. Councilperson Hicks asked Mayor Demarais what the new compliance officer's first priority would be because there are a lot of lawns in town that need to be mowed. Mayor Demarais stated that lawn letters would be the first priority.
13. Mayor Demarais reported that the MOI party at the Event Center was a huge success.
14. PWD Truelove reported that the fence was up around the new Trafton Park Lift Station and he was waiting to do a walk through and go over the punch list with the engineer.
15. Councilperson Wiederrick stated that City Attorney Pekovitch thought the City needed to put a limit on how many days people can camp in Trafton Park.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. None

NEW BUSINESS

1. DoDee Oxarart – Gym/Weight Room Membership Reinstatement. No action taken because Ms. DoDee Oxarart was not present to make the request as outlined in Resolution 1324.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the request from the Montana Army National Guard, Army Reserves, and Air Force to use of the Malta Event Center to house overflow personal on August 6th – 11th, August 13th – 17th. After much discussion and visiting with Master Sergeant Nathan Salsbery on speaker phone. Councilperson Sintler moved to allow the Montana Army National Guard, Army Reserves, and Air Force to use of the Malta Event Center to house overflow personal on August 6th – 11th, August 13th – 17th at the standard rental fee of \$100.00/day, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the 2023 TruGreen 2023 quote for herbicide/fertilizer applications. Mayor Demarais informed Council that a bid from TruGreen was needed because Levi Tatafu/Big Sky Turfworx was absent and the City needed someone else to provide weed control services for the City. PWD Truelove reported each application would cost \$3,744 and he would like to have two applications which would cost \$7488.00. PWD Truelove added that price could vary if additional locations were added to the base quote. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to have TruGreen provide herbicide/fertilizer service for 2023, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
4. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the request to sponsor the Fourth of July fireworks. Councilperson Hicks moved to sponsor the Fourth of July fireworks, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
5. Mayor Demarais presented Council the Lane and Associates agreement for drug and alcohol testing and services. Councilperson Hicks moved to approve the agreement, 2nd

by Councilperson Wiederrick. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. Councilperson Wiederrick asked about the written complaint about a person living in a camper in town and this was followed by much discussion about the many people living in camp trailers in town.

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:08pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer