Minutes

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2022

The minutes of the Froid Town Council at the Froid Town Clerk’s office on June 13, 2022. Those in attendance were Council Members Gale Strandlund and Gregg Labatte. Council member Laurie Young joined by phone. Also present was Mayor, Sheri Crain and Town Clerk, LeAnn Johnson.

Mayor Crain called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm and recognized the guests present. Mayor Crain amended the meeting agenda to allow guests present to be heard. Lea Meeker, Steve Seaman, and Kelsey Jochim presented to Council their request to use the baseball field to hold a benefit baseball tournament on July 30th and 31st. They will be requesting a permit from Roosevelt County to serve alcohol at the baseball field.

Minutes from the May 9, 2022 meeting were read. Council member Gale Strandlund made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Gregg Labatte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works Director Report: Mayor Crain introduced Michael O’Toole as the newly hired Public Works Director. Michael has spent a few hours training under Lyle Lambert, a certified operator. He has also been busy mowing Town properties and worked with Alan Engelke on a sewer issue at a residence. In the coming months he will be studying to become a certified operator.

Roosevelt County Sheriff’s Report: There was no one present to report on behalf of the Roosevelt County Sheriff's Department. LeAnn reported on the update she had been given by the Sheriff’s Department regarding the concern of a citizen carrying a handgun as well as reports of burglaries in Town. Council member Gregg Labatte reported on a recent incident involving the Sheriff’s Department breaking a basement window to gain access to a house. The resident no longer lives in the area. The Sheriff’s Department failed to return to cover up or fix the broken window, so Gregg secured plywood over it.

Old Business:

Use of BaRSAA Funds- Pothole Patch, Gravel, Bid for Projects. LeAnn informed Council the Town has purchased and picked up a pallet of pothole patch. Mayor Crain suggested a couple loads of gravel get ordered to have on hand for maintenance/repairs. Mayor Crain has been waiting to receive the quote from Franz Construction for either re-paving or changing to gravel the area of 2nd Ave North next to Agland and Schnitzler Corporation.

ARPA Projects Update: Gregg Lukasik of Great West Engineering will be coming through Froid next Monday and has asked to meet to discuss the proposed ARPA projects. Mayor Crain reported that another area of concern for sewer maintenance is the alley behind the Azure property as well as the alley behind Terry Peterson’s property.

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New Business:

Garbage Services- Fuel Surcharge Proposal- Bowker Sanitation: Russell Bowker of Bowker Sanitation was in attendance to explain the proposed fuel surcharge that would be added to the monthly amount paid for Town sanitation services. After discussion, Council member Gregg Labatte made a motion to accept the fuel surcharge proposal as presented. Gale Strandlund seconded the motion. Motion carried. Russell also let Council know that he will be distributing more racks for the garbage bins that don’t currently have one. He also asked the Town to remind residents to bag their garbage.

Water Rates- Possible increase due to Dry Prairie Rate Increase: Mayor Crain reminded Council that Dry Prairie’s water rate increase will be going into effect on July 1, 2022. She reported that other towns in the area have chosen to increase their user rates by the same amount as the Dry Prairie increase to help relieve the burden from the Towns. Council discussed looking into a possible increase in coming months.

Mowing and Charging for Unkept and Neglected Properties: Mayor Crain asked for Council discussion on the issue regarding un-mowed and neglected properties. She explained that other Towns in Montana are mowing and cleaning up unkept properties and charging the property owners for the service. If unpaid, the amount is added on to the property owner’s taxes. Discussion was held, but no action was taken on the matter.

Building Permits: Council looked over a building permit that had been received by Hans Fedak for a fence around his residence. After review, Gale Strandlund made a motion to accept the building permit as presented contingent on approval by the state for the setback from the state highway. Gregg Labatte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review of Claims for Approval of Payment: Mayor Crain asked Council to look over the claims for June. After review, Laurie Young made a motion for the clerk to remit payment on all claims. Gregg Labatte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review of Water, Sewer, and Garbage Accts: Council looked over the delinquent accounts. For those on the list that have not responded to calls or letters, door hangers will be distributed.

Other Business: Mayor Crain reported the Town tree pile was recently burned. Gregg Labatte has offered to take care of the debris left behind.

With no further business, Mayor Crain adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm. The next regular Council meeting will be July 11, 2022.

Mayor: Clerk: