

City of Choteau
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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2016 MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

Staff present was Finance Officer Jodi Rogers and Public Works Director Mike Maples.

Citizens present were Melody Martinsen of the Choteau Acantha; Kevin Johnson & Jim Patterson of DOWL; Dan Richardson of KLJ; Rich Lusky and Paul Dreyer.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Lannen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REQUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

Council Member Crawford requested to be out of state November 2-9, 2016.

Council Member Merja requested to be out of state November 24-27, 2016.

A motion to approve the requests was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Lannen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE

Jim Patterson reported that Williams Brother Construction has been working on the gravity sewer lines, finishing the solids ponds and painting. Charlie, Levi and BJ had training on the lift stations yesterday. Northwestern Energy and 3 Rivers Communications will be out to install

their lines next week. The pumps that were flooded have been shipped back to the manufacturer, they will tentatively be out of commission for a month. They will go through the pumps and determine what needs to be done. When complete, we will have a full factory warranty. Mr. Patterson explained that the substantial completion date is December 10, 2016. Not everything needs to be completed but the plant must be up and running by that date. He stated that Williams Brother Construction will keep working until the plant is done.

Kevin Johnson explained that there is a clause in the contract that is called liquidated damages, in this case, it is \$1000 per calendar day. It is still possible the plant can be done in the allotted time, they need the pumps back as soon as possible. Weather can also be an issue. They still need to start working on the sand drying beds.

Council Member Merja asked about the best-case scenario. Mr. Johnson replied that mid-December would be the best case, if everything moves along from here.

NEW BUSINESS

VOTE ON PAY REQUEST #15 - WILLIAMS BROTHER CONSTRUCTION

A motion to approve Pay Request No. 15 in the amount of \$274,475.05 was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

VOTE ON RESOLUTION NO. 812 - SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Council Member Merja asked for clarification on some of the items. Public Works Director Maples stated that all of the photos are of surplus items that are no longer needed. All items will be posted for sale on Facebook.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 812 was made by Council Member Merja, seconded by Council Member Owen. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye. Paul Dreyer suggested the site publicsurplus.com.

CLAIMS

A motion to pay the claims for October in the amount of \$342,639.77 was made by Council Member Owen, seconded by Council Member Crawford. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Works Director Maples reported that the crew has been busy picking up leaves, finished working on the gravel pit, graded alleys, worked on alley clean-up and worked on the city shop improvement project. He further reported that the Opencut Permit has been deemed complete and he is going through the public comment process, he met again with the representative from Geodata Services on the mapping software, the Facebook page is up and running and they are keeping an eye on the water audit. It shows a 37% loss as opposed to single digit losses the last couple of months.

FINANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Finance Officer Rogers reported that the Fire Department was notified by the DNRC that there are military surplus fire engines available. They are giving them away using a lottery system. Our only expense would be to pick up the truck and bring it home. It would replace our 1985 truck if we are selected.

Finance Officer Rogers reported that she is working on the end of the year financials and the audit will be in December.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Merja reported that passport pictures can be taken at the Acantha by appointment, usually Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Council President Lannen stated that there will be a contractor meeting tomorrow morning at City Hall at 9:00 a.m.

ZONING PERMIT REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2016

Name	Address	Description
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PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Merja.

John W. Conatser, Mayor

Jodi L. Rogers, Finance Officer