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City of Choteau

PO BOX 619

CHOTEAU, MT 59422-0619

406-466-2510

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MAY 13, 2014 MEETING

OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

Staff present was Public Works Director Kelly Hirsch and Utility Billing Clerk Rebecca Olsen.

Citizens present were Melody Martinsen of the Choteau Acantha and Cameron Stott of the Choteau Boy Scouts.

CALL TO ORDER

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

OPENING PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE NO. 309 - REPLACING CODE 10-6-01 REGARDING SPEED LIMIT AROUND BASEBALL COMPLEX

Mayor Conatser opened the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m. The Public comment period will remain open until June 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Council Member Owen stated that in Resolution No. 781, it says she made and seconded the motion. A motion to table the minutes until the next meeting was made by Council Member Lannen, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REQUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

DISCUSSION ON RECYCLING

Mayor Conatser stated there is a debris problem at the recycling bins. Public Works Director Hirsch explained that someone dropped off some bags of leaves and left them by the cardboard container as well as some broken panes of glass. Council Member Merja asked if the binnies could be moved closer to the City Shop. Public Works Director Hirsch replied that they were most likely dropped off at night. Mayor Conatser stated that if it continues to be a problem, we will discontinue recycling.

DISCUSSION ON COMPOSTING

Mayor Conatser reported that there is a long list of requirements from the DEQ for composting. Public Works Director Hirsch stated that his suggestion would be to instead of having a full blown composting area, we have a place to dump grass in the summer that would be DEQ approved and haul it up to the roll-off site and dump it in their compost heap maybe once a month or so. Council Member Lannen asked if we would need a permit if we are not composting, just stockpiling. Council Member Merja stated that he will check on it. Mayor Conatser reported that he, Jill, Kelly and Dan met with a recycler a week ago Friday. They discussed various options. He further stated that Public Works Director Hirsch did some more research and will be meeting with a recycler in Great Falls to look at their program.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 782 - INTENT TO AMEND ORDINANCE #10-6-01 - SPEED LIMIT AT BASEBALL COMPLEX

Mayor Conatser reported that the goal is to change the speed limit from 25 m.p.h. to 15 m.p.h. It will be in effect from the bridge on the south side of the baseball diamonds, around the diamonds to the intersection of 128 1st Avenue SW.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 309 - SPEED LIMIT AROUND BASEBALL COMPLEX

Mayor Conatser read Ordinance No. 309.

DISCUSSION ON ANNUAL CLEAN UP

Public Works Director Hirsch stated that the annual clean-up will be held from May 30th until June 6th, 2014. This will cover all types of garbage including furniture, yard debris, paint cans (dry paint only), household trash, etc. Mayor Conatser stated the Lions Club will man the dumpsters on the weekend. They will also be available to help clean up yards for those who are unable to do it themselves. A motion to have the annual clean-up from May 30th until June 3rd, 2014 was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

CLAIMS

A motion to approve the claims for April was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Lannen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT

The Law Enforcement report for April 2014 was submitted for Council's review.

CITY JUDGE'S REPORT

The City Judge's report for April 2014 was submitted for Council's review.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Hirsch reported that they fixed a leaking water meter, did some flow testing on the influent for DOWL HKM, swept streets, graded alleys, fixed potholes, picked up brush piles and the parks crew started for the summer.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mayor Conatser stated that we are getting cancellations on Pavilion rentals. People are pricing the Pavilion and the Stage Stop. Finance Officer Rogers suggests we look at a cancellation policy.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Conatser reported that he was in Billings for Institute Wed. - Fri. last week. Finance Officer Rogers and Deputy Clerk Corey were there for the week. While there, Finance Officer Rogers helped teach a class along with Agnes Fowler of Conrad and others. He explained that the education board availed themselves of some of the better Finance Officers in the state. He stated that we are lucky to have her.

Mayor Conatser reported that Lena Heuscher of Choteau and 3 other kids gave a presentation for the Mayors at the conference.

Council Member Merja reported that he brought a fact sheet for Teton Medical Center. He spoke with Louis King at the hospital because there are so many rumors going around town. He also spoke with some of the workers at the Nursing Home. He and Mr. King encourage anyone with questions to contact Louis at the hospital and talk to him directly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cameron Stott introduced himself. He is working towards Eagle Scout and is wondering if the City has any projects in mind. If not, he is proposing to re-finish the benches at the park and possibly make some moveable ones. He would ask Teton Lumber if they would donate the wood. Council Member Owen asked if he could make a drawing of the proposed benches. He stated they would be just like the ones that are already there. Mayor Conatser asked if he could come to the meeting on June 3rd and present his idea so it can be voted on.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m. was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

