

City of Choteau
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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JULY 21, 2015 MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

Staff present was Finance Officer Jodi Rogers and Public Works Director Kelly Hirsch.

Citizens present were Melody Martinsen of the Choteau Acantha and Deputy Mike Baum of the Teton County Sheriff's Office.

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 July 21, 2015 meeting was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VOTE ON REVOLVING LOAN FUND RECOMMENDATION - MIKE DULIN

Mayor Conatser reported that the guidelines for the Revolving Loan Fund program are in the council packet. He noted that there is no criteria for collateral. Council Member Merja stated that there are no repercussions if the loan is not paid off. He stated that we would be able take Mr. Dulin's equipment if used for collateral. He further stated that with the current guidelines, he feels council should approve the loan. He also feels that the guidelines need to be reworked. He will be working with the Revolving Loan Fund Committee to get this done. Council Member Crawford stated that it should include a minimum payment amount for loans that are having

trouble. Council Member Owen asked who drew up the current guidelines. Finance Officer Rogers replied that it was the DNRC and they will need a copy if the guidelines are changed. She also stated that in speaking with Lyle Hodgskiss at the bank, he suggested that we require a credit check.

A motion to remove the Revolving Loan Fund Recommendation from the table was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

A motion to approve the Revolving Loan Fund request from Mike Dulin was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 796 - SET SALARIES FOR CITY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES

A motion to approve Resolution No. 796 was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON INTERLOCAL PROSECUTION SERVICES AGREEMENT

Mayor Conatser explained that this is an agreement with the county for Joe Coble's services. The cost this year will be \$6767.28. There will be an annual cost of living increase.

A motion to approve the Interlocal Prosecution Services Agreement was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON INTERLOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGREEMENT

The cost this year will be \$130,971.00. There will be an annual cost of living increase.

A motion to approve the Interlocal Law Enforcement Agreement was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOAN RESOLUTIONS

A motion to approve the Rural Development Loan Resolutions was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT WATER AND WASTE SYSTEM GRANT AGREEMENT

A motion to approve the Rural Development Water and Waste System Grant Agreement was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON NEW PLAYGROUND LOCATION

The mayor and council went to the City Park to look at a possible location for the new playground because of safety and visibility concerns behind the Pavilion. The playground will need an area of 40 feet by 150 feet. It was suggested the old playground be removed and the new one placed there. Public Works Director Hirsch proposed talking to the State about the possibility of angle parking on Hwy 221. There is a website being designed that will allow people to buy pickets or to make donations using PayPal.

CLAIMS

A motion to pay the claims for June and July was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attending voting aye.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT

The Law Enforcement Report for June 2015 was submitted for councils review. Deputy Mike Baum attended the meeting and introduced himself.

CITY JUDGE'S REPORT

The City Judge's report for June was submitted for councils review.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Hirsch reported that the crew has been busy patching streets and cleaning sewer mains.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Finance Officer Rogers reported that she has been working on the budget. She reported that Perry Lindgren received his grant for \$15,000 to check from contaminated soil on his property.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Owen reported that she had another compliment on recycling. It is very clean and organized.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Melody Martinsen stated that the editorial board decided to write this week's column about the sewer rate increase.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 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

Jodi L. Rogers, Finance Officer