

Harlowton City Council Minutes  
August 9, 2016  
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held August 9, 2016 at 7:00 pm opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the July 26, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Ian Reed and Jeff Sell gave an update on the progress of the phase III water project. It is currently about two weeks behind schedule. There will be another large shut-down of water services on the west end of town but the hospital will not be in it this time. Two contractor crews are working on service lines while one contract crew is still working on main lines. So far no individual residents have opted to re-do their private water lines from the curb stop to their homes. Ian submitted information on providing low interest loans or grant to homeowners to help pay for replacement of these lines. The loan/grant program is through USDA. Another water line break happened on D Avenue.

There were no committee reports.

Jeff reported that attorney Jon Hesse is reviewing and updating the city's decay ordinance. Discussion of the city attorney's performance in this matter was held.

There was no public comment regarding the environmental assessment for the LWCF grant regarding the Chief Joseph Park playground improvement project. Lauri Teig has volunteered to assist with the environmental assessment.

Dennis Tandberg submitted proposed plans for a "playhouse" for the playground area that resembles a sheep wagon. John Anderson asked if the Harlowton Mom's group had seen these plans. Jeff was unsure if they had or not. The council has decided to wait on approving any further playhouses for the area until after the play structures are installed in order to assess the future layout of more play equipment and structures.

The 2016-2017 budget was discussed. The preliminary budget will be presented at the next council meeting with the intent to finalize it in the same meeting. Jeff is requesting the council to consider increasing legal fees in order to work on the city's ordinance issues. Other items to consider for the upcoming years are completely rebuilding three blocks of A Avenue from the main highway to the post office at an estimated cost of \$100,000. Ian will research option and present more accurate estimates in the future. Ron Teig mentioned that the rodeo committee is working on a celebration for Wheatland County's centennial celebration and may be requesting a donation.

Ian reported that the crew is mainly busy with the phase III water project. Playground structures have been delivered and Dennis Parisi has been contacted to "spear-head" the assembly of them with volunteer help. Approximately two hundred and fifty yards of top soil that was donated by Spectra Energy, loaded by Sunland Construction and delivered by Oftedal Construction, at no cost to the city, has been stockpiled

for the playground project. Once the structures are erected, the top soil will be installed with hopes of sod being placed in the fall. Smaller play structures/items will be installed as funds become available. Bryan informed Ian of a tree in the alley behind Stockman's bar that will need attention.

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

Ron Teig made a motion to pay the bills, checks #20463-20476 from the July 23, 2016 through August 5, 2016 claims. John Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jeff informed the council of a Central Montana Water Authority meeting to be held Wednesday August 10, 2016 at 1:00 at the library.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Council Members Present:

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

Employees Present:

Ian Reed

---

Jeff Sell, Mayor

---

Kathie Newland, Clerk