

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL

MALTA CITY HALL

June 27, 2023

Officials present:

Mayor John Demarais

Councilpersons Ward I: David Rummel

William Hicks

Councilpersons Ward II: James Sintler

Clerk/Treasurer: Lorie Bond

Public Works Director: James Truelove

Others attended: Jenna Ogletree & Oliver Roy from the Montana Conservation Corp, Scott Meneely and Kari Hould from PCN

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. None

Councilperson Rummel 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 Rummel and Hicks presented claims.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve claim checks 28428 to 28450 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that the parts had arrived for the sweeper and it would be out this week.
2. PWD Truelove reported that the City cleanup had gone well.
3. PWD Truelove reported that Wicken Construction, the construction company working on the highway 191 south road project had requested a city garbage can at their work camp site.
4. PWD Truelove reported that the city crew was done trimming trees in Trafton Park.
5. PWD Truelove reported that levee inspection would be taking place on July 11th.
6. PWD Truelove reported that Legg well house needed a new soft start and casing and he had ordered the parts.
7. PWD Truelove reported that a new pump had been ordered for the Robinson well house. The new 60hp pump will replace the old 50hp pump. PWD Truelove state that Robinson well house also needed a new soft start.
8. PWD Truelove asked Council's permission to purchase a 22' tilt bed trailer. After some discussion, Councilperson Sintler moved to purchase the trailer, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
9. Clerk Bond presented Council with the May financials, the current check register, current shut off list, the budget vs actual report and the CD renewal report.
10. Clerk Bond presented Council with a current DEQ violation letter.
11. Clerk Bond presented Council with a copy of an email she received about transfer of the liquor license from the Lucky Bullet to CD Herman LLC. The letter asked the Mayor/Council to respond if they had any objections to the transfer.
12. Clerk Bond presented Council with an email from PC Clerk & Recorder Lynette LaBrie about the upcoming election. The email stated that William J Hicks, Warren O Abrahamson and Jerry C Roberts had filed for the Ward I Council Position and Laura S Pankratz filed for the Ward II Council Position. She would be certifying the candidates with the Commissioner of Political Practices. If everything checks out, she would be

cancelling the primary election in September. However, Council has the option to override that decision to cancel the primary election by passing a resolution to that effect by Thursday, June 29th. Council agreed that a primary election is not needed. This was followed by much discussion about why the City had wards.

13. Clerk Bond reminded Council about the meeting with the Phillips County Safety Committee the next day at 10:00am at the Court House.
14. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current Sheriff's report.
15. Clerk Bond asked Council's permission for Deputy Clerk Barrett, PWD Truelove and herself to attend the Montana League of Cities & Towns Conference in Helena on October 11 – 13, 2023. Mayor Demarais stated that he would like to attend also depending on the agenda. Councilperson Sintler moved to send Clerk Bond, Deputy Clerk Barret, PWD Truelove and Mayor Demarais to the MLCT Conference, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
16. Mayor Demarais informed Council that Compliance Officer John Wright would be at the next Council meeting.
17. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he and Compliance Officer Wright had met with City Attorney Pekovitch about the proper processes when enforcing city ordinances.
18. PWD Truelove reported the former DES Coordinator had resigned and the new DES Coordinator would be using an office in the Court House so they would be moving out of the Event Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mayor Demarais called on Jenna Ogletree and Oliver Roy from the Montana Conservation Corp who were attending the meeting. This was followed by discussion about where they were from, the Montana Conservation Corp and the history of the City of Malta. Mayor Demarais thanked them for attending the meeting and presented each of them with a City of Malta Centennial Coin.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1329 a Resolution setting the City of Malta's camping policy for Trafton Park. Councilperson Rummel stated that he had concerns about the maximum of seven days (7) in a sixty (60) day period. Councilperson Rummel stated that he was thinking about hunters camping in the park in the fall that may want to stay longer than seven (7) days. After much discussion, Councilperson Hicks moved to adopt Resolution 1329 with the following changes, the maximum length of stay in Trafton Park shall be a maximum of fourteen (14) consecutive days in a sixty (60) day period and a maximum of twenty eight (28) days in any one calendar year, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with a MCEP (Montana Coal Endowment Program) Infrastructure Planning Grant Application Form. Councilperson Sintler moved to have Mayor Demarais sign the MCEP Infrastructure Planning Grant Application Form, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1330, authorization to submit MCEP infrastructure planning grant application. Councilperson Rummel moved to adopt Resolution 1330, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
4. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1331 authorizing the transfer of funds to the capital fire truck fund. Councilperson Hicks moved to adopt Resolution 1331, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. Mayor Demarais called on Scott Meneely who had just arrived. Mr. Meneely stated that he had purchased a firearm testing device for his business. Mr. Meneely asked Council

to change the current City Ordinance to allow firearm discharge in city limits by state licensed gunsmiths. Mr. Meneely stated that he had visited with the Sheriff's Office about his firearm testing device and they could not see any issues with him using it in city limits. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he would talk to City Attorney Pekovitch about it.

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

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer