

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held May 22, 2018 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the April 24, 2018 council meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Paul Otten updated the council on the fire department discussion. There is a meeting with the Wheatland County Commissioners and the fire department on June 6, 2018 at 1:00pm for further discussions. A draft agreement will be presented to them at that time.

Paul updated the council on the lease renewals. All leases with the exception of the Dempster lease have been updated to a 2021 due date. Attorney Karen Hamell is researching the ownership of the Dempster building.

Rob Elwood did not have an update on urban deer hunting yet.

Holly Lode was not able to attend the council meeting to discuss chickens in city limits.

Sarah Edney updated the council on the skate park project. Jay Stevens who worked on the Lewistown skate park is willing to come and discuss this project with the council. A "tourist loop" of skate parks has been identified and Harlowton may be a good addition to this loop. There was discussion about the dual function of a skate park and BMX skating.

Joe Brouillette was not able to attend the council meeting to discuss council meeting cancellations.

Resident Wayne Gentry submitted a letter requesting direction on laying a new sidewalk in front of this property. Per chapter 12.04 of the Harlowton Municipal Code Section 070 a Street and Alley Committee needs to be formed. It was explained that a Street and Alley committee is formed per project so volunteering for this committee is not a long term commitment. Ron Teig, Charley Bennett, Frank Brouillette volunteered for this committee. Ian will also assist. Paul Otten will contact Wayne Gentry to inform him about the process.

Rob Elwood has done some research on electric vehicle charging stations. A 14-50 outlet is the most common electrical charging option. The campground would be the most accessible place for this. Rob demonstrated the "Plug Share" app on his telephone. Council consensus is to have Rob put the Chief Joseph Park on the "Plug Share" app to advertise the availability of this charging option once the park has dried up as those types of outlets are already available at the park. People using the service would be expected to pay \$5-\$10 and place the fees in the "payment post" already located in the park.

Kathie presented information on the current street maintenance assessment fees. The assessment has been \$48.00 since 2008. The current assessment does not allow for saving of money to tackle larger street projects such as street paving. Ian indicated that asphalt per block is approximately \$40,000. With the excessive snow needing plowing and the increased potholes due to the heavy snow this year, most of the

street maintenance funds will be used up. One possibility to make headway on the aged street infrastructure is to get a low interest loan to do sections of the streets and to use street maintenance funds to pay off the loan. This could possibly be phased into three year projects for example. Rob Elwood made the motion to hold a public hearing proposing a street maintenance assessment fee increase to \$90. After the public hearing the council could decide on the assessment amount and proceed with the process to formally increase the assessment fee. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathie presented information on the current street light assessment fees. This assessment fee was increased from \$30.00 to \$42.00 last year which still leaves the street lights fund at a loss of approximately \$11,000 for this fiscal year. Charley Bennett made the motion to hold a public hearing proposing a street light assessment fee increase to \$62.00. After the public hearing the council could decide on the assessment amount and proceed with the process to formally increase the assessment fee. Ron Teig seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Kathie asked for clarification that both the street maintenance assessment and street lights assessment public hearing would be on the same day. Council agreed that 6:00pm on June 26, 2018 would be the public hearing.

Ian reported that Harlowton Clean-Up days are Friday and Saturday June 1 and 2. Council members are needed on Saturday to assist at the landfill. Tree clean-up has been going on. The crew will be short-handed for three weeks as Jeff Perry is on vacation. Ian has not hired a park maintenance worker yet to replace Jack Barnhart who has formally resigned. Only two applications have been handed out. The street south of Hillcrest was discussed. It had been dry so Ian had taken down the "street closure" signs, but then it flooded and is closed again. He has not been able to get the company to come and check out the culvert as this is their busy season now and the culvert area has to be relatively dry in order to diagnose the issue in order to get it corrected. Asphalt patching material has been ordered again to try to keep up with the pothole issues.

Charley Bennett asked about the recycling bins as it appears someone has dumped non-recyclable items again. There isn't really a good solution to stopping this other than asking citizens to watch for the people doing this.

Next council meeting will be June 12, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Harlowton city hall.

John Anderson made a motion to approve prior reviewed and accepted claims, checks #21419-21435 from April 21, 2018 through May 4, 2018. These claims had been previously approved by at least four council members and the mayor. This was due to cancelled council meeting. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ron Teig made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21435-21451 from May 5, 2018 through May 18, 2018. Charley Bennett seconded the motion. Motion to pay claims passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

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

Council Members Absent:
Jim Kalitowski

Employee Present:
Ian Reed

Paul Otten, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk