

Harlowton City Council Minutes
December 11, 2018
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held December 11, 2018 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the November 27, 2018 council meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Paul Otten informed the council that the city has not received any information from Zach Kirkemo from MT DoT regarding the traffic study yet.

Paul reported that a draft resolution has been prepared and will be discussed later in the meeting regarding annexation of the city's industrial park lots. After annexation is complete on these lots discussion on selling the lots can proceed.

John Anderson was not in attendance to report for the library committee.

There was nothing to report for the street and alley committee.

Rob Elwood reported for the Ordinance Committee. The committee met immediately prior to the council meeting. The second reading for ordinances 1 through 7 – 2018 will be held at the January 8, 2019 council meeting to allow for appropriate notice posting. The committee continued discussing Title 8 regarding dog control and hopes to have a recommendation at the next council meeting. Snow removal will be discussed at the next ordinance committee meeting as well.

Bill Milton of the Musselshell Watershed Coalition presented information on that organization. He is looking for the city to continue its support of the coalition for another two years. This financial support is \$120 per year. This organization monitors the gaging stations in the Musselshell watershed area which provides information for many uses including local DES coordinators with flooding information. In addition Mr. Milton reported on the organization's progress in getting consistent, sustainable legislative support in the future. Paul informed Bill that the city would continue its support of this project for another two years.

Resident Bryan Tomlinson addressed the council regarding getting city water and sewer services to his property on 6th Street NE and the Old Judith Gap Road. He has potential purchasers of the property but needs to know if city services will be available and at what cost. Un-annexing from the City is also a possibility or perhaps a variance. Ian reported to the council that extending services over 100 feet now required the project to be engineered, so Ian had contacted Great West Engineering to get an estimate of costs. To get both water and gravity sewer services to that property would be about \$138,000. Water alone would be \$42,000. An alternate option to gravity sewer would be a force sewer main at the cost of about \$15,000 which would require the user to have a lift station pump at the property, which would not be the city's responsibility for maintenance and upkeep. Ian reported that the city has installed utility

mains in the past to connect other residents to the system; however, with the required engineering costs and inflation these project cost much more now. Great West Engineering told Ian that in other towns they deal with, having the resident pay one half of the costs is common. Ron Teig asked if future city water projects would be installing main lines in that area. Ian explained that the currently engineering plans are for rehabbing old lines not installing new lines. Bryan requested the city to keep him posted on the discussion and decisions that the council makes regarding extending services to his property. As a past council member he realizes the costs to install new service lines could be detrimental to the city. Rob Elwood asked Bryan what option he would prefer. Bryan responded he would at this time prefer to un-annex from the city. No council decisions were made at that time.

Paul reported that he will be reappointing Frank Hutton and Sam Griffith to the Upper Musselshell Conservation District board as urban representatives. He has requested one of the two to attend the city council meeting at least monthly to report on the activity of the UMCD.

A draft of Resolution 2018-11 (Resolution approving annexation of city-owned land into the city of Harlowton) was presented. No action on the resolution will be done until the required public notices have been completed.

Ian informed the council that the city crew has started to fix the water main that broke in the park this fall. They have been lots of water in the trench as they dig and the pond levels are as low as possible at this time. Ian got an estimate on extending the culvert past Dennis Tandberg's residence. The 24" culvert alone would cost \$6,000 plus staff time to install it. Ian and Paul are both not convinced that extending the culvert will fix the water issue in Dennis Tandberg's basement. If changes to that area are going to happen, Ian feels a permit will be needed as it is actually the Jawbone Creek. No council decisions were made on the Tandberg issue at that time.

Paul reminded the council that the Main Street MT meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2018 at 10:00am at the Library Conference room. He also reminded council that there will not be another council meeting in December so claims will need to be approved outside of a council meeting. A grant from DNRC for rerouting of power lines through the roundhouse area was received on December 11, 2018. A check will be issued to Northwestern Energy for \$25,202.94 in order for Northwestern Energy to get the project scheduled.

Next council meeting will be January 8, 2019 at 7:00pm at the Harlowton City Hall. The resolution for annexation of city property will be presented. The second reading of ordinances 1-2018, 2-2018, 3-2018, 4-2018, 5-2018, 6-2018 and 7-2018 will be done.

Ron Teig made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21715- 21738 from November 21, 2018 through December 7, 2018. Rob Elwood seconded the motion. No further discussion was had. Motion to pay claims passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.

Council Members Present: John Anderson (arrived 7:18pm), Charley Bennett (via phone), Frank Brouillette, Rob Elwood, Ron Teig

Council Members Absent: Jim Kalitowski

Employees Present: Ian Reed

Paul Otten, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk