

FROMBERG TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON April 12, 2022

The April 12, 2022 meeting of the Fromberg Town Council was held at 118 W River Street in Fromberg. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order by Mayor Tim Nottingham at 7:00 pm. Council members present were Dave Stapleton, Nate Caton, and Frank "Bill" Gruel. Others present were Clerk Lacey Breeding, Public Works Director Jay Carter, Elton Kirtley, Niki Elliot, Marge Taylor, Cyrill Hergenrider, Jerry Hall, James Lister, Twyla Lister, Sheriff Josh McQuillan, Tina Foust and Phil Dehaan.

First item on the agenda was the Sheriff's report for the month of March 2022. Sheriff McQuillan gave a run down on the type of calls and the time put in for the Town of Fromberg by deputies. McQuillan also advised precautions on valuables because of the rise in theft in Carbon County.

Next was Public Comment. Mayor Nottingham started this time slot by correcting Clerk Breeding on how this item should be worded on the future agendas. Then, Niki Elliot asked why her water bill appeared to be so high in March. Clerk Breeding explained the plan in action of changing the meter read date so that there was extended time to pay each bill. Breeding also explained why two bills were sent out for March and how it works. Next, Marge Taylor addressed her opinion on hypocrisy involving the town's ordinances and how they are enforced. Discussion was had on why she feels that way. Taylor also mentioned an issue with a hazardous building that needs to be dealt with. Next, Taylor asked if the trailer courts and apartments in town were being charged correctly for utilities. Mayor Nottingham answered saying he was told by the clerk of this concern previous to the meeting. He informed the attendees that the question has been investigated and there will be changes to such accounts so that the town is not losing money the ordinances state is owed.

After that was set to be the approval of the minutes from the previous month's meeting that was held on March 08, 2022. Councilman Stapleton made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Caton followed with a second and the motion was carried out with votes as follows: Councilman Gruel, -aye, Councilman Caton, -aye, and Councilman Stapleton, -aye.

Next on the agenda was the approval of claims for the month of March 2022. Councilman Caton made a motion to approve the claims and Councilman Gruel seconded the motion. The motion was carried out with votes as follows: Councilman Gruel, -aye, Councilman Caton, -aye and Councilman Stapleton, -aye.

Following that was the approval of payroll for the month of March 2022. Councilman Caton made a motion to approve the payroll and

Councilman Gruel seconded the motion. The motion was carried with votes as follows; Councilman Gruel, -aye, Councilman Caton, -aye and Councilman Stapleton, -aye.

Next on the agenda was the review of a letter of interest in the open council seat that was submitted by James "Jim" Lister. Mayor Nottingham addressed Mr. Lister in the gallery and asked him to stand and introduce himself. Mr. Lister stood and told us some details about his residency. Then, Nottingham read aloud Mr. Lister's submitted letter of interest. Discussion was had with the Council asking questions on Mr. Lister on his interest in the seat. The letter was approved and Mr. Lister was accepted as a new council member. Mayor Nottingham made the motion to accept the letter and the Councilman approved as follows: Councilman Stapleton, -aye. Councilman Caton, -aye and Councilman Gruel, -aye. Clerk Breeding swore-in, now Councilman, James Lister and he took his seat at the council table.

Next up was Cyrill Hergenrider with an event application for the Fromberg Co-ed Softball teams to hold practices, games and tournaments. It was also requested that the open container restrictions be lifted for these events and practices for the entirety of the 2022 season. Discussion was had about safety of the participants and spectators. The Council also asked Representative Hergenrider what measures were to be taken to make sure the open container lifting would not be taken advantage of by outside persons. Deputy appearances were discussed and special awareness by the team to be taken. With these discussions concluding, Councilman Stapleton made a motion to approve the application in its entirety and Councilman Gruel seconded the motion. The motion was carried out with votes as follows: Councilman Gruel, -aye. Councilman Stapleton, -aye and Councilman Lister, -aye. There was no vote from Councilman Caton due to possible conflict of interest.

Next on the agenda was the discussion of a possible trial-based, seasonal water rate change. Discussion was had about how this could be put in place and what type of stipulations would be needed. It was decided to table the subject and take a vote at next month's regular council meeting.

After that Mayor Nottingham explained the current details on the city owned property outside of Fromberg that consists of 40 dryland acres. Nottingham requested opinions on leasing this ground out since the previous lessees had not renewed a contract or payment plan. Discussion was had about the condition of the property. Next Nottingham informed of a potential interest of someone wanting to lease it. Discussion was had about the idea of that decision and it was agreed to table the topic and take a vote at the next regular council meeting.

Next was the topic of potentially moving newly hired, Brent Boggio (part-time public works assistant), to a full-time employment status. Discussion was had about the legality of his hiring process and potential productivity level for public works. Councilman Gruel made a motion to hire Brent Boggio full-time and Councilman Caton seconded the motion. The motion was carried out as follows: Councilman Gruel, -aye. Councilman Caton, -aye. Councilman Stapleton, -aye. Councilman Lister, -aye.

Town Attorney Moen who was not present but Mayor Nottingham updated everyone on the marijuana debate laws. He also addressed the lack of town Charter and updated everyone on Attorney Moen's efforts and progress in the creation of one. Discussion was had about the town's decision on the matter and it was agreed that special meetings in the very near future would be need and that a Resolution would need to be formally passed to adopt Carbon County's language.

Next, the Public Works Director, Jay Carter gave updates on the month of March 2022. Carter gave a run down of happenings and progress taken place in the previous month. He then gave a forecast of things to come in the month of April. Marge Taylor used this time to issue a verbal complaint about the current state of West River Street. Discussion was had about a timeline on fixing the issues. Lastly it was decided to go forward with replacing the rollup door on one of the Shop buildings.

Clerk Breeding gave updates on her progress during the previous month of March 2022. More discussion was had about the incorrect charges for places with more than one residency. Clerk Breeding tried further to explain that the 2nd charge on the bills sent in March is actually just the charge they would have received at the end of the month. Breeding explained that by moving the meter reading time to the middle of each money instead of the end would ultimately give everyone a minimum of 20 days to pay instead of the current 15 days.

Last on the agenda was Mayor/Council comment. Discussion was had about future equipment purchases that will be needed. The clerk's role of lawn mowing in addition to being in the office was also discussed.

The next regular council meeting was set for May 10, 2022 and there being no further business, Councilman Caton made the motion to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Gruel. The motion to Adjourn was carried out with votes as follows: Councilman Gruel- aye, Councilman Caton- aye. Councilman Stapleton- aye. Councilman Lister - aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Tim Nottingham

Tim Nottingham, Mayor

Attest:

Lacey Breeding

Lacey Breeding/Clerk