

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

## MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL

July 27, 2021

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: Janet Berg, 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. None

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

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

Councilpersons Hicks and Rummel presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve claim checks 27096 to 27115, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Motion carried unanimously.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that there were three digs last week and two of them were emergency digs. PWD Truelove stated that the City Crew had replaced a curb stop on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue West. The first emergency dig was because the drilling company drilling test wells by Horizon Resources had hooked a city water line. The second emergency dig was because a resident hooked his service line and damage his curb stop while digging with a backhoe on his property.
2. PWD Truelove reported that the speed sign had been overheating so he only had it out in the mornings. Mayor Demarais asked him to stop putting it out for now because of the high temperatures.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the Old Armory parking lot had been crack sealed and asked Council if they were okay with having a seal coat applied. PWD Truelove stated that the seal coat would cost about \$7,000 - \$7,500. PWD Truelove reported that the seal coat would extend the life of the parking lot.
4. PWD Truelove reported that he would have Central Montana Lock and Safe provide the City with an estimate of what it would cost to change the locks on the Old Armory. This was followed by discussion of what upgrades would be needed and how much it would cost.
5. PWD Truelove thanked Council for letting him attend the Montana Rural Water Training in Great Falls last week.
6. PWD Truelove reported that some concrete repairs needed to be made around town to fix damage left over from the water project. PWD Truelove stated that he did not have an estimate of what it would cost at this time.

7. PWD Truelove reported that the concrete stairs at the Catholic Well House need to be replaced because they were a hazard. PWD Truelove stated that he would like to replace them with metal stairs with a railing.
8. PWD Truelove reported that Pool Manager Kelly Cederberg was doing a great job and the pool would probably close around August 14<sup>th</sup> when the lifeguards go back to school.
9. Mayor Demarais informed Council that City Crewmember Nick Cilz had done an excellent job sweeping the City streets. Mayor Demarais stated that he had observed Mr. Cilz get out of the sweeper and loosen dried mud with a shovel so it could get picked up by the sweeper.
10. Councilperson Hicks asked PWD Truelove why Riverview Park's lawn was so dry. PWD Truelove reported that the sprinkler controls had failed at Riverview Park and needed to be replaced. PWD Truelove stated that he had ordered three sprinkler controls because they had failed at other parks also.
11. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current check register, the current shut off list.
12. Clerk Bond reported that 4H had rented the City Hall Gym to have their interviews in and asked Council if they would be willing to waive the fees since they would be in and out during business hours and the tarp would not have to be put down. Councilperson Sintler moved to waive the rental fees, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
13. Clerk Bond reported that she had receive the draft of the City Audit and there had been one finding on reconciliation. Clerk Bond read the corrective action plan to Council and asked if they were okay with it. Council had no issues with the corrective action plan.
14. Clerk Bond asked Council to let her know if they planned on attending the MLCT's Municipal Summit on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
15. Clerk Bond reported that forty nine lawn letters were sent out and presented Council with the list of who lawn letters had been sent to.
16. Clerk Bond asked Council if they wanted to keep calling the Old National Guard Armory the Old Armory and if anyone had suggestions of what it could be called.
17. Clerk Bond reported that one of the basketball backboards on the small hoops was broken on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kirsten Voegel was present at the time and immediately contacted Mayor Demarais and PWD Truelove about the damage. Ms. Voegel also, contacted Spalding and ordered a new backboard before the City Clerk's Office had opened on Tuesday. Clerk Bond stated that Ms. Voegel had paid \$280.00 for the new backboard and asked Council how they felt about refunding Ms. Voegel the \$280.00? Council agreed that Ms. Voegel should be refunded the \$280.00 for the basketball hoop backboard.
18. Clerk Bond reported that she had received information about the DPHHS water assistant program and asked Council if they wanted to participate and Council agreed that the City should participate.
19. PRD Wright updated council on their past, present and future activities.
20. Assistant PRD Benner presented Council with a draft of the travel team policy. Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond what she thought of the policy. Clerk Bond stated that she would have to read it and give her input to Park & Rec. Mayor Demarais asked Council to give their comments to Park & Rec also.
21. Mayor Demarais reported that the Food Bank had looked at the Old Armory and were still considering if they would move into it or not. This was followed by much discussion about what to call the building and what uses would be most beneficial to the city residents.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the Knights of Columbus Street Closure Application. The Knights of Columbus requested to close Front Street from in front of the Mint Bar to the Stockman Bar on August 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 9pm for their 2021 BBQ Competition. Councilperson Hicks moved to approve the street closure, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hick Aye, Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1301 - 2021/2022 wages for employees and elected officials. Mayor Demarais stated that the resolution included a fifty cent raise for all employees. Councilperson Rummel moved to adopt Resolution 1301, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais asked Council what they thought about selling the cardboard balers and the cardboard building located on MBIDD property. After much discussion no decision was made.
4. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had been approached by the Shiners about renting the Old Armory on September 16, 17 & 18. After much discussion, Councilperson Sintler moved to rent the Old Armory to the Shrines on September 16, 17 & 19, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.

**OTHER COMMENTS**

1. None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Mayor Demarais read a letter from the Malta Great Plains Dinosaur Museum thanking the City Crew for their help setting up the new display in the museum.
2. Mayor Demarais read a letter he had received from the Speed Rail Alliance.

With no other business, Councilperson Sintler moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Hicks. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:56pm.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer