

# City of Choteau

## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 5, 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: Finance Officer Tom Frownfelder, Deputy Clerk Terah Henry, and Utility Billing Clerk Shawna Jamison

Citizens Present: Phyllis Bechtold and Melody Martinsen (Acantha)

### CALL TO ORDER

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

### OPEN PUBLIC HEARING- Continuation of FY2024 Budget and FY2024 Assessments

- Mayor Hindoien opened the continuation of the Public Meeting for the FY 2024 Budget and Assessments at 5:30pm. Mayor Hindoien asked if there were any additional comments to be made regarding the budget. There were no public comments.
- Council Member Dogiakos noted that the general funds for the FWP and the Lions Club do not affect the City budget as it is all grant money to fix the swimming pool and tennis courts.

PUBLIC HEARING CALLED TO CLOSE AT 5:32 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023, council meeting was made by Council Member Dogiakos. Council Member Merja seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in attendance voting aye.

### REQUESTS TO BE OUT OF STATE

None

### NEW BUSINESS

### VOTE ON RES. NO. 907 – FY2024 BUDGET

Council Member Dogiakos made a motion to pass and approve Res. 907. Council Member Coccoli seconded the motion. The motion passed with all those in attendance voting aye.

#### VOTE RES. NO. 908 - FY2024 SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

Council Member Dogiakos made a motion to pass and approve Res. No. 908. Council Member Merja seconded the motion. The motion passed with all those in attendance voting aye.

#### VOTE ON RES. NO. 909 – RD REVENUE BOND INSSUANCE CONFIRMATION, WATER SYSTEM

Council Member Merja made a motion to pass and approve Res. No. 909. Council Member Dogiakos seconded the motion. The motion passed with all those in attendance voting aye.

#### VOTE ON PAY REQUEST #7 – PROSPECT CONSTRUCTION

We received pay request #7 for the water project for Waterline Replacement. The request is for \$803,564.59 which will break out as \$795,528.94 for the contractor Prospect Construction and \$8,035.65 in MT Gross Receipts Tax. Council Member Dogiakos made a motion to pay Prospect Construction. Council Member Coccoli seconded the motion. The motion passed with all those in attendance voting aye.

#### VOTE ON RECORDS DESTRUCTION REQUEST, DEPUTY CLERK

Council Member Dogiakos made a motion to approve the destruction of the records. Council Member Merja seconded the motion. The motion passed with all those in attendance voting aye.

#### APPOINT NEW ZONING BOARD MEMBERS

Council Member Coccoli made a motion to approve the reappointment of Al Kostelnik for a new term of 3 years (ending December 2025) and to accept the appointment of Steve Dogiakos in replacement of Jim Bouma as of 01/01/2024. Council Member Merja seconded the motion. The motion passed with all those in attendance voting aye.

#### CLAIMS

A motion to approve the claims for August 2023, Check #22030-22062 and electronic check #99992, totaling \$909,978.58 was made by Council Member Merja. Council Member Dogiakos seconded the motion. The motion passed with all those in attendance voting aye.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Dogiakos

- Choteau Lions Club Trip of the Month tickets are still available.
- Presented letter of resignation to take place immediately after the meeting adjourned.

Council Member Howard

- Addressed the issues with wells drying up in town, states uncertainty as to if the water will return, and, in agreement with Mayor Hindoien, states that there are options to connect those citizens to city water.
- Asks for recognition of Mayor Hindoien and Mike Maples for all they do for the town and how easy they are to work with compared to other towns.

Mayor Hindoien

- States he is committed to continue his dedication to his position as Mayor for the remainder of his term despite offer to run for House District 17 and Insurance Commissioner for the state.
- Wants to work on a 5–15-year plan for the community

Council Member Coccoli

- Working with organizing Tree and Sidewalk Board

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

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Chris Hindoien, Mayor

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Tom Frownfelder, Finance Officer