

Harlowton City Council Minutes
June 26, 2018
Harlowton Public Library

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held June 26, 2018 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the June 12, 2018 council meeting were approved as written.

Michael DeBorde inquired about the ongoing floodplain appeal process. Ian informed him that the city has been working on contesting the floodplain mapping but no official decision has been made by FEMA/DNRC. Antelope Creek dams and dykes were measured and that information will be used in the appeal process. Ron Teig indicated that he believed an agency had flown over the recent high water situation with LYDAR equipment again. Jim Kalitowski asked about the rail bed washing out west of town causing water issues on John Lammers' and Harry Klock's. About 100 yards was washed out. It would take considerable funds to fix the washout.

Rob Elwood has a draft of the justification for an urban deer hunt prepared for Ashley Taylor, DNRC Biologist, to review. He is expecting some suggested changes from her on this document. Other cities doing an urban hunt have extended hunting dates (i.e. 10/15-2/17). After suggestions from Ashley, Rob will refine the documents and bring to the council for comments and discussion.

John Anderson reported there will be a book signing at the library on June 27, 2018 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. The 21st Century grant for the library extended hours did not get renewed. Further information will be presented later (agenda item).

The street and ally committee has been researching specs for sidewalks. Ian doesn't want the specs to be so stringent that residents will not be able to afford installing sidewalks. Ian will work on drafting some sidewalk specs.

The Moose Lodge is requesting street closure on July 2, 2018 and July 3, 2018. July 2nd would only be if the Rodeo band isn't able to perform in the rodeo grounds due to excess moisture. July 3, 2018 is for the regular Moose Lodge street dance. Rob Elwood made the motion to allow for street closures on July 2 and July 3, 2018 from 3:00pm to 2:00am, 1st St NE from A Ave to Central. Charley Bennett seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Sanford Moore presented on behalf of the library board regarding the 21st Century grant that had been providing funding to allow the library to be open from 5:30pm to 8:00pm most evenings. The 21st Century grant did not get renewed. There is a possibility that the grant could be renewed for fiscal year 2020. Sanford has been doing some fund raising and has raised \$2000 specifically to continue funding the extended hours position. Sanford submitted a Wind Impact grant on behalf of the library. Paul reminded Sanford that the library is part of the city and all grants need to be approved through the council prior to submittal. John Anderson made the motion to approve the submittal of the Wind Impact grant that had already been submitted. Rob Elwood seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Kathie informed the council that the wages that the school paid for the extended hours library help is higher than what city employed library aids get paid. Sanford proposed that the funds that have been already raised be used to pay the extended hours

library aid through the city at \$10.00 per hour. He estimated that those funds should be able to pay the aid for 2-3 months. Rob Elwood made a motion to use the funds raised to pay the extended hours library aid at \$10.00 per hour and to readdress the financial situation in one month. After further discussion Rob amended his motion to be to readdress the situation in 2 ½ months. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Paul informed the council that Jimbo Fisk was interested in purchasing the lot that Dempster's shop currently sits on. Fair market value would need to be established and the lot would need to go to public bid. He informed the council it would be best to annex those lots into the city prior to selling the lots. Attorney Karen Hammel is researching the issue with Dempster not having a lease but still occupying the property. Paul asked why continue to lease out those properties if the city could sell them and get the properties on the city tax rolls. Ron suggested waiting on the attorney's opinion regarding the leases. Paul will let Mr. Fisk know the city is working on the situation.

Ian presented information regarding a pool chemical lease that would change the current system from a gas chlorine system to an automatic dry chlorine solution with UEV inhibitor and PH balancing system. The lease would be for \$750 per year for the equipment plus an estimated \$2100 per year for chemicals. Ian feels the chemical estimate is low. In fiscal year 2017 the pool spent approximately \$3900 in chemicals. A 5 year lease would need to be signed. Ian indicated the current pool chlorination system is in poor condition. There would be a savings in labor as not as much pool testing would need to be getting done. Ian thought in total the costs would be about equal; however the safety with this new equipment would be much higher. Council consensus was to proceed with the lease.

The city crew has been busy with lots of locating calls. The park is flooded again. He hopes that the grounds will be firm enough to withstand parking for the rodeo but the RV camp sites will not be open during the 4th of July.

Jim asked about the issue with the water break at Streeter's. Ian indicated due to the location of the break the city would be responsible for the repairs.

John asked about the target date for the pool to open. Ian indicated that possibly by July 4 it would be open. It still needs to be filled, chemical balanced and heated. The pool staff painted the spots that had deteriorated. Lawson painting will do repairs this fall after the pool is drained and winterized.

Rob asked about the electrical wiring for the Christmas lights along central. He thought they looked unsafe. Ian agreed and told him that each year they fix a few more.

Next council meeting will be July 10 2018 at 7:00pm at the Harlowton City Hall. Resolutions 2018-06 and 2018-07 will be on the agenda.

Ron Teig made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21493-21508 from June 8, 2018 through June 22, 2018. John Anderson seconded the motion. Motion to pay claims passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Council Members Present: John Anderson, Charley Bennett, Frank Brouillette, Rob Elwood
Jim Kalitowski, Ron Teig

Employees Present: Ian Reed

Paul Otten, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk