

Harlowton City Council Minutes
May 24, 2016
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held May 24, 2016 at 7:00pm opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the May 10, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Jeff Sell updated the council on the progress of the city owned property leases. Most of the lease documents have been sent to the leasees with the exception of one.

City attorney Jon Hesse has requested that the city of Harlowton's decay ordinance be updated. Council members questioned what was happening with the process to redo all of the city's codes. The city was quoted \$5,000 - \$10,000 by Jon Hesse to do the process. This currently is not within the city's budget to complete.

Jon Anderson gave the library committee report. He stated that the library will be closed Thursday mornings until the card index has been re-entered. There is a possibility of an HRDC employee working on the project through the summer as well. The library has a new policy regarding disturbances within the library facility. Library employee reviews were completed. The board is also working on the library budget to be submitted to the full city council in a timely manner.

The second reading of ordinance 2-2016 AN ORDINANCE GRANTING TO NORTHWESTERN CORPORATION d/b/a/ NORTHWESTERN ENERGY A NON-EXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE AND FIXING THE TERMS THEREOF UNDER WHICH SAID COMPANY MAY CONSTRUCT, EQUIP, LAY, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE NATURAL GAS DELIVERY FACILITIES IN, UNDER, UPON, OVER AND ACROSS STREETS, AVENUES, ALLEYS, HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES, EASEMENTS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES IN THE CITY OF HARLOWTON, MONTANA, AND MAY DELIVER AND SELL NATURAL GAS was read. Ron Teig made the motion to approve ordinance 2-2016 as read. Paul Otten seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion regarding the city's water and sewer rates was held. Dorsey Whitney (the city's bond counsel) has been working through the process with the city. A resolution of intent to increase rates will be submitted hopefully at the June 14, 2016 council meeting.

The third quarter city financial statements were reviewed. Jeff Sell pointed out that the lighting district rates will need to be changed in order to comply with the statute that no fund within the city operates with a negative cash balance.

Ian Reed reported that the Pritchard well booster had gone down. A chlorine valve at the lagoon was also malfunctioning. The south well pump is in the process of getting set. There is a safety concern about the sidewalk in front of the old Beley Ford station. Jeff Sell will contact the owner. There is also a safety concern with the sidewalk in front of the old state building. The sidewalk by the museum (Times building) will be getting replaced to help alleviate potential flooding issues in the basement of that building. The

piece of sidewalk by the fire hydrant in that area will also be getting replaced at the same time at the expense of the county. There is a bit of sidewalk on A Avenue SW that the city believes is their responsibility that needs to be replaced. Council member Bob Jones asked about getting some gravel by Bruce Painter's property. Ian Reed will check on this. Ian reported that there is enough street patching material left to complete fixing the known pothole issues. They will work on that as the weather allows.

The next city council meeting will be held on June 14, 2016 at 7:00pm in the city hall.

John Anderson made a motion to pay the bills, checks #20344-20357 from the May 10, 2016 through May 20, 2016 claims. Ron Teig seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 8:18 pm.

Council Members Present:

John Anderson, Jim Kalitowski, Paul Otten, Ron Teig, Bob Jones

Employees Present:

Ian Reed

Jeff Sell, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk