

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL

June 22, 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, Anita Green, 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 MAYOR

1. Mayor Demarais reported that he had attended the Bear Paw Development Board Meeting last week.

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

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

Councilpersons Rummel and Hicks presented claim warrants.

Mayor Demarais asked P&R Director Wright why she had paid her son and three of his friends that were visiting him from Lewistown fifty dollars each to help out at the Color Run. P&R Director Wright stated that she could not find any volunteers and she did not have access to the lifeguards this year as she had in the past. After much discussion, Mayor Demarais asked her to contact her supervisor first for permission before paying additional help in the future.

Mayor Demarais closed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing at 5:05pm

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Demarais announced that the purpose of the public hearing was to receive public comment on Resolution 1298 – A resolution amending the 2020/21 sewer fund budget to make provisions for unanticipated expenditures exceeding the original appropriations. Clerk Bond reported that the 2020/2021 sewer budget was very conservative and nothing extra was budgeted for. Due to the completion of the outfall line at the sewer lagoon, purchase of a new blower at the sewer lagoon, purchase of gypsum and the rental of a truck to spread the gypsum the sewer budget had been exceeded by \$34,168.22 at this time. Clerk Bond stated that Resolution 1298 increased the budget by \$100,000. Mayor Demarais asked for public comment.

With no public comment, Mayor Demarais closed the public hearing and reopened the regular meeting at 5:08pm.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve claim checks 26004 to 27042, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that the pool was open and the clarity was good and the removable ADA steps should be delivered next week.

2. PWD Truelove reported that the pool had brought in over \$7,000 so far this season and the Hiline Futures Foundation had purchased new lockers for the pool changing rooms.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the City Clean up Week was a success and the city crew still had some items to pick up.
4. PWD Truelove reported that the sweeper was out and the crew was busy mowing and clearing trees at the sewer lagoon.
5. PWD Truelove reported that they would have a water line dig next week and the speed limit sign would be out tomorrow.
6. Mayor Demarais asked PWD Truelove to have the grass around the fire hydrants cut.
7. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current check register, the current shut off list and expenditure actual vs budget reports.
8. Clerk Bond presented Council with a copy of the email she had received from Phillips County Clerk & Recorder Lynnel LaBrie which contained a list of candidates that filed to run for Council and Mayor.
City of Malta – Non-Partisan
Ward 1 – David Rummel (Incumbent)
Steen McFadden
Ward 2 – Bonnie Wiederrick (Incumbent)
Mayor - John Demarais (Incumbent)
We will not have to hold a primary election.
9. PRD Wright updated council on their past, present and future activities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mrs. Berg stated that a lawn near her house needed to be mowed. Clerk Bond reported that Utility Clerk Knudsen had made a list of yards that needed to be mowed when she did meter readings on Friday. Deputy Clerk Barrett was going to drive the town on Wednesday to see if any of the yards on the list had been mowed and she would be sending out letters later in the week.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with resolution 1298. A resolution amending the 2020/2021 Sewer Fund Budget to make provisions for unanticipated expenditures exceeding the original appropriations. Councilperson Rummel moved to adopt resolution 1298, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Aye, Sintler Aye, Councilperson Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with resolution 1299. A resolution authorizing the transfer of funds to the capital fire truck fund. Councilperson Sintler moved to adopt resolution 1299, 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 Resolution 1300. A resolution affirming active participation in Bear Paw Development. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adopt resolution 1300, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Rummel. Motion Carried.
4. Mayor Demarais asked Council if they wanted to proceed with the reconstruction of the second Trafton Park bathroom that was destroyed last year. Mayor Demarais stated that he thought it should be replaced. Clerk/Floodplain Administrator Bond explained that the new building would have to be ADA and would have to be built using flood proof building materials. The City would have to submit a floodplain

variance application to rebuild the bathroom. Councilperson Hicks moved to proceed with the variance application to rebuild the Trafton Park bathroom, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

5. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the City had the opportunity to purchase the old National Guard Armory. Mayor Demarais reported what a great asset the building could be for the City and there may be ARPA funds available to help with the purchase of the building. After much discussion, Councilperson Sintler moved to move forward with the purchase of the old National Guard Armory, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks 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 5:47pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer