

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held October 9, 2018 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the September 25, 2018 council meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Rob Elwood presented information on a camera and software that he had personally purchased to detect the speeds of vehicles. As the city has not heard back from Zach Kirkemo on the MT DoT traffic study, Rob thought he would gather some information personally.

Paul Otten asked if the council would like to proceed with annexation of all 8 lots in the city's industrial park. Rob Elwood made the motion to proceed with annexation of all 8 lots in the city's "industrial park". Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The council will wait for a report from Karen Hammel on what other properties are within the city limits before proceeding with other annexations.

John Anderson reported that library staff and a few board members had attended the recent Library Federation meeting in Stanford. The library has received an award of funds from the Washington Grant. It is for \$10,000 per year for three years with an additional \$5,000 matching grant option in the first year. Kathie reported that the grant was written to fund the extended library hours position, snacks for the after school children and the summer reading program. In addition, Gally's had a fund raiser for the library. The exact amount raised was not known, but it was a good fundraiser.

Kathie reported that she has received information on applying for a grant/loan through USDA/RD called a community facilities grant to help fund the new roof on the library. Rob Elwood asked if information had been gathered yet regarding the wage increase library staff was asking for. Kathie reported that Sanford Moore (Library board president) had let her know that he was quite busy until mid-October and would be getting back to the library agreement and salaries at that time.

Rob Elwood reported for the Ordinance Committee.

Chapter 1.00 was reviewed and no changes noted.

Chapter 1.04 was reviewed with six subsections noted to be repealed/deleted as they are covered under state statute.

Chapter 1.12 was reviewed with all sections to be repealed/deleted as they are covered under state statute.

Chapter 2.38 was reviewed with all sections to be repealed/deleted as they are covered under state statute.

The ordinance committee will have more ordinances reviewed prior to the next council meeting with their recommendations. Once all of the ordinances that Karen Hammel recommended for repeal/deletion are reviewed, the city will proceed with the process to repeal all of them at once.

Kathie received some information from the director of the Local Government Services, Dan Clark, regarding committee meetings being held via email. His recommendation was to check with our city attorney but he did not recommend this process as it does not allow for open public participation.

Kathie forwarded the information to Karen Hammel for her opinion. The committee felt that if they were only reviewing the ordinances recommended for repeal/deletion that face-to-face meetings were not necessary; however if modifications to an ordinance were needed then face-to-face meetings would be held.

Paul asked Charley Bennett if he was going to be able to easily participate in the committee meetings if he was going south for the winter. Frank Brouillette volunteered to be on the committee and Charley Bennett volunteered to be removed from the committee.

The city council was reminded that the street maintenance and street lights assessments would be increasing and that residents would be receiving their notices from the Wheatland County Treasurer's office in November. Many residents will likely be surprised and upset by the increase in the assessments. Council was reminded of the process that was taken to increase the rates, and the purpose of the increased rates, so they could inform their ward residents if there were questions posed to them.

Ian reported that the pool had been winterized. As they have not identified the leak yet, they will have to fill the pool occasionally during the winter. Frank wondered if they had found information regarding lining the leaking line (similar to a water main line being lined rather than replaced). Ian informed the council that he has not had time to research the issue yet. A concrete wall has been poured north of the pool building to help detour water run-off from the Kiwanis parking lot. The corner of the pool building is deteriorating because of water damage. More camp sites in the Chief Joseph Park have been improved. The crew is working on winter preparations. The grader is down with a broken turn table part. Parts are being looked for. It is hoped that a local contractor will be available this coming week to work on digging out the rocks and debris that have been causing issues on the culvert by the Hillcrest Elementary School. Ian has not had time to research getting a new pickup purchased for the city. There was discussion regarding the possibilities of utilizing the state auction or purchasing vehicles from the county or through the military sales.

Paul reported that some city streets had been damaged due to residents fixing personal water/sewer lines. Residents are responsible for their personal lines up to the connection to the main line; even if the main line connection is out into the street. One resident, Richard Chamberlin (510 NW Pritchard St) has been billed for the repair of the street. He is refusing to pay the bill. Karen Hammel has been contacted to find out if this could go to small claims court. Frank volunteered to talk to Mr. Chamberlin before proceeding with a court proceeding. A similar situation has happened with Duane Kolman's property (502 2nd St NW). John Anderson will discuss the situation with Mr. Kolman.

John Anderson asked about the Loren Richter situation. Council was informed that the situation had been finalized with Mr. Richter signing the release of liability and receiving the money the city received from Battle Ridge Builders.

Paul informed the council that the Main Street Montana Rural Partners program will be meeting in Harlowton on November 16, 2018 from 1:30 to 3:30 at the library conference room to discuss the city's participation in the program. Kathie informed the council that the Wheatland County Chamber of Commerce and key community members have been invited to attend with an expected attendance of about 12 participants. Paul invited council members to attend a lunch with Lieutenant Governor Cooney and his staff, prior to the meeting to be held at the Loco Creek Grill. This program, not to be confused with the Department of Commerce's Main Street Montana, is to assist rural communities in making

connections with resources to assist in completing a variety of improvements and projects within their communities. There is no funding tied with this program.

Paul informed the council that Harlowton had received a plaque for the Loss Control Award for third class cities for the lowest incurred dollars in the workers compensation program from MMIA for the 2017/2018 year.

Next council meeting will be October 23, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Harlowton City Hall. Charley Bennett would like to discuss the option to possibly use unused industrial park city lots as winter trailer storage for resident.

Frank asked about claims for snacks and batteries. It was explained the snacks are library costs for the after school children. He also asked about the boarding of a dog for 10 days. It was explained that impounded dogs are held for up to ten days prior to being euthanized, adopted or brought to an animal shelter. In the past The Callant Family Foundation has approved payment of these boarding fees. Ron Teig made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21649- 21666 from September 22, 2018 through October 5, 2018. John Anderson 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, Ron Teig
Council

Members Absent: Jim Kalitowski

Employees Present: Ian Reed

Paul Otten, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk