

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

## MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL

July 14, 2020

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, Pool Manager Kelly Cederberg and Mark Herbert from PCN.

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the mosquito spray that the City is using is the same spray that they use in Saco, Dodson and at the golf course and it does work. Mayor Demarais informed Council about some of the hateful things that were posted about him and the mosquito spray on the Crap to Complain About in Malta Facebook Page.

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

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

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Wiederrick asked, why the City had paid for an ad in the Great Falls Tribune. Clerk Bond stated that it was an ad for qualifications for architectural service for the Hi-Line Retirement PAR. Since the City of Malta is sponsoring the HLRC Grant, the City could pay for the ad and reimburse itself or HLRC could pay for it and the City would have to reimburse HLRC once the grant money was received. Clerk Bond stated that after contacting Bear Paw Development about the options it would be easier in the long run to have the City pay for the ad.

Councilperson Wiederrick asked, why the City had paid a \$10.00 tire recycling fee to Central Avenue Pit Crew. PWD Truelove stated that he should have kept the tire and disposed of it himself.

Councilperson Wiederrick stated that she did not want to pay the full Farmers & Ranches claim. She wanted to pay for the parts but not the labor. Councilperson Wiederrick stated that they had taken longer than needed to complete their work at the pool house and because of this they should wait on the payment. After some discussion, it was decided to pay the claim.

Councilperson Hicks asked why the Farmers & Ranches claim was not listed on the check register. After looking at the check register Clerk Bond noticed that there had been an error when the claim had been entered and Farm Plan was chosen from the drop down window in error. Clerk Bond stated that the correction would be made.

Councilperson Rummel moved to approve claim checks 26281 to 26350, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve June 2020 payroll, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Motion carried unanimously.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED**

1. PWD Truelove reported that the pool was open and the water had been looking good. PWD Truelove stated that the pool would not be opened without the use of the portable bathhouse provided by Duane Murray. Councilperson Hicks asked Clerk Bond to send a thank you card to Mr. Murray.
2. PWD Truelove reported that high winds on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July had blown over a tree in Trafton Park which took out a power line. PWD Truelove reported that the city crew had been busy cleaning up after the high winds.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the city crew would be blading the alleys, the sweeper would be out this week and he hoped to have the speed control sign out next week.
4. PWD Truelove reported that there would be a virtual Safetyfest training taking place in August and he had enrolled city crew member Nick Cilz to attend the training virtually.
5. PWD Truelove reported that he had scheduled a safety meeting for 10:30am on Wednesday July 22<sup>nd</sup>.
6. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current check register, the current shut off list, the June payroll, overtime, vacation & sick leave reports. Clerk Bond reported that instead of the usual copies of the CDs held by the City, she had given Council a copy of a spreadsheet listing all off the CDs, their maturity dates and the interest rate paid on the CDs.
7. Clerk Bond reported that she had sent out fourteen tax lien letters.
8. Pool Manager Cederberg reported that the pool had brought in \$4,213.00 in the first week and swim lesson numbers were up from last year. Pool Manager Cederberg concluded her report by thanking Council for opening the pool. Mayor Demarais asked Pool Manager Cederberg to make sure the pool was kept at 75% capacity because of COVID-19 restrictions.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the option to close the dormant Community Development Block Grant checking account at First State Bank containing one cent. Councilperson Hicks moved to close the account, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye. Motion Carried.

## **OTHER COMMENTS**

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had been approached by Darleen Cummings about placing a bench in Veteran's Memorial Park in memory of her father. Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond to place the request on the next Council Meeting Agenda.
2. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he was working on the chicken ordinance. He would write it down, have Clerk Bond type it up, Council look at it and finally he would send it over to City Attorney Dan O'Brien.
3. Councilperson Wiederrick informed Council that there would be a PhillCo Meeting taking place tomorrow at 10:00am at the Tin Cup.
4. PWD Truelove reported that the Rodeo Arena Committee had cleaned up after the rodeo and everything looked great.
5. Councilperson Hicks asked if anything had been done about the people living in Trafton Park. PWD Truelove stated that he hoped to have them evicted soon.

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:48pm.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer