

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL

July 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: Janet Berg, Nicholas Tsountas, Jerett Daley, Fire Chief Josh Newman, Park & Rec Director Sally Wright, Assistant Park & Rec Director Kristina Benner and Pierre Bibbs from PCN.

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had ticketed a local citizen for a hazardous garage that needs to be torn down. After appearing before City Court Judge Stahl it was decided that the City would take down the dangerous building on Monday July 18, 2022.
2. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he would be sending out three more junk vehicle letters.

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 Wiederrick and Sintler presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Rummel moved to approve claim checks 27752 to 27801 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve June 2022 payroll, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Motion carried unanimously

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that the swim meet had gone well and he had received positive feedback about the event.
2. PWD Truelove reported that the alleys were being bladed, the M Trail had been mowed and he hoped to have the sweeper out next week.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the pest control program had been inspected last week and all was good.
4. PWD Truelove reported that there would be increased overtime due to high winds and rain on Saturday. The high winds had caused power glitches and pumps needed to be reset. The storm drains had trouble keeping up with the heavy rain fall. The Legg Storm Pumps had failed and he now has one of the pumps up and working.
5. PWD Truelove reported that Lakeside Excavation had completed some exploratory digging by Trafton Lift Station last week. They located the forced main running under the river and confirmed the depth and diameter of the pipe.
6. PWD Truelove reported that he and Deputy Clerk Barrett had compiled a list of surplus property. Clerk Bond presented Council with a draft of the resolution declaring the items as surplus. Clerk Bond report that she would place the resolution on the next agenda. If Council approved the sale, she would advertise the sale of the surplus property and the bids could be opened at the August 23, 2022 Council Meeting.

7. Clerk Bond presented Council with the June financials, current check register, current shut off list, April payroll overtime, vacation, sick leave reports, the CD renewal report and the June 2022 expenditure and revenue actual vs budget reports.
8. Clerk Bond presented Council with the draft of ordinance 456 – community decay. Clerk Bond reported that she had sent a copy of the ordinance to the City Attorney for review.
9. Clerk Bond reported that Bridgett Ereaux had filled out the paperwork to use the Event Center on August 21st from 1:00pm to 4:00pm for a self-defense class and asked if Council would waive the rental fee. Councilperson Hicks moved to waive the fees for the Event Center, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
10. Fire Chief Josh Newman reported that the LED lighting had been installed in the Fire Hall and the SCBAs had been tested.
11. FC Newman reported that the fire department had been holding joint training with Saco and he had scheduled smoke training for August.
12. FC Newman asked Council if it would be okay if he sprayed off the city tennis courts with the fire truck. Mayor Demarais and Council approved his request.
13. PRD Wright updated council on their past, present and future activities.
14. Mayor Demarais informed Council that there had been a conference call concerning additional funding needed for the construction of the new Trafton Lift Station. Mayor Demarais report that they were looking into taking out a loan from the Coal Severance Tax Fund instead of a SRF Loan. The SRF Loan had more hurdles that needed to be completed and it included Buy American, Build American (BABA) which would increase the cost and increase the timeline of the project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Nicholas Tsountas and Jerett Daley from the Montana Conservation Corps introduced themselves to Council and explained the MCC program to Council. Mr. Tsountas and Mr. Daley stated that they were looking for a project to do for the city. Mayor Demarais thanked them for attending the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Amended Plat of: Lot 1, Tract A, Dobson Farm Subdivision NW1/4, Section 18, T30N, R30E, P.M.M. Phillips County, Montana. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve the amended plat, 2nd 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 informed Council that the County no longer had office space for the Phillips County Disaster and Emergency Services (DES) Coordinator and asked if the City could provide office space in the Malta Event Center. Mayor Demarais stated that the small office in the northeast corner of the Event Center would be a good office for the DES Coordinator. After some discussion, Councilperson Rummel moved to let the DES Coordinator use an office in the Event Center, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the City of Malta should pursue hiring a compliance officer because there was a lot of work involved in enforcing the city code. This was followed by much discussion about the hours, wage and the job description.

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer