

CITY OF CHOTEAU

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JUNE 20, 2023 MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

This meeting was held at City Hall and via ZOOM.COM.

Council Present: Mayor Chris Hindoien, Council Member President Steve Dogiakos, Council Member Stewart Merja, Council Member Steve Howard, and Council Member Sara Coccoli.

Staff Present: Deputy Clerk Tom Frownfelder, Wastewater Treatment Operator Levi Warehime

Citizens Present: Karla Doncaster, Violet Doncaster, Millicent Doncaster, Lillian Doncaster, Mary Morzinski, Rich Lusky, Melody Martinsen (Acantha), Sarah Richardson

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hindoien called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the June 06, 2023, meeting was made by Council Member Dogiakos, seconded by Council Member Merja. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

REQUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

None

NEW BUSINESS

VOTE ON NOTICE TO AWARD TENNIS COURTS

We received two bids on the tennis courts. RC Scott Enterprise's bid was \$270,489.40 and DGI's bid was \$249,819.04. The Choteau Lines Club recommended to award the project to DGI. The Mayor took their recommendation. Council Member Merja made the motion to award the project of resurfacing the tennis courts to DGI. Council Member Coccoli seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye. Council Member Dogiakos stated he does have a conflict of interest due to the fact that he is on the board of Choteau Lions Club. Council Member Merja asked what is the scope of the work being done. Council Member Howard explained that they are replacing the entire fence around the tennis courts. They are tearing out the concrete surface and replacing it. The engineer had asked for a slope. Public Works Director

Maples had some concerns that a slope of 1% could cause a lot of water drainage onto the street. Council Member Howard was unsure if those concerns had been resolved. There are questions about if the surface is going to be smooth or rough, council members could not answer those questions. The grants received are being paid to the city so the city will pay the bill though the city will not be responsible for the cost. Mayor Hindoien will give notice to DGI to proceed on June 27, 2023.

CLAIMS

A motion to approve the claims for June 2023, Check #21911-21924, with a total of \$31,431.86 was made by Council Member Dogiakos. Council Member Coccoli seconded the motion. All those in attendance voted aye.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Reports for law enforcement, city judge, public works director, finance officer, zoning and building permits were not reviewed, but are available in the council packet.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Merja

He attended the NJMRDD meeting.

Council Member Dogiakos

Band Shell will have power soon. They will have their inaugural concert of July 1st. July 4th planning is in full swing, Chamber is looking for more volunteers for the steak fry and corn hole tournament. They are also looking for golf carts.

Council Member Howard

In the future, Council Member Howard would like to create a Fire Fee District, separate from the county. We would have to have the County Commissioners give us permission. The Fire Fee District would have its own Board and contract with the City, could create a more consistent budget. It would give us a better funding source. Choteau needs new safety certifications which are very expensive.

Keg Hockey is fun, no fee, just for fun. American Legion is hosting a fundraiser for the fire department and Choteau Schools. Fire work training is complete. Dog Park will have water installed next week.

Council Member Coccoli

Sorptomist Fair will be held on July 2nd. Attendance is down for Vendors.

Mayor Hindoein

Construction Project, lots of complaints about the early start times but the project needs to be done in a timely manner. Please be patient and bare with the early start times.

Summer Traffic is here, lots of folks traveling through town.

Lawns are getting mowed.

4H Fair and the Augusta Rodeo are both being held this coming weekend.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rich Lusky

39 cars at the car show last week. July 2nd show is coming up. Rich is unsure how many cars are coming.

Mary Morzinski

Mary was asking about booking the band shell. Mary suggested to add a walk way for weddings and special events. The Choteau Lions Club would like a cut of the rentals.

The Lions will do some fundraising during the 4th of July.

Doug Forrest/Paul Dryer are hosting a wrestling party in honor of Stan & Mary Rathman on July 1st.

Karla Doncaster

Her mother is moving here.

Melody Martinsen, Editor of Choteau Acantha

4H Fair, Choteau Fly in, Augusta Rodeo is all happening this weekend. She has extra help here to cover all events. Melody also mentioned they have 35 band members in the Community Band this year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Chris Hindoien, Mayor

Tom Frownfelder, Deputy Clerk