

City of Choteau
PO BOX 619
CHOTEAU, MT 59422-0619
406-466-2510

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15, 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 and Public Works Director Lindsay Talkington.

Citizens present were Jesse Crawford of the Elk Country Grill, Melody Martinsen of the Choteau Acantha, Patrick Kruse of the Teton County Sheriff's Office and Larry Renteria.

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 March 1, 2016 meeting was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REQUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

Council Member Lannen requested to be out of state March 22-27, 2016. Council Member Owen requested to be out of state April 1-5, 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

DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON COMPOSTING

Mayor Conatser stated that Ordinance 7-3-1 does not allow for nuisance or nauseous materials in the city limits. He explained that this is the ordinance we use to get residents to clean up their property. He does not feel that it would be OK for us to do something when we tell other people they can't. He recommends we do not put the compost pile at Reiding's. Council Member

Merja agrees. Council Member Owen asked if we could work on something outside the city limits. Larry Renteria offered the area near his shop. Mayor Conatser will get together with him and discuss it.

NEW BUSINESS

CLAIMS

A motion to approve the claims in the amount of \$14,253.36 was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REQUEST TO USE CITY PROPERTY FOR CONSIGNMENT AUCTION - JERRY COLLINS

Mayor Conatser stated that a letter has been received from Jerry Collins requesting to use the city property outside of the Weatherbeater Building for the parking of auction consignment items from May 9, 2016 to May 22, 2016. A motion to approve the request was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT

The Law Enforcement report for February 2016 was submitted for Council's review.

CITY JUDGE'S REPORT

There was no City Judge's report submitted.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Talkington reported that the crew has been busy grading alleys, hauling branches, cleaning sewer mains and removed some logs by the creek. Council Member Merja stated that he had a customer ask about street sweeping. Public Works Director Talkington replied that it is a little early yet.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Finance Officer Rogers was excused.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Merja reported that he and Brooke Richins went and measured the current playground area and sent the measurements to Leathers. He stated that there is a bench on one corner of the playground that is concreted in. They hope to be able to work it into the design. They also looked at parking, he is waiting for a call back from Doug Nowlin of the state highway shop to double check road measurements.

Council Member Crawford has had more positive comments on the new hours for the recycling center.

Mayor Conatser reported that Charlie Joslyn and Levi Warehime passed their Wastewater tests, we currently have three operators in training. All three are going to Great Falls on Thursday's to see how their plant is run as it is similar to what we will have.

Mayor Conatser congratulated the Choteau Boys Basketball team for their second State Class B Championship in two years!

Council Member Owen stated that the ski hill will be closing this weekend.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Larry Renteria stated that he is curious as to what is being done on the street in front of his shop. The cars were moved, now they are back again. Mayor Conatser replied that Roy Deshner is working on cleaning out the area inside the fence and expects to have all of the vehicles parked inside there. Customer cars will be outside the fence when they are being worked on. Mr. Renteria asked if the road is being developed in the long or short term. Mayor Conatser replied that it depends on if the lots are sold. He further stated that Public Works Director Talkington has been working on drainage for the road.

ADJOURNMENT

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

John W. Conatser, Mayor

Mary E. Corey, Deputy Clerk