

City of Choteau
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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2016 MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

Staff present was Deputy Clerk Mary Corey.

Citizens present were Melody Martinsen of the Choteau Acantha; Tony Lesofski of the Teton County Sheriff's Office; Jim Patterson and Kevin Johnson of DOWL; Chris Hindoiem; Arlene Wolbaum; Rich Lusky and Nate White.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Conatser called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2016 meeting was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REQUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

PAY REQUEST - WESTECH

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

PAY REQUEST - WILLIAMS BROTHER CONSTRUCTION

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

VOTE ON BOARD APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Zoning Commission - Three Positions

Mike Maples - Incumbent

Carol Cole - Incumbent

Jennie Garramon - Incumbent

Board of Adjustments - Two Positions

Dan Lannen - Incumbent

Sandy Lange - Incumbent

Revolving Loan Fund - Two Positions

Diane Graf - Incumbent

Jim Anderson - Incumbent

Choteau Library Advisory Board - Two Positions

Mandy Wick - Incumbent

Vicki Southard - Incumbent

Tree & Sidewalk Board - One Position

Sara Coccoli - Incumbent

Teton County Airport Board - One Position

David Hirschfeld - replacing Ray Anderson

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

CLAIMS

A motion to pay the claims for January in the amount of \$349,314.11 was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Lannen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mayor Conatser reported that an ad will be going in the paper for a Public Works Director next week.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Finance Officer Rogers was excused.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Merja reported that the playground committee met last week. They have spoken with Mari Shore about fundraising. Brooke will talk to the City about putting a scaled down playground in the current foot print. Mayor Conatser asked that if they change the location of the meeting to please let someone know.

Mayor Conatser met with Reiding's last week. They are looking at taking care of composting again.

Mayor Conatser stated that he spoke with City Attorney Bieler as well as Council Members Owen and Lannen. They are going to move forward with the yard/scrap clean-up.

Council Member Lannen reported that the Zoning Commission is working on the Major Recreational Vehicles portion of the Zoning. The next meeting will be from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23rd.

Mayor Conatser reported that the TSEP auditors were here on January 20th and all is well.

Council Member Lannen stated that the City auditors were here last week. The new auditors want to have numbers put in different places but other than that, we are doing a great job.

Council Member Owen reported that she has contacted a company that recycles textiles and electronics. They are more than happy to work with us. She thinks we should set up dates for the community clean-up that will be consistent each year. It was decided to have the clean-up from May 14-21, 2016.

ZONING PERMIT REPORT FOR JANUARY 2016

Name	Address	Description
None		

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Patterson stated that the project has slowed down because of the weather. They are still pouring concrete. Both of the clarifiers are complete up to the outer wall. They are 35 percent complete on time and 25 percent on money. They will be pouring concrete this week.

Tony Lesofski stated that things are running smoothly and told council to keep up the good work.

Arlene Wolbaum complained about a neighbor that has chickens and sheep. She feels that she and her neighbors do not have a safe and sanitary environment to live in. She is concerned for her drinking water as she has a well, concerned about the re-sale value of their homes and concerned about coyotes and bears coming into the area. She does not feel that farm animals belong in the city limits and wants them all removed. Mayor Conatser replied that they will look into it.

Nate White stated that he appreciated Mrs. Wolbaum's opinions but he does not believe the majority of what she said is factual.

Chris Hindoien stated that he spoke with the fireman and they did not have any idea how they are covered. He works a lot with volunteer fire fighters and believes he can help get them adequate coverage. He will discuss current coverage with Finance Officer Rogers as well as the county commissioners.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

John W. Conatser, Mayor

Mary E. Corey, Deputy Clerk