Minutes

Approved

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

April 14, 2025

The minutes of the Froid Town Council at the Froid Community Center on April 14, 2025. Those in attendance were Council Members Gale Strandlund, Laurie Young, Gregg Labatte, and Tyler Harris. Also present were Mayor, Sheri Crain and Clerk, LeAnn Johnson.

Mayor Crain called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, welcomed the guests present, and asked if there were any non-agenda comments or concerns. Minutes from the March 10, 2025 Regular Council meeting were read. Council Member Gregg Labatte made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Laurie Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works Director Report: Public Works Director, Alan Engelke, was present to report. He reported that he attended the Montana Rural Water Systems Annual Conference in Great Falls. He had a couple water shut-off requests for houses that will be empty, and he also shut off the circulation pump at the water tower for the season. He reported that he spent some time trying to locate the curb stop at the gym but has not yet found it. Alan asked Council if he should fill the water tanks at the water depot. Council member Tyler Harris asked if it is ready to go “as is” or if it will require some work to get it up and running. Alan stated it is ready to go. Mayor Crain said she can contact a couple of the companies that have used the water depot in the past to let them know it will be available for use. Mayor Crain reported that Dylan Ryder let her know that Fox Ford has purchased a gravel trailer and they may be willing to donate the use of it for the Town to get more gravel for street maintenance. Alan reported that there is also still some pothole patch available. Kaitlyn Dahlberg and Alisha Maiolo were in attendance and wanted to make the Town aware that there may be grant funds available from America 250 Grants for Town projects.

Sheriff’s Report: There was no one present to report on behalf of the Roosevelt County Sheriff’s Department. Council looked over the summary of calls sent to the Town from the Sheriff’s Office. Mayor Crain asked if anyone present had any concerns that she should pass along to the Sheriff's Office, but there was no comment.

Unfinished Business:

ARPA Project-Curb Stop and Valve Replacement: There were no updates to report on the ARPA project.

Water Project-Clean out Town Water Valves: Alan stated that Zach was able to clean out some of the Town valves that were filled with debris and gravel. He feels it may be unnecessary to hire someone to finish the project. Alan and Zach will continue to see what they can do on their own to get the valves in better condition.

Long-Term Parking on Main Street: Mayor Crain stated that there doesn’t seem to be a large problem with long-term parking on Main Street now that a boat and a trailer have been moved. Alan Engelke stated that there are some alleys that have abandoned vehicles that make it difficult for getting through for snow removal. Clerk LeAnn Johnson reported that she has been in contact with the Culbertson Town Clerk. Culbertson is waiting to hear back from the County Attorney regarding long-term parking issues.

Review of Water, Sewer, and Garbage Accounts: Council looked over the delinquent accounts. Door hangers will be distributed, and letters will be mailed to those on the list.

New Business:

First Reading Amending Ordinance Title 8- Animals, Including Chapter 8.06 Dogs and Chapter 8.07 – An Ordinance to Allow for the Keeping of up to Six (6) Female Chickens in the Town of Froid: Council Member Tyler Harris read Chapter 8.06 Dogs and Chapter 8.07 Chickens of Ordinance Title 8 entitled Animals. Clerk LeAnn Johnson reported that the wording in Chapter 8.06 Dogs has not changed, but any portion pertaining to the licensing of dogs has been eliminated. Chapter 8.07 Chickens lays out the purpose, conditions of having chickens in the Town limits, and a notice of violation and order to take corrective action. Joey Martinson was in attendance and inquired if the 6 hens as stated in the proposed ordinance was set in stone or if the Town would be open to allowing up to 12 chickens, as the winter can be hard on the chickens. Mayor Crain stated that she talked to Russell Bowker regarding the disposal of the straw, bedding, and droppings in the Town dumpsters. After discussion, Council agreed to move forward with the second reading of the Animal Ordinance at the May Council meeting, but it will be amended to read to allow for the keeping of up to twelve (12) female chickens.

Resolution 2025-1 Adopting the 2024 Eastern Montana Region Hazard Mitigation plan: Mayor Crain read a message from Lindsey McNabb, Roosevelt County DES Coordinator regarding the passing of Resolution 2025-1 to adopt the FEMA Eastern Montana Regional Hazard Mitigation plan (Base Plan) and Appendices. There was a printed version of the plan available for Council to look over. Council Member Laurie Young read Resolution No.2025-1-A Resolution by the Town Council of the Town of Froid, Montana adopting the 2024 Eastern Montana Region Hazard Mitigation Plan. Council Member Tyler Harris made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-1 as read. Gale Strandlund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Town Clean-Up Day: Set a Date: Mayor Crain reported that she spoke with Russell Bowker about having a clean up day this spring. Russell said that they would be able to bring 2 to 3 large roll-off dumpsters for residents to use. She stated that there is a clean-up day scheduled for the Froid School on May 4th starting at 10:00 am, and was thinking the Town clean-up could be the same day. Mayor Crain stated the garbage fund will need to be used to cover the disposal cost of tires from clean-up day. Council agreed to a noon start for a town clean-up day on May 4th.

Sale of Small Town Park on Main Street: Mayor Crain reported that she was recently approached regarding the sale of the old park lot on Main Street. Council Member Laurie Young stated that the lot looks like private property right now, and she feels that it would maybe get more use if there was a sign indicating it is a Town Park. Mayor Crain stated that currently it is a lot that doesn’t bring in property tax revenue but needs to continue to be maintained by the Town. She stated that she can check with Town Attorney, Laura Christoffersen, to see if it needs to be placed for bids prior to selling.

Resident Concerns-Request for Meter Pit, Tree Pile Clean-Up, Electricity at Community Center: Mayor Crain reported that she requested this agenda item to go over miscellaneous concerns that have been brought up to her since the last Council meeting. A resident has requested the Town put in a meter pit on their property in order to have a more convenient location for their water meter. It currently is located near the water heater for the house, and the resident is needing to change out the water heater. Mayor Crain stated that the Town typically prefers to stay away from meter pits, as the covers often get driven over, and stronger covers make it difficult to read the meters. Mayor Crain stated that she feels that more

information is necessary to determine why the resident is requesting that the location of the meter should be in a pit after several years of being in the current location. Mayor Crain also stated that no one has come forward to take responsibility for starting the fire on the property that has allowed the residents to pile tree limbs and branches. She stated that the pile still needs to get cleaned up. MDU is in the process of updating the wire in the alley that brings power to the Community Center, as it is very old. This should fix the voltage issues that have recently been noticed.

Building Permits: There were no new building permits to review.

Review of Claims for Approval of Payment: Council looked over the claims for April 2025. After discussion, Council member Gale Strandlund made a motion to pay the April claims. Laurie Young seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Other Business: Alisha Maiolo let council know that the Froid Rod and Gun Club has ordered new roasters for the Community Center. She also wanted to let Council know that other organizations such as the GIA, Northern Lights Park, and Commercial Club are all willing to donate to help maintain the Community Center.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular Council meeting will be May 12, 2025.

Mayor: Clerk: