

Harlowton City Council Minutes
March 27, 2018
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held March 27, 2018 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the March 13, 2018 council meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Paul Otten updated the council on the fire department discussion. Paul, Ian and Kathie had met with Chris Anderson, Wheatland County Fire Chief. Two vehicles were found to be getting insured by both the county and city. Those two vehicles have been dropped off the city's insurance schedule and are insured by the county. The Fire Relief Association "ownership" is still being discussed. There will be a meeting with the county commissions again on April 4, 2018 at 1:00 to continue the discussions.

There were no committee reports.

Resident Wayne Gentry addressed the council with his concerns about the sidewalk/lack of sidewalk in front of his property and extending to in front of the Wesleyan church, and the grade of these structures. He feels the abrupt changes in grade and surface are a safety concern. Paul informed Mr. Gentry that there are currently no plans for pouring a sidewalk. The area in question had been checked out by various council members and employees of the city. At this time council consensus is there are no safety concerns and no current plans for sidewalk installation. Mr. Gentry left the council meeting at this time. Further discussion ensued.

Sealed bids for the six advertised lease properties were opened. Doug Pierce placed a bid of \$700.00 per year for the "old lagoon"; Travis Schuchard placed a bid of \$625.00 per year for the "old lagoon". Tonya Martin placed a bid of \$1,200.00 for their current lease. There were no other bids for this property. Michael DeBorde placed a bid of \$300.00 per year for the "old dump". Kevin Knutson placed a bid of \$350.00 per year for the "old dump". A letter will be sent to Schuchard giving him 30 days to match the offer of Doug Pierce. Michael DeBorde was present at the council meeting and countered with an offer of \$375.00 per year. Paul informed Kevin Knudson (also in attendance) that Mr. DeBorde would retain the lease. Paul informed the council that no bid had been placed on the property currently occupied by Dan Dempster, nor was a bid received on the building currently occupied by Roger Lindsley. Rob Elwood made the motion to mail Roger Lindsley a letter to vacate the property within 30 days. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. Paul will check to see if there are any contents left in the building as Roger Lindsley may have already cleaned out his property. Rob Elwood amended his motion to include to take no action of sending a letter if the premise was already empty. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Paul informed the council that Donna Hagberg feels she owns the building as she provided the city with a copy of her property tax statement for the building. Attorney Karen Hammel will research the true ownership of this building and report back to the city. Karen commented that whether Ms. Hagberg owns the building or not, she does not own the property it sits on so at a minimum she needs to have a lease for the property and easement to the property.

Paul asked the council to elect a member among themselves to be president of the council. Rob Elwood volunteered for the position. Council approved Rob Elwood as the president of the council.

Ian was not present to give a report. Paul informed the council that there have been some sewer problems around town. The city crew have been helping resident when possible with their issues. The home at 102 3rd St NW was recently purchased and the new owner was having sewer issues. They hired a contractor and it was found that the home was not connected to the sewer. Battle Ridge Builders appears to have severed the connection when they were doing water main work through the area. Bob Schuchard took photos of the issues. The engineer for the phase 3 water project will work with Ian to get the issue resolved. The city feels the costs of the repairs will need to be paid by Battle Ridge Builders.

Next council meeting will be April 10, 2018 at 7:00pm the Harlowton public library. The 2nd public meeting regarding the sewer PER will be held prior to the council meeting at 6:00pm at the library.

Rob Elwood commented that he is doing research on deer hunting within city limits. He is aware that this issue was discussed previously but would like to re-address this in a future council meeting.

Charlie Bennett commented that there were some issues at the recycling bins regarding people leaving non-recyclables there (garbage, cardboard, etc.) Discussion ensued about options for recycling cardboard.

John Anderson made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21371-21384 from March 10, 2018 through March 23, 2018. Jim Kalitowski seconded the motion. Motion to pay claims passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Council Members Present:

John Anderson, Frank Brouillette, Rob Elwood, Jim Kalitowski, Charley Bennett (via telephone)

Council Member Absent:

Ron Teig

Paul Otten, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk