Town of Froid

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Minutes

Public Hearing for Garbage and Sewer Rate Increases

Monday, September 9, 2019

6:30 p.m.

Froid Community Center

The Minutes of the Froid Town Council public hearing for garbage and sewer rate increases at the Froid Community Center on September 9, 2019. Those present were Mayor Sheri Crain and Council Members Gregg Labatte, Dan Mogen, Gale Strandlund, and Dan Kjelshus. Also present was Town Clerk, LeAnn Johnson and Public Works Director, Odean Kilsdonk. Mayor Sheri Crain called the public hearing to order at 6:30 pm. Those present signed the attendance sheet and were welcomed.

Mayor Crain explained to those present the amount the garbage rates would be increasing for commercial and residential properties if the proposed resolution is passed. She explained that it is necessary to increase the rate, as the Solid Waste Fund has been operating with a negative Fund balance the last few years. Mr. Roger Britton was in attendance and questioned whether the Town would be able to build up a reserve with only increasing the monthly charge by $3.00/residence. Town Clerk LeAnn Johnson explained that each month the difference between what is taken in compared to what is paid out to Bowker Sanitation is typically around $100-$150.00, and Council is confident that the $3.00 increase in the monthly charges will be adequate.

Mayor Crain explained to those present the amount the sewer rates would be increasing if the proposed resolution is passed. Joyce Harvey was present on behalf of the Froid School and inquired about the large increase for the school and wondered how the Town came up with the amounts. Clerk LeAnn Johnson and Chad Hanson of Great West Engineering explained that an outside agency was hired to look over the financials and operations to determine an adequate rate increase to cover the newly acquired debt from the current wastewater project. Mr. Hanson explained that the school produces the largest amount of waste and has a larger service line, so the Council plans to charge accordingly. Dick Erdahl voiced his concerns for charging those residents that don’t live in Town year-round. Sharon Forbes also voiced her concerns that charging a residence that is sitting empty isn’t fair, and she worries that it won’t promote growth in the Town. Mayor Crain explained that Council feels that all lot-owners need to do their part and pay their share for having the services available.

With no further business, the public hearing was adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Mayor: Clerk:

*Mayor* ***Sheri Crain*** *Clerk* ***LeAnn Johnson***

*Town Council* ***Dan Kjelshus Gale Strandlund Gregg Labatte Dan Mogen***