

Harlowton City Council Minutes
August 30, 2016
Harlowton City Hall

A meeting of the Harlowton City Council held August 30, 2016 at 7:00 pm opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the August 9, 2016 meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Ian Reed and Jeff Sell gave an update on the progress of the phase III water project. The progress has been slow and rough. A Avenue NW is mostly done, that crew is moving onto 3rd St NW. Division Street has about one week of work left. The fire hydrant on the corner of Central and 2nd Street will be getting replaced. Ductile iron pipe has been used on three blocks even though no measurable contamination has been detected. There is about one more block of ductile iron to be laid. The Harlowton High School homecoming parade route will be altered this year as part of their normal route will be blocked by the project. The constructions crews are still about two weeks behind schedule. A new sub-contractor will be working on Central Avenue N to help get caught up. The old lines by the high school were previously not buried deep enough. Any area not at 6 ½ feet deep needs to be insulated to prevent freezing.

Jeff updated the council on the decay ordinance process. He has not heard anything recently from attorney Jon Hesse on this project.

There was no public comment regarding the environmental assessment for the LWCF grant regarding the Chief Joseph Park playground improvement project. Jeff updated the council on the playground update project. A volunteer day had been coordinated and many volunteers helped Dennis Parisi with assembling of the first playground structure.

Katherine Parks submitted information regarding the Wheatland County Centennial Celebration scheduled for 2017. Funding was requested from the City of Harlowton to support this celebration. As there is no funding currently available, the mayor assured her that the city would do all they could to cooperate with the event, including street closures, street cleaning, decorating involving the light poles and the like. Katherine was encouraged to check back with the City in six or so months to see if any funding had become available. Katherine informed the council that the next Centennial Celebration committee meeting is September 20, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Fire Hall.

Mayor Jeff Sell has appointed Sanford Moore to the Harlowton City Library Board. The current members of the library board have agreed to this appointment.

The Wheatland County Chamber of Commerce space use agreement was reviewed by the council. No corrections or additions were given at this time.

The preliminary fiscal year 2017 budget hearing was held. There was no public comment. Discussion regarding a parks and recreation assessment to help financially support the Chief Joseph Park and Harlowton City Pool activities was discussed. Jeff informed the council that an additional mill had been requested from Wheatland County to help support the library and additional financial support from the

County for the pool had been discussed. At the time of the council meeting the county had not made a decision on the matter. Jeff reminded the council that the financial condition of the street lights district will need to be addressed soon. As there was no changes or additions to the presented preliminary budget, Bryan Tomlinson made the motion to accept the fiscal year 2017 budget as presented. Paul Otten seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 2016-18 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 BUDGET was presented. Clerk, Kathie Newland explained a few changes and additions to this year's budget resolution. John Anderson made the motion to accept resolution 2016-18 as read. Paul Otten seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ian reported that the crew is still mainly busy with the phase III water project. The west-end well has failed. Considerable money had been spent on updating this well within the last few years. Great West Engineering will be checking into the issue and the available options for this well. The current two wells that are working can handle the current demands. However one of the wells will need to be shut down during the current phase III water project and the other well on its own will not be able to handle the demands. There was attempted vandalism of city property at the buildings down by the roundhouse. A police report has been filed.

Jeff reported that fund raising for the Chief Joseph Park playground upgrade is still ongoing.

No quotes from paving companies have been received yet regarding paving of the three blocks of A Avenue. It may be possible that the majority of the cost of this portion of paving could be included in the current phase III water project funding.

John Anderson reported that the library board had meet. The library staff have been getting the back "adult reading room" refurbished with paint, curtains and furniture. The children's area "log cabin wall" will be getting done with grant funding sometime in the near future. The Library Federation meeting will be held in Harlowton on September 17, 2016. This meeting is usually well attended by surrounding community library staff.

Jeff reported that the DEQ will be hosting an open house at the library on September 14, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm to answer questions about the status of the clean-up efforts at the roundhouse and the "old Chevron station" site.

The next city council meeting will be held on September 13, 2016 at 7:00pm in the city hall. On that agenda will be: updates on the decay ordinance, discussion of the street lighting district, street maintenance district, and parks and recreation assessment.

Bob Jones made a motion to pay the bills, checks #20483-20516 from the August 6, 2016 through August 26, 2016 claims. Bryan Tomlinson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Council Members Present:

John Anderson, Bob Jones, Jim Kalitowski, Paul Otten, Bryan Tomlinson

Employees Present:

Ian Reed

Jeff Sell, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk