

February 13, 2024
Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council was held on February 13, 2024. The meeting opened at 7:16pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the January 23, 2024 Council meeting were approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Susan Beley, a member of the public brought forward that she did not like how the Public Hearing announcement was put out to the public, she felt that “derogatory” language was used when calling the City and eyesore. She asked that when announcing hearings in the future to refrain from using this type of language. Mayor Otten stated he would be more politically correct in the future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Library: Councilmember Johnny Cooney reported that the Library has gone live with the Montana Share Catalog, and they are still working on the bar coding. The summer reading program fundraiser will be held on April 9th. Cooney also reported that the library was having some furnace issues, but they are working on getting them resolved. Discussion then ensued about the last time the sewer lines had been replaced.

Ordinance: Has not met.

Pool: Councilmember Charley Bennett reported that they are working on getting the handrails installed. He also reported that he will be working on having concrete poured to divert rainwater away from the pool house. Bennett reported that they are going to begin taking applications for summer employment at the pool as well.

Tree Board: Bob Schuchard was not present to report.

Wetlands Rail Trail: Nothing new to report.

UPDATE ON PAST AGENDA TOPICS:

1.) **UPDATE ON DECAY ORDINANCE COMPLAINTS:** Attorney Brent Brooks guest speaker Tina Hoegurt, a previous Billings Code Enforcement Officer was unable to attend the meeting but will attend the March 12, 2024 Council Meeting. Attorney Brooks has asked that all members of council send any questions or concerns to him so that he may pass along the information to Mrs. Hoegurt, to ensure we are using her time effectively.
2. Mayor Paul Otten presented Resolution 2024-17 Establishment of a City Tree Board, Ron Tieg motioned to pass, Kathleen Schrieber second. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Councilmember Ron Teig a current member of the City of Harlowton Tree board, announced the proposed new members. Alexis Petersen, Joe Keller, Mandi Reed, Jeff Perry and Diane Jones. A motion to pass these individuals was brought forward by Kathleen Schrieber, second by Ron Tieg. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Updates on the Boomer Trail Bridge improvements were discussed, the council discussed the preferred materials for the improvements and updates and has set a deadline of May 1st for the project to be completed. Funding information will be discussed at the next Council Meeting.
5. Council Member Charley Bennett brought forward additional information on the Four

mostly ARPA funded. The City can also expect to see an increase on water rates of 80 cents to 1 dollar. We will keep the public updated.

No report from the sheriff's office.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

Second reading of Ordinance 01-2024

CLAIMS:

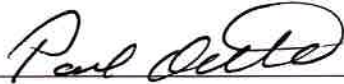
Council member Frank made a motion to pass the claims. Ron Teig second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.


Councilmembers Present: Ron Teig, Charley Bennett, Roger Kitts, Frank Brouillette, Kathleen Schreiber, Johnny Cooney

City Office: Mayor Paul Otten, City Clerk-Treasurer Lexi Petersen, Deputy-Clerk Sarah Williams, City Attorney Brent Brooks

Public Present: Susan Beley, Joe Hagl, Arlene Tandberg, Rebecca Bilkie, Luke Bilkie, Julie Berg, Julie Woodard, Brad Berg, Guy Crichfield, Rachel Hagl, Cody Nelson, Bill Jones, Jason Loose, Diane Jones, Ronald Fischer.



Paul Otten, Mayor



Lexi Petersen, Clerk-Treasurer