Minutes

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 20, 2023

(Approved)

The minutes of the Froid Town Council at the Froid Community Center on March 20, 2023. Those in attendance were Council Members Gale Strandlund, Gregg Labatte, Laurie Young, and Tyler Harris. Also present was Mayor, Sheri Crain; and Town Clerk, LeAnn Johnson.

Mayor Crain called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and recognized the guests present. Mayor Crain asked if there were any non-agenda comments or concerns. Lea Meeker was present and wanted to let the Council know that The Brandin Iron Bar would once again like to host a softball tournament in Froid. They are hoping to do it earlier this year, possibly in June. Mayor Crain let them know the event can be planned around the baseball schedule and stated the Sheriff’s Department would need to be contacted concerning the open-container law in order to serve beer at the baseball field.

Minutes from the February 21, 2023 meeting were read. Council member Laurie Young made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Gale Strandlund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works Director Report: Mayor Crain reported that Michael O’Toole is done working and has handed in his keys. She stated that Alan and Zach Engelke will be attending the Montana Rural Water Systems Annual Conference this week in Great Falls and Alan will be sitting for the water certification exam on Friday. Sheri also reported that Lyle Lambert recently trained herself and LeAnn on taking the daily water samples. She also stated that with the last snow storm, many community members helped with snow removal. Council member Gale Strandlund inquired about the recent issues at the lift station in town. Sheri explained that the lift station pumps got plugged up with debris and were temporarily not functioning properly. Gregg Labatte notified the Town that he had sewer backed up in his basement, which lead to the discovery of the malfunction in the lift station operation.

Sheriff’s Report: There was no one present to report on behalf of the Roosevelt County Sheriff’s Department. Mayor Crain visited with Deputy Moore who stated that Froid has been very quiet with nothing to report.

Old Business:

ARPA Project Update: Greg Lukasik called the Town office today and said the ARPA projects are still on track to be completed this summer but there is no definite time frame for when the grant funds will be received.

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. Mayor Crain let the Council know that a couple residents have come to the office to set up payment plans to help get their accounts caught-up.

New Business:

Ordinance Review: Mayor Crain changed the order of the agenda to place the Ordinance Review at the end of the meeting. See below.

MT Rural Water Systems Annual Conference- Great Falls: Alan Engelke will be attending and will sit for the water portion of the certification exam. See Public Works Director Report.

Building Permits: Council reviewed a building permit for construction of a new fence on a portion of a property at 406 1st Street North. After discussion, Council Member Gregg Labatte made a motion to approve the building permit as presented. Tyler Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nuisance Properties: Mayor Crain asked Council members if they had brought their lists of properties that they feel need to be cleaned up. Mayor Crain stated letters will be mailed to property owners with disheveled properties with a deadline for cleaning them up.

Review of Claims for Approval of Payment: Mayor Crain asked Council to look over the claims for March 2023. After review, Laurie Young made a motion for the clerk to remit payment on all claims. Gale Strandlund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Council went over each chapter and each section of Ordinance Title 7- Health and Welfare and each chapter and section of Ordinance Title 8 – Animals. Joey Martinson was in attendance and stated that he feels that bees should be allowed in Town limits if there aren’t ordinances in place prohibiting residents from having known breeds of historically vicious dogs. Penny Ryder stated that she feels annual dog licenses should be required. Council, however, came to an agreement that they feel the licensing and tagging requirement should be taken out of the ordinance, as the Town doesn’t have the resources to enforce the ordinance outside of calling the Sheriff’s Department when there is an issue. Each Ordinance will be re-written with the updates and corrections discussed by the Council, and they will be read for adoption as required at future Council meetings.

Other Business:

Resident Penny Ryder inquired about having the Town dig out the ditches on 2nd Ave S. that she believes are plugged and will prevent proper stormwater drainage. She stated that she has already talked to Greg Lukasik of Great West Engineering about the issue. After discussion, Mayor Crain stated that she has also visited with the Town’s engineer and the matter can be looked into further into Spring/Summer.

With no further business, Mayor Crain adjourned the meeting. The next regular Council meeting will be April 10, 2023.

 Mayor: Clerk: