

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL

MALTA CITY HALL

October 26, 2021

Officials present:

Mayor John Demarais

Councilpersons Ward I: David Rummel

William Hicks

Councilpersons Ward II: Bonnie Wiederrick

James Sintler

Clerk/Treasurer: Lorie Bond

Director of Public Works: James Truelove

Others attended: Joyce & Willy Hammar, Bob Church from Great West Engineering and Mark Foss from PCN

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. None.

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

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

Councilpersons Rummel and Hicks presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Wiederrick moved to approve claim checks 27301 to 27322, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. DPW Truelove reported that the vac truck was out picking up leaves, the city crew was out cutting/trimming trees on the east side of town and new belts had been ordered for the sweeper and it would be out once they arrive.
2. DPW Truelove reported that he had closed/winterized the rest area bathrooms for the season due to vandalism. PWD Truelove stated that he would look into getting security cameras installed at the rest area.
3. DPW Truelove reported the Trafton Park bathroom had been closed/winterized for the season.
4. DPW Truelove reported that there had been a state labor inspection of the water and wastewater systems. DPW Truelove stated that they had noted that the saline in the eye wash stations were expired and monthly fire extinguished inspections hadn't been done lately.
5. DPW Truelove reported that he had the crew striping the parking lot at the Malta Event Center.
6. DPW Truelove reported that he had contacted Central Montana Lock & Safe about installing a key fob system at the Malta Event Center.
7. Mayor Demarais thanked DPW Truelove for all the time he put in to make the purchase of the old National Guard Armory possible.
8. DPW Truelove reported that there was a blockage in pump 3 at Trafton Lift Station and he had contacted Lakeside Excavation to pump out the wet well.
9. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current check register, current shut off list and the expenditure actual vs budget reports.

10. Mayor Demarais asked DPW Truelove when the landfill would be going to winter hours. DPW Truelove reported that the landfill would go to winter hour's mid-November.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mayor Demarais called on Mr. Willy Hammar. Mr. Hammar stated that he was concerned about how zoning permits were being issued. Around fifteen years ago he had worked on a building/zoning panel that gave suggestions about what was needed and he thought this needed to be done again. There were rules put in place to prevent crappy trailer houses from being moved on to lots on the west side and now a trailer house was moved in that doesn't meet the requirements. It's not fair the way the rules are being enforced. Mr. Hammar stated that in the past he was required to follow the regulations when purchasing a trailer house to be moved on his lots on the west side. Mr. Hammar asked if the rules were going to be enforced equally or just not enforced. A better process is needed when enforcing the rules because right now they apply to some but not others. That was what happened when a trailer house that did not meet the rules was moved on to a lot on the west side and it was wrong. Everyone needs to be treated equally. This was followed by much discussion about the Planning Board, zoning regulations and what changes need to be made. Mayor Demarais thanked Mr. Hammar for his comments.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Great West Engineering – Task Order 3 – Trafton Lift Station Design for an estimated amount of \$90,000. Mayor Demarais called on Mr. Bob Church from Great West Engineering. Mr. Church informed Council about the process and rankings of the City's prior ARPA funds application. Mr. Church stated that he thought the City had a good chance of receiving ARPA funds the second time around. Mr. Church informed Council that the project would score better if the engineering report was completed. Mr. Church stated that if the City did not receive any ARPA funds the City could take out a SRF Loan. This was followed by much discussion about application scoring, matching funds and the project. Councilperson Rummel moved to approve task order 3, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Aye, Hick Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the Appraisal Report on the Old National Guard Armory which valued the Armory at \$225,000.00. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to purchase the Old National Guard Armory for \$225,000.00, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the out of City garbage pick-up request from Loy & Ed Pekovitch. Councilperson Sintler moved to approve the request, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he would be looking into what is needed to have a RV dump station installed by the Rest Area because the current location is no longer available.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. A thank you card from Utility Clerk Glenda Knudsen for the plant given to her after her mother passed away.
2. A thank you card from Justin Anderson & family for the food given to them after their Grandmother passed away.

3. An invitation to the Celebration of the Return of the refurbished historic Malta-Zortman Stagecoach.
4. An invitation to Night at the Great Plains Dinosaur Museum.

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer