

Harlowton City Council Minutes  
May 10, 2016  
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held May 10, 2016 at 7:00pm opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the April 26, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

City resident Don DeShaw requested the city do something about the pooling water on the street in front of the museum as it was causing problems in the basement again (Times building). Jeff stated that the city was going to rip out the curb causing the problem and replace it as soon as the contractor doing the work was available.

City resident Joe Brouillette asked what the allocation for voting for the west side SID would be. Jeff stated if a resident owns 10 lots they get 10 votes.

Dave Leverett from 4 Corners recycling presented an update to the council on the city's recycling program. Updates to the items they will be able to recycle will be posted in the newspaper by 4 Corners Recycling. New labeling will have to be done on the bins and certain bins should get covers. He also stated that they will have to start charging to empty the bins located in the Chief Joseph Park area. He suggested placing the smaller bins in the park and the city crew moving those to the recycling area when the 4 Corners truck comes to avoid that extra charge.

Shawn Peters addressed the city council with a proposal to change the commercial lease rate on the Roundhouse property to a flat fee of \$1,200 rather than the per tonnage that was previously listed. Bryan Tomlinson made the motion to change the commercial lease rate on the Roundhouse to \$1,200 per year. John Anderson seconded. Ron Teig asked about whose responsibility maintenance costs were. Jeff stated that those details are covered in the lease agreement. Motion as presented passed unanimously.

Clerk Kathie Newland gave an update on the decay ordinance violations currently in process.

Sealed bids for ag, grazing and recreational properties were opened by Jeff Sell. Of the 6 properties listed for lease, 5 were bid on by the incumbent leasees at the minimum bid. John Anderson made the motion to accept the following bids:

Shirley Schuchard \$515.00 (25 acre piece)

Shirley Schuchard \$635.00 (9 acre piece)

Gary Olsen \$250.00 (6 acre piece)

Brad Miller \$2,110.00 (60 acre piece)

Thomas Tomlinson \$425.00 (27 acre piece)

Paul Otten seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 in favor (John Anderson, Paul Otten, Ron Teig, Jim Kalitowski) with Bryan Tomlinson abstaining.

Charles Pinger addressed the council with a concern on his recent water bill. His meter had not been reading for the past 5 months and had been charged the base rate. For the April bill the meter read and seemed to be excessive. The council agreed to adjust Pinger's bill based on a previous 6 month average.

John Anderson reported on the library. A special meeting was held for the library board to discuss employee reviews. Jeff had been consulted on the form that they will be using. The silent auction of surplus equipment that took place brought in \$527.50. Jeff noted that the library has stated they will be closed Thursday mornings for employee work time. John will check on how long this will go on. Jeff noted that the library board should have brought that request to the city council for approval.

Great West Engineering sent a letter recommending accepting Battle Ridge Builders, LLC bid of \$1,244,405 for the phase 3 water system improvement project. Ron Teig made the motion to award the Phase 3 water improvement project to Battle Ridge Builders, LLC pending funding agencies' concurrence. Paul Otten seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

An updated attorney contract with Jon Hesse was presented. Bryan Tomlinson made the motion to accept the contract as written. Ron Teig seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion to extend the Smoking Boomer Rail Trail was held. The incumbent lease holder for the property that could extend the rail trail did not submit a bid to renew his lease. Jeff Sell recommended that the rail trail be extended on that property. Paul Otten made the motion that the city investigate the options of extending the rail trail on the 100 feet by 2640 feet previously leased property. Jim Kalitowski seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Ian Reed recommended that signs be purchased to indicate that the property adjacent to this extension is private property and that users of the trail must stay on the trail and not trespass on the private property adjacent to this portion of the abandoned rail road tracks.

Jeff sell read the letter from the MT Department of Administration accepting the city's corrective action plan for the fiscal year 2015 audit report.

Ian Reed reported that there would be a lagoon violation as the acceptable PH limit was exceeded by .03. The South well parts have come in and hope to be installed by the following week. The city water tank needs to be cleaned and the mixer motor repaired. City Clean up days brought in \$562 at the transfer station (landfill). Five dumpster were filled. The swimming pool is getting prepped for this season's opening. The city crew has been patching some street. Council questioned the start-up date for phase 3 water project. A specific date for start-up was not set however the project must be completed within 105 days and before freeze up.

Bryan Tomlinson reported that he is working on getting topsoil donated for the Chief Joseph Park playground improvement project.

The next city council meeting will be held on May 24, 2016 at 7:00pm in the city hall.

Ron Teig made a motion to pay the bills, checks #20319-20339 from the April 22, 2016 through May 10, 2016 claims. Paul Otten seconded the motion. Motion pass unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 8:46 pm.

Council Members Present:

John Anderson, 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