

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council, held April 9, 2019 opened at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the March 26, 2019 council meeting were approved as written.

There was no public comment.

John Anderson reported that library staff, Kathleen Schreiber and Debbie Davis, were attending the Montana Library Association Convention from Wednesday April 10, 2019 through Saturday April 13, 2019 in Helena.

Rob Elwood reported that the ordinance committee would have the first reading of the snow removal ordinance ready for the next council meeting along with the resolution pertaining to snow removal. The first draft of traffic ordinances will be reviewed at the next ordinance committee meeting. Livestock policies will be the next municipal codes reviewed.

Moses Kitts asked permission from the Harlowton City Council to construct a ½ pipe mini ramp at the skateboard park. Paul Otten informed Moses that in order to retain the skateboard park insurance endorsement through MMIA, any changes at the skateboard park need to be made by a design professional who has provided proof of professional liability insurance. Moses informed the council that he would check with an acquaintance in Lewistown that may have the required qualifications to sign off on such a document. Council questioned Moses on design, materials, construction, and costs. Moses indicated that the estimated cost to build would be approximately \$1,400.00 and he would be doing fund raising to raise as much of that as possible and then donate the rest of the costs. Frank Brouillette made the motion to accept Moses Kitts offer of building a ½ pipe mini ramp at the skateboard park contingent upon receiving required documentation to maintain MMIA insurance endorsement. Charley Bennett seconded the motion. No further discussion was had. Motion passed unanimously. Rob Elwood made the motion to use \$400.00 of the \$800.00 already donated to the skateboard park project for Moses' project. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. No further discussion was had. Motion passed unanimously.

Travis and Cristal Scott and Todd Dulaney of MidTown Market 2 made a presentation to the council regarding the potential opening of a Family Dollar store in Harlowton and their concerns as to how it may affect their business and the community. The City Council informed the MidTown Market 2 group that it would not encourage nor discourage Family Dollar in opening a business as that is not the council's purpose.

Jesica McKeever presented an update on the swimming pool. She asked to purchase a pool drain cover that is required by law to be in place before the pool opens. Ian asked if the companies that provided quotes were going to install the drain covers as well. Jesica indicate that one vendor had said they would check the installation to verify it was done properly. The other vendor likely would not as they would just ship the item to the pool. She recommended that the winter pool cover could just be repaired again this season if a new one could not be purchased. Frank Brouillette offered to check with a local

person to see if they could fix the pool cover straps. Jessica is wanting to purchase lifeguard T-Shirts for the staff this year from a local vendor as one concern she had heard was that lifeguards were hard to identify while on shift. Jessica is hoping to have the winter pool cover off next week to start getting the pool ready for the season. Jessica also commented that there are pool facility door keys unaccounted for and would like the door locks changed. Ian said that he would take care of the door locks. As all of Jessica's requests were within her purview as Pool Manager, council consensus was to have Jessica proceed with the information she had presented to the council.

Kathie Newland asked for permission to write a grant request to Enbridge to replace the winter pool cover. Council consensus was to submit the grant request for replacing the winter pool cover and if the grant was not received to proceed with having the old one fixed.

Discussion regarding having one free dump pass for brush and yard waste for residents whose accounts are paid in full was held. Rob Elwood made the motion to offer one free pass for brush and yard waste to be used during regularly scheduled landfill hours for each utility account paid in full. Frank Brouillette seconded the motion. No further discussion was held. Motion passed unanimously.

Kathie presented the two bids that the city had received for fiscal year 2019 audit services. Bid scoring sheets were filled out by the council members present. Kathie will tabulate the scores and present the information at the next council meeting.

Ian reported that the culvert on 4th St NE (south of Hillcrest school) is getting installed. Some work on the rail bed west of town has been done. A 310 permit has been applied for. Someone from the state will be inspecting the sight the week of April 22, 2019 so no work can be done in the river at this time. The new city truck is in Bozeman but the dealer has not received the invoice from Chrysler yet so it has not been picked up.

Frank Brouillette asked if there were city sewer issues in the flats as a few residents down there have recently had issues. Ian explained that there is a 15" sewer main in that part of town and if there was a main issue, houses would be flooded with sewage. It wouldn't be a small problem. Ian suspects that there were private sewer line freezing issues similar to the water line issues this winter.

Paul reported that he had been to the Wheatland County Commissioners meeting to ask for additional financial support for the swimming pool and transfer station. The county agreed to increase their financial support of the pool to \$7,500.00 per year; however, they were not willing to do additional financial support for the transfer station. They indicated to Paul that if county residents wanted to use the city dump they could pay more individually.

Discussion regarding the Harlowton Fire Department Relief Association (FDRA) was held. Kathie explained that the 2018 fiscal year audit would again have a finding for not having an actuarial study done on the FDRA. Council would like discussions to be opened with the county regarding transferring all "ownership" of the Harlowton FDRA to Wheatland County and if that is accomplished then the city would get an interlocal agreement with the county for fire suppression services.

Charley Bennett asked about the discussions held with the golf course regarding the city paying for building insurance. Paul reported that he brought it up at the last golf course board meeting but discussions had not proceeded well. Dane Elwood commented that the golf course has insurance for equipment and liability but according to the lease document the city is to pay for the building insurance

as the city owns the building. Charley wondered why this would be the case for the golf course but the Depot Museum has to pay for its own building, contents and liability insurance. He questioned the fairness of the lease agreements. Paul commented that further discussions will be held with the golf course to see if any changes could be agreed upon.

Resident Dane Elwood thanked the city crew for their excellent work during the difficult winter season on snow removal and frozen main line help that he had received.

Next council meeting will be April 23, 2019 at 7:00pm at the Harlowton City Hall

Frank Brouillette asked about the cost of tires purchased from Wheatland Services. Ian clarified that it was 4 tires for \$900.00. John Anderson asked about the invoice to Strom & Associates being less than the contract. Kathie explained it was for 80% of the total as field work had been completed. The final 20% is due when the city receives the finalized audit. Frank Brouillette made a motion to pay the claims, checks #21890-#21910, from March 23, 2019 through April 5, 2019. John Anderson seconded the motion. No further discussion was had. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

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

Council Member Absent: Jim Kalitowski, Ron Teig

Employees Present: Ian Reed, Jesica McKeever

Paul Otten, Mayor

Kathie Newland, Clerk