

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held September 11, 2018 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the August 28, 2018 council meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Rob Elwood updated the council on the urban deer hunt. He has received a few phone calls from leaseholders that are against hunting on their leases. There are concerns for liability. Other comments he had received had mixed opinions. Rob wants the city to take its time in deciding about this hunt and to gather more feedback from the community. Paul reported that the golf course also had some reservations about what the process would be. Frank reported that he had also heard from someone opposed to the idea of hunting in town.

Kathie had recently spoken with Zach Kirkemo from the MT Department of Transportation regarding changing the speed limit on highway 12 through Harlowton. It is believed that if the city just wants to move the speed limit signs out further that only a letter from the city including a map of placement needs to be submitted to the DOT. That may speed up the process in that a traffic study may not need to be completed. The council also was hoping for larger signs to be installed. Also "Reduced Speed Ahead" signs may be helpful on coming from the west and east into town. Kathie will prepare a letter to the DoT to request these items.

John reported that the library had a meeting to discuss the proposed library agreement and that Sanford Moore was going to discuss their questions during the library agenda item.

Ian reported that he had not given the street and alley committee a written version of the sidewalk construction guidelines yet.

Sanford Moore, library board president, had comments and questions regarding the proposed library agreement. Kathie requested that a smaller group, to include the library board, mayor and herself, work out the details of the agreement before bringing a final draft to the city council for review. Marlene Robertson asked if Kathleen Schreiber (Library Director) could get a higher raise as she has been the librarian for over twenty years and makes less per hour than many surrounding area librarians. Rob Elwood asked for documentation regarding librarian pay. Kathie will provide the MT League of Cities and Towns 2016 salary survey information. The library will provide additional information regarding pay scales as well.

Annexation of city owned property was discussed. The "industrial park" lots that the city owns are not within city limits. It would be beneficial to annex these properties into the city prior to selling any of these lots. Attorney Karen Hammel suggested doing all the lots in the industrial park at the same time rather than lot by lot to save on the cost of the process. Karen will continue to research the process. Paul reported that water service is being provided to Peters Inc (the old Sportmans' Bar) but they had not finished the annexation process that the previous owners had initiated. Lance Schuchard was

recently informed that he would have to annex into the city to be provided utility services so Peters Inc needs to also finish the process of annexation.

Discussion about the city's Utility Share program was held. Rob Elwood made the motion to allow for \$25.00 (for the seven month LIEAP season) be credited monthly to each account with a LIEAP eligible resident upon proper documentation being received by the city, up to the full amount of the funds available. (Currently \$7,813.60). Additional discussion was held. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ian reported that the crew has been patching streets and working to finish the playground upgrade. A handicap parking pad is being poured and there are several pieces of playground equipment yet to be installed. The 20MPH speed limit signs on Central Avenue will be reinstalled.

Next council meeting will be September 25, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Harlowton City Hall. Fiscal year 2018 budget amendments and an ordinance update will be on the agenda. Rob asked Karen how the city will go about updating its ordinances. Karen indicated she needed to do some more research and would report at the next meeting. Discussion regarding codification versus updating of ordinances was held.

Council questioned the Christiansen Construction invoice. Ian informed them it was for the sidewalk poured on A Avenue SW. Ron Teig made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21611- 21634 from August 24, 2018 through September 7, 2018. Charley Bennett seconded the motion. Motion to pay claims passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 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