

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MALTA CITY COUNCIL

MALTA CITY HALL

December 14, 2021

Officials present:

Mayor John Demarais

Councilpersons Ward I: David Rummel

William Hicks

Councilpersons Ward II: Bonnie Wiederrick

James Sintler

Clerk/Treasurer: Lorie Bond

Shop Foreman: Eric Witmer

Others attended: John Barnard, 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. Mayor informed Council that he had attended a Montana Rural Water Meeting.

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

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

Councilpersons Wiederrick and Sintler presented claim warrants.

Councilperson Hicks moved to approve claim checks 27374 to 27412, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Sintler moved to approve November 2021 payroll, 2nd by Councilperson Wiederrick. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, COMMITTEES & MEETINGS ATTENDED

1. SF Witmer reported that the City Crew had been busy with snow removal and sanding the city streets after the recent snowfall.
2. SF Witmer reported that City Crewmember Wilkes and Councilperson Bonnie Wiederrick were painting the big room in the Malta Event Center.
3. SF Witmer reported that the wrong transformer had been ordered for the Trafton Lift Station bypass and the correct transformer has not arrived yet. Once the correct transformer arrives the lift station would be put on the bypass.
4. Councilperson Rummel informed Council that he had watched the City Crew removing snow using the loader and skid steer and they were doing a great job. Councilperson Hicks agreed that they were doing a good job.
5. Clerk Bond presented Council with the November financials, current check register, current shut off list, November payroll overtime, vacation, sick leave reports and the expenditure and revenue actual vs budget reports.
6. Clerk Bond reported that there had been issues with the monthly floor mat service. Clerk Bond asked Council if they were okay with purchasing mats for the City Hall entryway and the City Clerk's Office and presented Council with how much it would cost. Councilperson Sintler moved to purchase the mats, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.

7. Clerk Bond reported that she would like to research what it would take to get a City Credit Card from Independence Bank. Clerk Bond stated that it would be nice to be able to work with a local bank and having the option of dropping off the payment like we had done in the past. Council agreed that she should look into the options.
8. Malta Volunteer Fire Department Chief Joshua Newman showed Council the newly purchased monitor/water cannon they had given him permission to purchase. Fire Chief Newman stated that they had also purchased another thermal imaging unit using donated funds.
9. FC Newman presented Council with pictures of what the new helmets he had ordered for the department would look like. FC Newman reported that the City would pay for the helmets and all the extra attachments would be paid for using donated funds. FC Newman stated that the turnaround time on the order would be two months.
10. FC Newman reported that he would like to host a wildland fire fighting training session for people in the county that have firefighting equipment. FC Newman stated that they are always there when needed and he thought a training session would be beneficial.
11. FC Newman reported that all of the SCBAs needed to be replaced and it would cost \$2,300 each for replacements. FC Newman stated that he would like to replace a few of them each year to avoid having to replace them all at one time.
12. FC Newman reported that Deputy Fire Chief Sean Estill was working on the radio purchase. FC Newman stated that they wanted to make sure everything is compatible before placing the order.
13. Mayor Demarais thanked FC Newman and all the Volunteer Fire Department Members for their service to the City.
14. PRD Wright updated council on their past, present and future activities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mayor Demarais called on John Barnard. Mr. Barnard stated that he still had a few inches of water in a low spot in one of his ditches and he was sure it was water leaking from the City's Sewage Lagoon. Mayor Demarais reported that the lagoon had been tested before and no seepage was found. Mayor Demarais stated that Bill Barr from Montana Rural Water would be in Malta later in the week to do some testing. After some discussion about the testing process Mayor Demarais took down Mr. Barnard's phone number so he could contact him when Mr. Barr would be doing the testing.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the second reading of Ordinance 455, an Ordinance amending Ordinance 451 the Floodplain Management Ordinance of the City of Malta. Councilperson Sintler moved to adopt Ordinance 455, 2nd by Councilperson Hicks. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Demarais informed Council that it was time to select a business for fuel purchases in 2022. Mayor Demarais stated currently the City was purchasing fuel from Westside Self Service and the next business in the rotation was Horizon Resources. Councilperson Wiederrick moved to purchase fuel from Horizon Resources in 2022, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilpersons Wiederrick Aye, Rummel Aye, Sintler Aye, Hicks Aye. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Demarais presented Council with the out of City garbage pick-up request from Ryan & Janessa Salsbery. Councilperson Hicks moved to approve the request, 2nd by Councilperson Rummel. Mayor Demarais called for a roll call vote. Councilperson Hicks Aye, Rummel Aye, Wiederrick Aye, Sintler Aye. Motion Carried.

OTHER COMMENTS

1. Councilperson Rummel informed Council that he had been contacted by the mother of a deceased resident about his water bill and why he had to pay for both curb stops on his property. This was followed by discussion about when he had attended a Council Meeting about the subject. Mayor Demarais asked Clerk Bond if she could bring the minutes from that meeting to the next Council Meeting.

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

Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer