

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL

MALTA CITY HALL

December 12, 2023

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: Matthew Mudd from Great West Engineering, Kourtney Simonson, Leo Malinak from Montana Rural Water and Kari Hould from PCN

Mayor Demarais opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. Mayor Demarais informed Council that he was working on a list of what he wants included in the FWP Grant Application and Bear Paw Development will be writing the grant application.

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

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

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claims.

Councilperson Hicks moved to approve claim checks 28771 to 28803, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve November 2023 payroll, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. PWD Truelove reported that the Malta Trail sign was back up.
2. PWD Truelove reported that he planned to start flushing sewer lines depending on the weather.
3. PWD Truelove reported that the sign in boxes were being built for the Malta Trails.
4. PWD Truelove reported that cover dirt was being hauled to the landfill.
5. Councilperson Hicks informed PWD Truelove that gravel was needed on 4th Avenue West.
6. Clerk Bond presented Council with the current check register, November financials, current shut off list and the payroll overtime, vacation and sick leave report.
7. Clerk Bond reported that the oath of office for the newly elected Councilpersons will take place at the December 26, 2023 Council meeting. This will give her time to file the oaths with the Phillips County Clerk & Recorder.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mayor Demarais called on Matt Mudd from Great West Engineering. Mr. Mudd presented Council with a Malta water status update report. Mr. Mudd reported that Great West Engineering had written the response and action plan to the deficiency letter for the city's small water tank. Mr. Mudd went over the action plan timeline and funding to correct the deficiency. Mr. Mudd stated that the City would need to look at all grant

options before looking at a loan package. Council asked Mr. Mudd if GWE had any recent water tank construction projects. Mr. Mudd reported that GWE had just completed a million gallon concrete water tank in Fort Benton and a million gallon concrete water tank in Conrad. Next, Mr. Mudd presented Council with a list of items to be provided to GWE by the City of Malta for the water PER. Mr. Mudd reported that the Great West Engineering Water PER Contract would be on the next City Council Meeting Agenda. Mayor Demarais thanked Mr. Mudd for attending the Council Meeting.

2. Mayor Demarais introduced Mr. Leo Malinak from Montana Rural Water to Council and informed Council about all of the services provided by Rural Water. Mayor Demarais thanked Mr. Malinak for attending the Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais called on Kourtney Simonson. Ms. Simonson stated that she wanted to hold her wedding reception on September 28, 2024 in the City Hall Gymnasium. Ms. Simonson stated that she had attended a wedding at Malta Event Center and she thought the City Hall Gymnasium would better fit her needs. This was followed by much discussion about Council's decision to quit using the gymnasium for functions that require the tarp to be put down on the gym floor and the advantages of the Event Center. The request died for lack of a motion. Ms. Simonson thanked Council for considering her request and Mayor Demarais thanked her for attending the Council Meeting.
2. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the request from Tana & Mark Oyler asking Council to forgive \$1,681.00 in utility charges turned over to the Assessor's Office for delinquency on the house they purchased located at 606 South 5th Avenue East because no representative was present to make the request. Councilperson Rummel moved to forgive the utility charges, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Rummel Nay, Wiederrick Nay, Hicks Nay, Sintler Nay. Motion Failed.
3. Mayor Demarais informed Council that it was time to select a business for fuel purchases in 2024. Mayor Demarais stated currently the City was purchasing fuel from Equity Co-op and the next business in the rotation was Westside Self-Serve. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to purchase fuel from Westside Self-Serve in 2024, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye, Rummel Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
4. Mayor Demarais informed Council that a list of potential projects for the HB 335 grant funds was needed. This was followed by much discussion about potential project and the need to have a list of projects submitted to Clerk Bond by the end of the month.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. None

With no other business, Councilperson Wiederrick moved to adjourn, 2nd by Councilperson Sintler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:38pm.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer