

TOWN OF MALDEN

JULY 27, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Harwood opened the regular meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Councilmember Ben Hale, Councilmember Bob Law, Councilmember Lori Dickinson and Councilmember Janell Turner (remote). Staff present were Micki Harnois, clerk/treasurer and Ernie Brown, public works.

Ben H. made a motion to approve the agenda. Bob L. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C J Gribble with Team Rubicon was scheduled to attend the meeting. In her absence Mayor Harwood reported that the group was going to be in Malden on August 27th and will be sawyer training on the properties in Blocks 91 and 92. Then they will start removing trees on both public and private properties.

Ben H. approve the July 13, 2021 regular meeting minutes, Lori D. seconded, motion carried.

Clerk Harnois announced the two movie nights which will be on August 7th and 21st in the Malden park.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Labor Day Fire Anniversary- Committee Chair Alycia Hale said there will be a memorable opening ceremony, entertainment including Hank Cramer will be there to perform, fire trucks will be on display, there will be games and a BBQ lunch.

Grievance Committee-Clerk Harnois stated that there should be one more person on the committee and it can't be a councilmember as there are already two on the committee and one more would create a quorum.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Buildings-temporary fire station- Mayor Dan said that Plateau Archeological is completing their review and will report back soon. Rachel Blakely stated that two 40ft x 50ft shower trailers with heated rest rooms have arrived.

Debris Cleanup: Mayor Dan stated that those residents who have not cleaned-up their properties will be facing penalties as they are violating the town's adopted nuisance ordinance.

USDA Loan: The town should be receiving word from the state within 30 days as to when the release of funds for the loan payoff will occur.

TD&H Engineers (town's contract engineer): Steve Marsh said that the block survey project is done. The Public Works Board \$3.7 million water grant phase 1 involves coordination with the

State parks Department for a rest room on the trail. Regarding the LOSS project the location still has to be decided. Waiting for word from Rep. Cathy McMorris Rogers and Sen. Patty Murray on the application status.

FEMA: Gravel roads. The requested amount is \$600,000 for paving roads (asphalt overlay). The project will be funded through TIB.

Residential housing/RV occupants plans. Mayor Dan reminded residents that the extended deadline the town council approved for living in the RVs on their property is October 1, 2021. They encouraged to talk with their DCMs about their plan on how they will move out of their RVs by the deadline.

Those who have lost their homes are encouraged to complete and submit the property tax reduction form to the Whitman County Assessors office.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was reported that Councilmember Scott Hokonson resigned on July 14th. Applications to fill the vacancy of Position #1 will be received until August 20th.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Clerk Micki H. gave the treasurer's report. The amount is \$645,266.33 all in funds.

Water report: Ernie B. said that the chlorine level is up again in the well.

Streets: Ernie B. said he is planning on working on gravel roads such as Richardson Street. He will also be doing dust control.

Park: Ernie B. said that he has to do the watering of the park around the time the shower trailers are in use as they use the same water source. Chance Backset said that as soon as they have access to a tractor, the Park Committee will setting up the basketball hoops.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Chance Backest said that there has been training for four new people. They are starting the pumper trucks and spraying water. He is encouraging all members of the fire department to drive the truck. The brush truck will be here on July 31st. Training is every other Wednesday. Mr. Backest thanked Mayor Dan and Councilmember Hale for getting the fire trucks going.

Public Comment: A resident had several complaints regarding a few workers with the cleanup crew. Mayor Dan talked with their boss. Another resident gave information on a Halloween Trunk or Treat in the park. She is making a flyer and it will be distributed in the water bill.

Council Comments: Janell T. thanked the residents for communicating.

Mayor Comment: Mayor Dan stated that weeds on lawns have to be safely mowed. He also mentioned that John Goyke and his Dad, Mickey are working on fire breaks on logging truck roads north of Pine Creek and south on Garfield Street. This is being paid by the LTRO and no bids are required as the project is valued less than \$50,000. Mayor Dan also reminded everyone to check the batteries in their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

Bob L moved to adjourn the meeting, Ben H. seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.