

*City of Choteau*  
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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 16, 2016 MEETING  
OF THE CHOTEAU CITY COUNCIL

Present were Council Member Stewart Merja, Council Member Dan Lannen, Council Member Jill Owen and Council Member Rose Crawford. Mayor Jack Conatser was excused.

Staff present was Public Works Director Mike Maples and Finance Officer Jodi Rogers.

Citizens present were Melody Martinsen of the Choteau Acantha; Jim Patterson of DOWL, Rich Lusky and Steve Mellinger.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Lannen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF AUGUST 2, 2016

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2016 meeting was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REQUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

Council President Lannen requested that Mayor Conatser be allowed to be out of state until the 6<sup>th</sup> of September.

Council Member Owen requested to be out of state August 24 through September 1, 2016.

A motion to approve the requests was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jim Patterson of DOWL reported that there are six trucks hauling gravel. As of July 31<sup>st</sup>, they have hauled in approximately 16,483 cubic yards of material to the site. Most has been used for the coffer dam. Mr. Patterson showed pictures of the progress being made. He stated that Chad Bouma will start framing tomorrow, framing should take a couple of weeks. Plumber and electrician will be right behind him. He explained that today is day 380, there are about 124 days left in the contract.

## NEW BUSINESS

### RESOLUTION NO. 810 - STATE SURPLUS PROPERTY PURCHASE AGREEMENT

A motion to approve Resolution No. 810 was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

### POSSIBLE VOTE ON TBID BOARD WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

A motion to approve the TBID Work Plan and Budget was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

### PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Finance Officer Rogers explained that the budget is basically status quo. She stated that we did not levy all of our mills last year will not use another 8.8 of our mills this year.

### CLAIMS

A motion to pay the claims for July in the amount of \$8051.25 was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT

The Law Enforcement Report for June 2016 was submitted for Council's review.

### CITY JUDGE'S REPORT

The City Judge's Report for July 2016 was submitted for Council's review.

## PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORS REPORT

Public Works Director Maples reported that the crew patched potholes, cleaned gutters, worked on jetting the sewer mains, graded the road to the gravel pit, had new tires put on the road grader, trimmed trees in the alleys and swept streets.

Mr. Maples further reported that the “spring” in the Country Club Addition has slowed way down. He thinks there might be a small leak in the service for the Country Club or in the main line. He purchased a mower and a 2003 Dodge One Ton with a dump bed at the state surplus sale in Helena. They are trying a new strategy on some of the rougher alleys. He has ordered stencils for painting the crosswalks at the school.

Steve Mellinger complimented Mike and his crew for all of the hard work they have been doing cleaning up the community.

## FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT

Finance Officer Rogers reported that at the next meeting there will be a resolution to approve from Rural Development. When the resolution was signed last year, the interest rate was 2.65 percent. It is currently at 1.62 percent. It will save the city \$800,000 over the life of the loan.

## MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Merja stated that he would like to put Choteau live on the internet so you people can see what is happening in Choteau. Cameras would be located at various parts of town and streamed to the internet. He is talking to Steve Wolf to see how this might be accomplished.

Council Member Owen stated that she had a lady come into the store that had broken down outside of town. She thought it was a good place to be stuck, the people are very friendly.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Mellinger stated that “B” Residential codes do not include farm type structures. He stated that a horse got loose and walked all over his yard. He feels that farm animals do not belong in the City Limits.

Rich Lusky thanked the City again for allowing him to have the Road Kill Car Club shows at the Visitors Center parking lot. He also thanked the Chamber for keeping the restrooms open.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

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Daniel J. Lannen, Council President

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Jodi L. Rogers, Finance Officer