Minutes

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

July 15, 2019

The minutes of the Froid Town Council at the Froid Community Center on July 15, 2019. Those present were Council Members Gregg Labatte, Dan Mogen, and Gale Strandlund. Also present was Public Works Director, Odean Kilsdonk and Town Clerk, LeAnn Johnson.

Mayor Crain called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm. Visitors were recognized and signed the attendance sheet. Minutes from the June 10, 2019 regular council meeting were read. Dan Mogen made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Gregg Labatte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Works Director Report: Odean reported that he has used the pothole patch to do street repairs and feels that the Town should look at purchasing another pallet soon. He informed Council that Shelby has had some trouble with the lawn mower and has taken it to Agland for repairs, but it was recommended that it get hauled to Williston to get worked on. Councilman Labatte stated that he is needing to run to Williston in the near future and could haul the mower to be fixed. Odean reported that he has been working on making different lids for the meter pits around town. He is hoping the new wooden lids will be more effective for reading the meters remotely. Mayor Crain stated that the hydrants need to be flushed. Odean responded that he is needing to find someone to sit in the Dry Prairie pit to monitor the pressure while he flushes them. Councilman Strandlund offered his time to help with the hydrant flushing.

Sheriff’s Report: There was no one present to report on behalf of the Roosevelt County Sheriff’s Department. Councilman Strandlund recently reported to law enforcement that there was someone sleeping under the water tower on a cot.

Old Business:

Wastewater System Update-Construction Start Date and Details: Mayor Crain reported that she and LeAnn attended the pre-construction conference on July 10, 2019 at the Froid Library. The construction start date will be July 22, 2019. A decision will need to be made on the need for plug-valves vs gate valves. The plug-valves would take approximately 16 weeks to get, straining the tight construction schedule.

Community Center Heating and Cooling Funding Update: Mayor Crain reported that the Town continues to work on paying down the balance left on the Sheridan Heating and Cooling bill.

Community Center Roof Repairs-Look Over Bids: Mayor Crain presented to Council the three bids received from contractors for the community center roof repairs. After discussion and with two bids being extremely close, Gregg Labatte made a motion to contact Woody’s Construction and Three Pyramids Construction and award the bid to the company that could start the project the soonest. Dan Mogen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review of Accounts Receivables: Delinquencies were reviewed. Letters will be sent out and phone calls made to those on the list.

Financial Review Bids-FYE 2019: Council looked over the bid proposals from Denning, Downey and Associates, P.C. and from Ross Stalcup, P.C. After discussion, Council decided to table the decision for one month while Clerk Johnson researches both entities further.

New Business:

Bowker Sanitation: Allen Bowker had requested to be added to July’s meeting agenda. Allen was not in attendance. He is aware that Council is needing to raise garbage service rates to cover the monthly deficit in the garbage fund.

Sewer and Garbage Rates: Mayor Crain informed Council that LeAnn has been working with Dorsey and Whitney to provide information to come up with a rate increase in the sewer fund to cover the debt service expenses the Town will incur with the new wastewater system project. Mayor Crain asked Council to discuss the charges for such seasonal residents as snowbirds and hunters. There is currently no ordinance stating those residents may stop services when not in Town. A new ordinance will need to be placed stating any new debt service fee or special rates.

Resident Concerns: Mayor Crain shared with Council the details of a letter received from Laura Christoffersen regarding the obstruction placed in the right-of-way of an alley. Odean reported that the first step to opening the alley will be to do a one-call to locate any utility lines that may be present. Mayor Crain stated that the Town intends to proceed with re-opening the right-of-way for public use.

Town Equipment: Mayor Crain reported that there is equipment at the Town shop that has sat for an extensive period of time and doesn’t get used. She asked that Council members go take a look at the shop area to help decide what items the Town can dispose of to help clean up the clutter.

Budget Items FYE 2020- set budget hearing: Mayor Crain reminded Council that the FY 2020 budget will be due soon and asked if there were any budget items Council is concerned about at the present time. Odean reported that there are a few curb stops that will need repair in the upcoming months. Mayor Crain informed Council that a budget hearing will need to be set at the next Council meeting.

Building Permits: Council looked over a building permit from Mike Dorsey for an addition to an out-building. Gregg Labatte made a motion to accept the building permit pending the receipt of a drawing of the building plans. Gale Strandlund seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review of Claims for Approval of Payment: After review of claims for the month of July, Dan Mogen made a motion for the clerk to remit payment. Gregg Labatte seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Other Business: Penny Ryder presented Council with a map indicating the low spots in the street by the post office where water doesn’t properly flow after rain and snow. Mayor Crain stated that she would like to see the Town ask for assistance from the fire department to flush out a few culverts. Council also voiced concerns over the properties that continue to look disheveled and are full of garbage and weeds. Councilman Strandlund offered to help get rid of refuse from lots in order to try to help eliminate some of the nuisance properties.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42.

The next regular council meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on August 12, 2019.

Mayor: Clerk: