

Harlowton City Council Minutes
October 23, 2018
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council held October 23, 2018 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the October 9, 2018 council meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

Paul Otten informed the council that the city has been hearing from the MT Department of Transportation (Zach Kirkemo) regarding changing the speed limits on highway 12; however the progress is slow and the department has not started the transportation study yet.

Paul informed the council that we have not heard back from attorney Karen Hammel regarding the process of annexing and selling the city lots in the industrial park. John Anderson asked if there was a specific city code regarding having to be annexed into the city in order to receive city services. Ian stated that it has long been the city council's policy to only allow annexed properties onto city services. Ian thought this was based on the fact that unless the property is within city limits, city codes do not apply to the user, so use and regulation could not be mandated by city ordinances. Paul informed the council that a letter had been sent to Peters Inc regarding getting their property annexed as they are receiving city water. The water was hooked up prior to annexation as the situation at the time was emergent (Sportsman's well had collapsed and as a restaurant they needed water. Subsequently Sportsman's closed, Peters purchased the property for a different use but the annexation process was never completed.)

John Anderson reported that he had not been able to attend the last library board meeting but Mayor Paul Otten had attended. Paul commented that there was some discussion regarding the library agreement but no further action had been taken.

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

Frank Brouillette reported for the Ordinance Committee. Chapter 10.42 regarding Driving with Obstructed View had been recommended by Karen to be repealed. Chapter 10.42 is not in the city's original code book so a copy has been requested from Karen. Frank was wondering what the process is to repeal a portion of a chapter but not the whole chapter. Karen Hammel will have to advise on how that process is going to work.

First quarter fiscal year 2019 financial statements were presented to the council. Ron Teig asked about the high Road and Street Repairs and Maintenance (1000 430220 230 and 1000 430220 360).

Ian reported that new services had been connected to Jerrod Williams' property. Streets were continuing to be patched. A water main line through the park under the new playground equipment had broken. The line will be rerouted and work will begin after parts arrive. Porta-Potties have been placed in the park through hunting season as the rest rooms are closed until the water line is repaired. There are approximately three meters left for Stan Wilting to install (part of the phase 3 water project). The

culvert by Hillcrest school has been dug out and PACE will be in to scope it to figure out what is going on with the culvert and road. Ian indicated that the north side of the road has started to sink. Ron Teig questioned a culvert in the east pond in the park. It looked exposed. Ian said they would check it out. Ian will continue to check the water level in the pool to see if it continues to loose water.

There was discussion regarding whether purchasing a new truck for the city crew was prudent at this time. John Anderson asked if the perception of the city crew driving a new truck just as increased assessments go out to the public would look bad for the city. Paul agreed that perhaps waiting for a little while would be a good idea.

Next council meeting will be November 13, 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 as the agenda item was inadvertently excluded from the October 23, 2019 agenda.

Discussion regarding winter storage parking on the city's industrial lots ensued. Questions of liability, theft, stability of ground were discussed. Council agreed that attorney Karen Hammel should be contacted for her opinion.

Charley Bennett asked about dogs at large in city limits. Deputy Andrew Greydanus was in attendance. The particular dogs Charley was referring to have been a problem throughout the community and appear to be unlicensed. Frank suggested Charley go talk directly to the owner.

Frank Brouillette indicated he had not yet talked to Richard Chamberlin regarding the cost of repairing the street that was damaged. Frank had talked with another resident regarding a decay ordinance complaint. John Anderson had discussed with Duane Kolman the bill regarding the damage to the street at his property. John indicated he thought that Mr. Kolman understood the situation.

It was noted that speed limit signs for Central Avenue had been purchased. Ian indicated when they arrived they would get the signs up. Ron Teig made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21667- 21679 from October 6, 2018 through October 19, 2018. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. No further discussion was had. Motion to pay claims passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Council Members Present: John Anderson, Charley Bennett, Frank Brouillette, Rob Elwood (via telephone at 7:03), Jim Kalitowski, Ron Teig

Employees Present: Ian Reed

Paul Otten, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk