



Your complimentary
use period has ended.
Thank you for using
PDF Complete.

[Click Here to upgrade to
Unlimited Pages and Expanded Features](#)

City of Choteau

PO BOX 619

CHOTEAU, MT 59422-0619

406-466-2510

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JULY 7, 2015 MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

Staff present was Public Works Director Kelly Hirsch and Deputy Clerk Mary Corey.

Citizens present were Melody Martinsen of the Choteau Acantha and Rich Lusky.

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 June 16, 2015 meeting was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2015 meeting was made by Council Member Crawford, 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

VOTE ON RESOLUTION NO. 795 - INTENT TO RAISE SEWER RATES

05. A motion to approve Resolution No. 795 was made by Council Member Lannen. Council Member Merja stated that he is glad the rates are not going to be as high as anticipated. Mayor Conatser feels that no one is going to appreciate these rates. He stated that Public Works Director Hirsch looked extremely hard to find an alternate solution as well as the council. He further stated that Finance Officer Rogers and our engineer Kevin Johnson worked hard to make this a reality. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON COMMUNITY SERVICE COORDINATOR AGREEMENT - TONY JACONETTY

Mayor Conatser explained that since we are no longer part of Justice Court, we need to have our own community service coordinator. Tony Jaconetty has been doing it and will continue to do so for the city for the sum of \$300 per month. Council Member Owen asked what the work load might be. Mayor Conatser replied that there is more of a work load in the summer than the winter. A motion to approve the agreement was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON ZONING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION - LOT 1B KOA SUBDIVISION - WALKER

Mayor Conatser read a letter from Miles and Arliss Anderson. They own the 280 feet of property that abuts the north end of the property in question. Their concerns are for the safety of the children in the area, they do not feel the roads in the area are built to carry heavy trucks, also, there is a private drive behind the property in question that runs the entire length of the boundary that is not built for trucks and would limit Walker's access. They further believe that if approved, their property values will go down and feel it would be difficult to find renters if there is a truck shop in their front yard. They were also concerned about the property being sold, what might become of it. Council Member Owen asked the history of the property's zoning. Mayor Conatser stated that it was Highway Business. The Walker's requested a zoning change to B Residential in order to re-finance their home and now want it to go back to Highway Business. Mayor Conatser stated that the decision of the Zoning Commission to approve the request was unanimous. A motion to accept the recommendation from the Zoning Commission to change Lot 1B of the KOA Subdivision from B Residential to Highway Business was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON REVOLVING LOAN FUND RECOMMENDATION - MIKE DULIN

ing loan application has been received from Mike Dulin.
of \$20,000 to purchase Jerry Hensley's lawn care business.

Council Member Merja stated that he spoke with Mr. Dulin and feels that he knows what he is doing. Mr. Dulin has also been working with Mr. Hensley for the last year or two. Mr. Hensley currently has approximately 40 customers. Council Member Lannen asked if there were any personal guarantees for the loan. Mayor Conatser stated that he would use the equipment. Council Member Merja stated that Mr. Dulin is willing to put up his house. Council Member Owen does not want to kick him out of his house if he does not re-pay the loan. Council Member Lannen stated that we have a number of loans that there is no personal guarantee for and we need to re-think that. Council discussed the loan request and decided that Council Member Merja and the loan committee should speak with Mr. Dulin further as well as set up criteria for loan security. A motion to table the request until the next meeting was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

CLAIMS

A motion to pay the claims for June was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Hirsch reported that the crew has been working in water, streets, sewer and garbage getting ready for the 4th.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mayor Conatser reported that Finance Officer Rogers has been working on the budget as well as working with Rural Development and SRF on our loan rates.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Conatser read a letter, his reply and her response from Jeanne Anderson about the uncleanliness of the restrooms in the Visitors Center as well as who is supposed to clean it. She asked why the City no longer cleans it. Mayor Conatser stated that the Chamber of Commerce takes care of the cleaning. He offered to speak with the Chamber about it.

Council Member Merja explained that he has had a lot of questions about when we are going to have the fireworks. Mayor Conatser replied that it looks like they will be stored until next year. Bill Bieler will be calling a meeting to discuss it.

need to look again at having business licenses. Lots of and we need to make sure they are licensed. Mayor hail storm like we did a few years ago, we need to have some way of making sure the contractors are licensed/bonded/insured. Council Member Lannen used an example of a fruit peddler possibly selling fruit contaminated with salmonella. Council discussed the issue at length and asked Council Members Merja and Lannen as well as himself to look into it.

Rich Lusky suggested we contact the state to have them put an open/closed sign for the Visitors Center on the existing information sign coming into the city. Council Member Owen stated that we also need a sign to let tourists know where the Visitors Center is. Council Member Merja stated that we need to contact the state to find a good place to put one that is not a line of sight issue.

Mayor Conatser reported that Council Member Owen and Council Member Lannen have filed for their positions.

ZONING PERMIT REPORT FOR JUNE 2015

Name	Address	Description
None		

PUBLIC COMMENT

Melody Martinsen told council that the band played on the steps of the Pavilion, it was the perfect band shell.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

John W. Conatser, Mayor

Mary E. Corey, Deputy Clerk