

2023-08-22
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council was held Aug 22, 2023. The meeting opened at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the August 08, 2023, Council meeting stand approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Library Committee: Councilmember Johnny Cooney III reported that all the cabling for the internet in the library was completed last week.

Ordinance Committee: Per Mayor Paul Otten there is nothing to report.

Pool Committee: Per Councilmember Charley Bennett, we are waiting for Thompson Pool to come clean and look at the issue with the pump. The pool closed to the public August 12, but is being used by the High School.

Tree Board Committee: The Public Works Director Bob Schuchard had nothing new to report.

Wetlands Rail Trail: Councilmember Ron Teig had nothing new to report.

UPDATES ON DECAY ORDINANCE COMPLAINTS:

Councilmember Charley Bennett stated there is still no change to the property in his Ward that had a public complaint. Public Works Director, Bob Schuchard, stated concern of fire hazard with the property.

UPDATE ON PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED ITEMS:

1. Vote on Resolution 2023-05 for mail ballots.
 - a. Election-Resolution 2023-05 states intent to cancel the election for Councilmembers in Ward 1 & Ward 3, if no write in Candidate by September 5, 2023.
 - b. Resolution 2023-05, Councilmember Allison Jones made motion to pass, Councilmember Ron Teig 2nd the motion. Resolution 2023-05 passed unanimously.

2. Burrough's land purchase documents, resolution, buy/sell, and release
 - a. City Attorney Brent Brooks has heard back from Boyd Burrough's attorney on August 18th. Brooks has received the Buy Sell Agreement which he forwarded to Mayor Paul Otten, Public Works Director Bob Schuchard, City Clerk-Treasurer Debbie Johnson, and Deputy Clerk Deshawnda Carver. Attorney Brooks has also received the release to protect the City.
 - b. Mayor Paul Otten requested a title search from Big Timber Sweet Grass Title Company for the property involved in the sale. They were able to supply the City with a 1976 Title, which they had on file, which contained an easement. Brent will send this title to Andy

Stensrud for comparison.

c. Resolution 2023-06 regarding the buy/sell & release will go on the September 12, 2023 agenda. Brent Brooks will add that Mayor Paul Otten has authority to change/request a warranty deed/title. We are looking at a possible October 2023 finalization date.

3. An Interlocal Agreement with County, City, & Hospital will need to be completed before the City can sign it. There are also some unanswered questions for RPA and this will be a continued discussion added to the September 12, 2023 Agenda.

4. Public Meeting on Annexation of Hospital Property

a. Attorney Brent Brooks will prepare a Resolution for annexation of the Hospital property. See minutes from the Public Hearing August 22, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT: Bob Schuchard stated the contractors have completed the replacement of the water lines at the hospital and are now working to get the helicopter pad repaired. They will start paving on 5th Street, then C Ave NE end of September/beginning of October.

The calls for weekday landfill appointments have increased pulling the public works crew from their day-to-day duties. The Council agreed that the Public Works department will take weekday appointments on Wednesdays only, and the times will be defined by the demand of that day. The landfill is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday each month from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M.

The bridge on the rail trail needs to be re-decked. The Council and Mayor are looking for options to complete this need. Councilmember Allison Jones will talk to the school Superintendent. Or we can put it out for bids. There is money for this repair from the Callant grant.

Bob had a meeting today with DEQ, and it sounds like there is going to be a lot of water sampling with the new water, the city will be responsible for this cost. Bob had to order more water test kits.

REPORT OF THE CLERK-TREASURER: Deputy Clerk-Deshawnda Carver reports Clerk-Treasurer Debbie Johnson and herself have been working on 2024 Budget.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR: City Mayor, Paul Otten, shared a letter he received from Cody Nelson, with Wheatland County Disaster & Emergency Services, stating he will be hosting a meeting at the Wheatland Co. Ambulance Barn (104 3rd St. NW, Harlowton) on Thursday, September 7th at 7pm to discuss the possibility of implementing the CodeRed Alert System from OnSolve.

REPORT OF THE SHERIFF'S DEPT: No presence

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: Cody Nelson, Wheatland County Disaster & Emergency Services to Discuss The New County Department

CLAIMS:

Frank Brouillette made a motion to approve the claims and Ron Teig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Council Members Present: Charley Bennett, Ron Teig, Johnny Cooney III, Frank Brouillette, Allison Jones

Council Members Absent: Kathleen Schreiber

City Office: Mayor Paul Otten, City Clerk-Treasurer Debbie Johnson, City Deputy Clerk Deshawnda Carver, City Attorney Brent Brooks, Public Works Director Bob Schuchard

Sheriff's Department: None

Public Present: None



Paul Otten, Mayor



Deshawnda Carver, Deputy Clerk