

April 09, 2024

Harlowton City Hall

A regular meeting of the Harlowton City Council was held on April 09, 2024. The meeting opened at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Frank Brouillette would like to correct one minor spot on last week's minutes, he stated that he would like us to lase city property for 25 years not 5 years as stated in the minutes. The minutes of the March 26, 2024, Council meeting was approved as corrected.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Dane Elwood wanted to point out that he hasn't been to the park in a few years, recently he has been watching his brother's dog, and he was surprised how much has changed. The trees have been trimmed; they look nice. There is a receptible for dog waste. He wanted to compliment the city on their accomplishment, it's a great asset.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Library: Council person Kathleen Schreiber stated they were having their annual city reading fundraiser as we speak. She stated that so far not as many people came through the doors and this was possibly because there was another fundraiser scheduled the same day and time.

Ordinance: Has not met yet.

Pool: Council member Charley Bennett stated that everything he has ordered has shown up. Bennett stated that spoke with Mr. Durr and Mr. Olsen about encouraging young adults to apply for the lifeguard position. Swim lessons usually start in the middle of May but that if we don't have any lifeguards that we won't be able to do swim lessons at all.

Tree Board: Will met in May.

Wetlands Rail Trail: Council member Ron Teig stated there is nothing new to report but that he was down there and noticed some new beaver activity.

UPDATE ON PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED ITEMS:

1. Dave Leverett at first wanted to apologize for any confusion regarding the recycle bins, he stated the two smaller bins that are fiberglass have reached their full life usage and are haggard at this point. He would like his company to come replace them with two larger ones. This would make his route more efficient, and that he just doesn't have the staffing to keep coming and emptying the smaller ones like he currently does now. The new bigger ones would be more money, but he is willing to have the city finance them as an option. Mayor Otten asked what is the advantage of having the newer ones? To which Dave replied that its more expensive to have the smaller bins picked up and that its not a good system currently and in the long run. There will be bigger compartments for plastics, cand and paper. Mayor Otten asked that Dave email the price list and asked when Dave needs to know our answer regarding the new bins to which Dave stated that

sooner the better since there is a waiting list for the bigger bins. Council member Charley Bennett asked if we own the smaller bins we currently have? Dave replied that we do own them, but Four Corners Recycling would store them for us if we needed him to do so. Council member Frank Brouillette agreed we would need a price breakdown before any decisions are made. Next meeting we will have an idea of prices and timelines.

2. Tim Cavanaugh and his wife Lisa came to talk about their water on the west end. He presented a jar of water he collected that was murky and had sediment in it. He asked Public Works Director Bob Schuchard if that was magnesium that was in it. Mr. Schuchard then presented a sheet of paper stating that it says what it is in the paperwork. Mr. Cavanaugh stated that he flushes his pipes once a week now, into a cooler and it's still murky and stinky. He stated he never had this problem until he got onto the new water. Mayor Otten stated that it's odd, he doesn't understand how it was never like this before the new water was here. Kayle Allen stated he never had bad water until the new water was implemented either. Mr. Cavanaugh stated he had a theory that because he is on a dead end, and because of it the gunk is coming from the west end well. Public works director Bob Schuchard stated that he was never on a dead end. And that that has never changed. Mr. Cavanaugh stated that he misunderstood him when they talked previously. Kayle Allen is on the dead end. Kayle Allen stated he keeps expecting it to get better and he runs his hose a lot, for three hours at a time even, but it's still bad. Public works director Bob Schuchard said he would like to address Kayle Allen first; before the new water there were three wells in town and when it would kick on Allens were the first ones to get the water, it came from three sources. Now it is doing just the opposite, Allens went from being the first one in line to the last. So, we have some issues out there, when we switched to the new water we stopped sprinkling, so right there we aren't flushing, pretty sure they will both get better once the sprinklers get turned on, but I know that's not the correct answer you want to hear. Mr. Schuchard stated he has an idea to fix it but it would entail an engineer, a new design of the main line, make a loop and flushing hydrants. Mr. Schuchard then went into more detail about his idea. He did state that it would cost a lot of money. He also stated that he has been trying to help them out. He then stated that The Cavanaugh's issues are water filter issues, and plumbing issues. Cavanaugh's stated they replace their filter constantly. Mr. Schuchard stated he was instructed to tell them he can't sample out of the hose until the plumbing is replaced. There is 100 feet of dead end water to their house. A discussion then ensued about ways and ideas to help Cavanaugh's, Allens and anyone else on the west end with issues.

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT: Public works director Bob Schuchard stated that the lagoon has been out of compliance since the new water was implemented. He will need to chemically test it. Mr. Schuchard stated that because of the accident on main street, E57B park was affected. That we will need to replace the fence, and that the train could also use a new paint job, sooner than later. Council member Frank Brouillette stated that we should do these things all at once. Deputy-

Clerk Sarah Williams stated that she will have Clerk-Treasurer Lexi Petersen investigate the account and let us know how much we can spend on repairing the train.

REPORT OF THE CLERK-TREASURER: Lexi not present, Deputy-Clerk Sarah Williams asked if anyone had any questions on Text my Gov. To which Council member Frank Brouillette stated we should put it on the next agenda. Lexi will present next meeting.

MAYORS REPORT: Nothing new to report.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT: City attorney Brent Brooks let the council members know that he will get a few options for the Dempsters lease sent to Mayor Otten soon. He also stated that Civic Plus has signed the agreement so the balls ion their court to reach out to Lexi or Sarah for the next step. Mr. Brooks also stated he has quite a few criminal cases so he will be in Harlowton a lot more over the next few months. Mayor Otten asked if Mr. Brooks had heard from Mr. Nutsman regarding Burroughs property. To which Attorney Brent stated that he had not yet heard from them. He did however relate that the city of Harlowton will not be paying for any more additional costs.

WCSO: no officers present

LEPC: Mr. Nelson was not present.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING: Clerk-Treasurer Lexi Petersen to present text now. Dave from Four Corners will give a printout on costs for new recycling receptacle. Lexi Petersen to let the Council know how much is in E57B account and if we can afford a new fence. Clerk-Treasurer Lexi to also talk about Town Pump grant and what to spend it on.

CLAIMS:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Council Members Present: Ron Teig, Charley Bennett, Frank Brouillette, Kathleen Schreiber

Council Members Absent: Johnny Cooney, Roger Kitts

City Office: Mayor Paul Otten, City Clerk-Treasurer Lexi Petersen (absent), Deputy-Clerk Sarah Williams, Public Works Director Bob Schuchard, City Attorney Brent Brooks via Zoom

Public Present: Dane Elwood, Tim Cavanaugh, Lisa Cavanaugh, Justine Breeding, Kayle Allen, Julie Berg

Paul Otten, Mayor

Lexi Petersen, Clerk-Treasurer