

## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

## **MALTA CITY COUNCIL MALTA CITY HALL**

November 12, 2019

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 present: Janet Berg, Ty Lulloff, Bill Rock, Marilyn Taylor, Glenda Knudsen, Deanna Hanson, Tom Bedwell and Mark Hebert from PCN

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting and public hearing at 5:00pm.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor Demarais gave an overview of the Legg Lift Station project and the need for the sewer rate increase. Mayor Demarais stated that the rate increase would be \$4.50/month and the sewer rates hadn't been increased since 2006. Mayor asked the audience if they had any questions. Marilyn Taylor asked if the increase would affect only active sewer accounts. Mayor Demarais answered yes, there would be no sewer availability fee on her empty lots. Bill Rock asked if the City planned to replace any sewer lines in the near future. Mayor Demarais responded, "Not at this time". This was followed by talk of the phantom sewer smell that has randomly plagued the downtown area for years. Councilperson Rummel explained enterprise funds and how they had to be self-sufficient. Mayor Demarais asked if there was any more public comment three times.

With no public comment, Mayor Demarais closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting at 5:16pm.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he had he would be having cataract surgery in two weeks.

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

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

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Hicks moved to approve claim checks 25803 to 25851, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve October 2019 payroll, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Wiederrick. Motion carried unanimously.

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

1. PWD Truelove reported the new garbage truck was in Alabama and should be delivered sometime between December 1<sup>st</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>.
2. PWD Truelove reported that the cardboard yard west of the Fire Hall was completed.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the 2008 Elgin Sweeper purchased from Glasgow was parked in the City Shop. PWD Truelove stated that it was air tight and a nice machine.

4. PWD Truelove reported that the new street signs that were installed in the Hillcrest Area had been stolen and he had ordered replacements.
5. PWD Truelove reported that the Rest Area and Trafton Bathrooms were winterized and closed for the season.
6. PWD Truelove reported that the new sewer camera had been ordered and Clerk Bond would bill the county for their half of the camera.
7. PWD Truelove reported that the grass cans had been collected and because of the weather the City Crew would no longer be picking up leaves.
8. PWD Truelove reported that City Crew Member David Jaynes would be attending Safety Fest in Billings next week.
9. Councilperson Wiederrick asked if there would be an ice skating rink again this year. PWD Truelove stated that when it gets cold enough and the ground freezes he would start filling it.
10. Clerk Bond presented Council with the October financials, the current check register, the current water shut off list, October payroll overtime, vacation, sick leave report and the current revenue and expenditure actual vs budget reports.
11. Clerk Bond presented a short overview of the Floodplain Mapping Meeting that took place on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Bond reported that the City would have to recertify the Levee once the new Milk River Floodplain Map was completed in two to three years. Clerk Bond reported that there would be another Levee Workshop in Havre this spring that Council may want to attend.
12. Clerk Bond presented Council with copy of a City of Malta water bill from 1940 for \$3.00.
13. Clerk Bond reported that one of the glass globes on the light fixtures on the front of City Hall had blown off and shattered during the high winds on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Clerk Bond stated that she had ordered replacement globes.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Mayor Demarais called on Tom Bedwell. Mr. Bedwell presented Council with a letter he had received in 2014 concerning the curb stop on his lot located at 802 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street East. The letter stated that a water line running through his property serviced a trailer house located south of his lot and if he wanted to have water service on his lot he would have to install a new water line/curb stop and pay connection fees to the City. Mr. Bedwell stated that the existing water line had serviced a house that had existed on his property and the water line in question was his and if he decided to build on his lot, he would hook back up to the curb stop on the lot. The owner of the trailer house currently hooked up to the curb stop would have to install a new water line. Mayor Demarais stated that he agreed with Mr. Bedwell and would meet with him at a later date to resolve the issue. Mayor Demarais thanked Mr. Bedwell for attending the meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Demarais stated that it was time to decide whether or not to proceed with the sewer rate increase. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to increase the sewer rate by \$4.50/month, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1277 increasing rates and charges for the use and availability of the municipal sewer system. Councilperson Hicks moved to adopt Resolution 1277, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor

Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with Resolution 1278 a resolution relating to \$430,000 sewer system revenue bonds (DNRC water pollution control state revolving loan program), consisting of \$100,000 subordinate lien taxable series 2019A Bond, and \$330,000 series 2019B bond; authorizing the issuance and fixing the terms and conditions thereof. Councilperson Rummel moved to adopt resolution 1278, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
4. Mayor Demarais presented Council with TSEP Grant MT-TSEP-EG-21-179 draw 1 for \$15,000. Councilperson Hicks moved to approve TSEP Draw 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Wiederrick. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Hick Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.
5. Mayor Demarais informed Council that the City had an opportunity to purchase a 2014 Caterpillar front end loader that had been leased to the BLM for \$55,000. PWD Truelove stated that it was a great price and the loader had low hours on it. Councilperson Sintler moved to proceed with the purchase of the 2014 Caterpillar front end loader, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.

**OTHER COMMENTS**

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he is looking into posting landfill hour signs by the old Promises and by the County Dump.
2. Councilperson Wiederrick reported that the stop signs on Fifth Avenue were working.

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:52pm.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk/Treasurer