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City of Choteau

PO BOX 619

CHOTEAU, MT 59422-0619

406-466-2510

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JULY 1, 2014 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 Finance Officer Jodi Rogers and Public Works Director Kelly Hirsch.

Citizens present were Rich Lusky and John Morris.

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 17, 2014 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 Merja requested to be out of state July 17-20, 2014. Mayor Conatser requested to be out of state July 3-9, 2014. A motion to approve the requests was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REQUEST FROM CHAMBER TO HAVE FIREWORKS AT CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Finance Officer Rogers explained that the celebration would be November 28th and they are looking at having a few fireworks. A motion to approve the request was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

NEW BUSINESS

VOTE ON RESOLUTION NO. 785 - ADOPTING PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN

Mayor Conatser explained that the plan was based on the meeting that was held here in when Jay was still the mayor. Council Member Owen confirmed that there would be no cost to us. She also stated that we would be included in the county plan. Council Member Merja asked if the county would be in charge. Mayor Conatser stated that the City would have a say. A motion to approve Resolution No. 785 was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON STREET CLOSURE APPLICATION - MT COWBOYS ASSOCIATION

Mayor Conatser explained that an application to close 1st Avenue NW between 1st Street NW and 2nd Street NW on August 23, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. was received from the Montana Cowboys Association. A motion to approve the request was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

CLAIMS

A motion to approve 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 they found and fixed another water leak. There was a new sewer connection, sprayed weeds, fixed potholes and worked on drainage issues because of the rain.

FINANCE OFFICER’S REPORT

Finance Officer Rogers reported that she has been working on the budget. She explained that we still don’t know what the SRF loan rates will be. It looks like the interest rate will be dropping from 3% to 2.5%. Our reserves will have to be at 100% for first 1.5 years and our debt service will only have to be for six months instead of one year.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Conatser reported that the scrap metal that was brought to the community clean-up site was taken by the 4-H Club in Greenfield to Great Falls. They received \$578 to help sponsor the Big Sky Honor Flights.

Mayor Conatser and Council Members Lannen and Merja reported on their sewer plants and wastewater treatment plants tours in Manhattan; Big Sky and Rigby, Idaho.

ZONING PERMIT REPORT FOR JUNE 2014

| Name | Address | Description |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Val & Eva Valdez | 805 3 rd Street NW | Deck |

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Morris asked what Harold Yeager’s property located on 3rd Avenue NE is zoned as. Mayor Conatser replied that it is General Industrial. Mr. Morris stated there is a 5th wheel trailer that has been parked there and has been for about three weeks. There are also bee boxes on the property. Mayor Conatser asked if that area was set up for roll-off trailers only. Finance Officer Rogers stated that we need to go back through the minutes. Mayor Conatser stated that he will do that first thing in the morning and call Mr. Morris.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

John W. Conatser, Mayor

Jodi L. Rogers, Finance Officer