

Harlowton City Council Minutes  
February 9, 2016  
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held February 9, 2016 at 7:00pm opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the January 12, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

Zak Tomlinson presented information regarding property that the Tomlinson's recently purchased with questions whether the city had easement through the property to continue 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE out to the county road. Mayor Jeff Sell informed them the city would do some research and get back to them.

Jeff updated the council on the process to change the ordinance regarding sales of fireworks within the city limits. Jeff will instruct attorney Jon Hess to proceed with repealing the section of the ordinance pertaining to sales within the city limits.

Jeff reported to the council that Kathie had a conference call with Dorsey Whitney to discuss the proposed change to the water and sewer rates. Kathie was informed that it would not be a good idea to proceed with that change. Even though the sewer fund had operated in the black the city has not re-built the required reserve funds required by the lending institutions. When the next phase of the water upgrade goes into effect the rates will be reviewed at that time to make sure debt coverage is being met.

John Anderson made a motion to pay the council a flat \$800.00 per year not determined by the number of meetings attended. Ron Teig seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

John Anderson gave a report on the library. The library will have the yearly budget prepared by May of each year to submit to the city. Jeff, Jim, Ron and John had all met with the county commissioners the first week of February to request more money to fund the library's expenses. They requested one mil more. The county commissioners were going to consider the request. Jeff reported that the group had also requested additional funds for the pool.

Ian Reed reported that the current outdoor city Christmas ornaments are getting old and worn. Jeff reported that in the past the Chamber of Commerce had provided the funding for replacement of ornaments. Jeff asked Lauri Teig if she could bring the request for Christmas street lighting to the next Chamber meeting for them to consider. Ian reported that the wiring for these lights would also need to be updated.

Lauri Teig reported that the Chevron property clean-up is still proceeding. The companies is putting out to bid the excavation portion of the process and are hoping for local contractors to bid on the project.

Resolution 2016-02 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HARLOWTON, MONTANA TO ENCOURAGE FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES WITHIN THE CITY OF HARLOWTON was read. Bob Jones made the motion to accept resolution 2016-02 as read. Bryan Tomlinson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2016-03 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HARLOWTON, MONTANA TO INFORM ITS EMPLOYEES OF THE PROVISION OF THE HATCH ACT was read. Ron Teig made the motion to accept resolution 2016-03 as read. Paul Otten seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2016-04 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HARLOWTON, MONTANA DESIGNATING MAYOR JEFF SELL AS THE ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFYING OFFICIAL FOR PHASE 3 OF HARLOWTON'S WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT was read. John Anderson made the motion to accept resolution 2016-04 as read. Jim Kalitowski seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The TSEP Signature Certification form and CDBG Signature Certification form were presented for signatures to the council and mayor.

Jeff discussed the process for renewing the non-commercial city leases. He requested council members Bob and Paul to tour the current lease properties within their ward and council members John and Jim to tour the current lease properties within their ward to review for fencing and weed control issues. Discussion ensued regarding if there are additional city owned properties that need to be reviewed for leasing options.

Ian Reed provided reports on the well pump usage and lift station pump hours. There had been two large water main breaks recently. Ian and Bob Schuchard will be gone to MT Rural Water Systems training next week. Ian also reported that a representative from DEQ would be here to check out the lagoon. The clean-up of contamination around the round house is still progressing. The street mirror will hopefully be installed soon – depending upon wind conditions. Ian discussed a story he had read regarding switching street lights to LEDs and the energy savings and maintenance savings that a small sized city had encountered.

Council member John Anderson asked about the city's ordinances regarding abandoned cars on city streets. Jeff requested John to contact the sheriff's department to see what the process is.

The next city council meeting will be held on February 23, 2016 at 7:00pm in the city hall.

Ron Teig made a motion to pay the bills, checks #20155-20174 from the January 9, 2016 through January 22, 2016 claims and, checks #20176-20194 from the January 23, 2016 through February 5, 2016 claims. Bryan Tomlinson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 8:24pm.

Council Members Present:

John Anderson, Bob Jones, Jim Kalitowski, Paul Otten, Ron Teig, Bryan Tomlinson

Employees Present:

Ian Reed

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Jeff Sell, Mayor

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Kathie Newland, Clerk