

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL

MALTA CITY HALL

September 28, 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: Bob Kapp, 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. He had learned a lot while attending the Rural Water Convention in Milwaukee. One of the booths had water meters that could be shut off with a cell phone. He had requested information on the meters.

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

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

Councilpersons Rummel and Hicks presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve claim checks 27242 to 27264, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that the drive on the lagoon pivot had failed and he had to order a new one.
2. PWD Truelove reported that the Dike Inspection had taken place last Friday. The only issue they had was the storm drains under the dike hadn't been filmed this year. He would be filming them this week and would forward the footage to the Corp of Engineers.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the underground sprinklers in the parks were being winterized and he would be closing and winterizing the Riverview and Hillcrest bathrooms.
4. PWD Truelove reported that it would cost \$20,000 to pave the four utility cuts west of A Fine Line Auto Body. He had visited with the land owner and they would not pay for any of the paving.
5. PWD Truelove reported that Councilperson Wiederrick and Councilperson Sintler's wife were busy painting in the old armory and doing a great job. Mayor Demarais stated that the colors Councilperson Wiederrick had picked out were great.
6. PWD Truelove reported that the stagecoach/mud wagon was stored in the old armory.
7. Mayor Demarais informed Council that it was about time to start vacuuming leaves.
8. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current check register, the current shut off list, the budget vs actual revenue and expenditure reports and the checking account balances.

9. Clerk Bond reported that she was busy working on payroll, the year-end adjustments and the annual financial report.
10. Clerk Bond reported that there had been vandalism to the Riverside and Hillcrest/Skate Park bathrooms. Clerk Bond presented pictures of the mess at the Riverview bathroom that Malta resident Julie Moore had posted on her Facebook page that P&R Director Wright had forwarded to her. Clerk Bond reported that Julie Moore and her son Nolan had cleaned up the mess. Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond to send a thank you card to Julie and Nolan Moore. Clerk Bond reported that P&R Director Wright had cleaned up a mess at Skate Park where someone had taken the soap dispenser from the bathroom and dumped it in the skate park. P&R Director Wright and her children had carried buckets of water to the skate park to wash away the soap.
11. PRD Wright updated council on their past, present and future activities.
12. Mayor Demarais informed P&R Director Wright that there were two treadmills at the old armory that could be moved to the City Hall weight room.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mayor Demarais stated that he would like to honor Laura Pankratz at the Octoberfest celebration. Since it was a Chamber of Commerce event Mayor Demarais would contact the Chamber and report back to council.
2. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had received a call from Councilperson Wiederrick about letting the independent Girl Scout Troops use the Old Armory. Mayor Demarais stated that his plan was to continue with the improvements to the Women's Club House. PWD Truelove reported he had met with the State Building Inspector Yancey Beston and they had discussed what needed to be done to the Women's Club House to keep it in compliance once the work is started on the upstairs bathroom. Mayor Demarais stated that it would cost about \$12,000 for all the improvements. Clerk Bond asked for firm numbers on the cost before the project was started. The Pool House project had cost three times the original stated amount.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the invoice from PhillCo requesting the second half of the City's 2021 contribution. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to pay the second half of the City's contribution to PhillCo, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the proposal & one year contract to provide auditing services by Ross R. Stalcup, CPA, PC. Clerk Bond reported that the past auditor was doing an okay job but they didn't audit any other municipalities and it would be beneficial to have an auditor who was familiar with municipalities and approachable. After much discussion, Councilperson Rummel moved to contract Russ R. Stalcup to audit the City's books, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais informed Council that City Attorney O'Brien had recommended that the City of Malta purchase that 1,100 square foot parcel of land from Malta Mercantile Co. that was located in the alley running east - west between 203 South 2nd Street East and 202 South 1st Street East for \$500.00. Mayor Demarais stated that this would insure that the area in question remained an alley even though it had been an established alley for decades. Mayor Demarais called on audience member Bob Kapp. Mr. Kapp stated that he remembered being present when the City passed an Ordinance that forbid dividing a lot into small parcels and selling them.

Councilperson Rummel stated that the lot was not being divided the land was an existing small parcel. No one present had ever seen or heard of such an Ordinance. Clerk Bond stated that she would look and see if such an Ordinance existed. After much discussion, Councilperson Rummel moved to purchase the 1,100 square foot parcel of land from the Malta Mercantile Co. for \$500.00 if it is okay with City Ordinances, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick 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 5:46pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer