

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

HELD BY THE FROMERG TOWN COUNCIL ON

Monday January 8th, AT 7:00 PM

AT 118 WEST RIVER STREET IN FROMBERG MONTANA

The January 8th, 2024 council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Attendance of this council meeting was as follows: Mayor Tim Nottingham, Councilman Nate Caton, Councilman Robert Haseman, Councilman Mike Ventling, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor, Town Clerk Harlie Riddle and Town Citizens.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Tim thanked everyone for coming tonight. First up on our agenda tonight is the Carbon County Sheriff's Report. The total hours patrolled were 80 hours and 44 minutes and 8 hours and 22 minutes of calls of services. Mayor Tim asked if there were any questions for the Chief. Tammy states that she has a question for the attorney. She then asked if we could move the public comment to the beginning and why can't we answer their questions. Dennison answered "We didn't discuss it the other day but the reason that we have a town council is to do city business and that's why we as a council and the government sit here to do this it is not for the public to have comment during that city business time now if they have questions or something on the agenda then they should be able to ask the council" Tammy than states that the agenda only comes out three days in advance to the meeting and that's not enough time for the community to get questions answered.

Mayor then asked if there was any public comment they can state their name and stand at the podium. They will have three minutes each.

First up was Jesse Sanchez owner of J&J Construction expressed his concerns about not being thanked for his work done during the flood.

Next was Lorri Simpson she wants to have the table rearranged so that the audience isn't looking at the back of our councilmembers head.

Corril went to the podium next expressing her concerns about the Ball field and asked if Wayne Vargas had been talked to about donating the extra land to the field.

Then Marge Taylor got up and asked why the Flag had not been put out and that it needed to be done every day that the clerk is in the office. And that she would like to see the Clerk not get a raise for she already had one this year and that they paid for her maternity leave. Mayor Tim thanked the audience for their comments and moved to the next item on the agenda.

Next on the agenda was swearing in the new councilmembers Tammy Taylor and Mike Ventling. Each of them took the oath of office.

We then moved on to approving the minutes for 12/14/23 Tammy made a motion to amend the minutes on the nomination for Robert Haseman as a new Councilman there's no yays or nays and it was two to one vote and Nate that said yay and Bill Grul that said yay and Dave Stapleton was nay. Councilmember Nate seconded votes as follows. Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Next was the claims for December, Nate made a motion to approve the claims for December 2023 and Mike Ventling Second votes as follows. Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

We than moved on to payroll summary for December. Nate made a motion to approve the payroll summary for December 2023 and Mike Ventling Second votes as follows. Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

New business the TCC west has not gotten back to us with a proposal. Nate made a motion to table the TCT west till they have a proposal set and ready to discuss further. Roberted second the motion and votes as follows. Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

We then discussed the Clerk's wages. There was discussion on if two pay raises can be given in the same year and if the budget isn't complete we don't know if there is money budgeted for the pay raise. Mike made a motion to table the clerk wages until budget is completed and books are reconciled. Tammy Taylor seconded the motion and votes as followed. Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman nay Motion passed.

Next item of business was the fire relief fund. The money hasn't been paid out for the fire department was over payed last year and the numbers were in the negative. When we started reconciling books the money for that fund finally has gone into the positive and has been accumulating more for the books are being done and money is going into the correct account. Mike then stated that it was a different fund that is supposed to go to the county for injured fireman. The clerk than stated that she will be looking into that and will have the information at the February 12th Meeting.

We then moved on to the Soil boring project. The test pits will be dug later this week for the Water and Sewer projects that will be going out to bid here shortly.

Next on the agenda was the leasing of the 40 acres the town owns. There was an open discussion on what we could possibly do with this land to make a profit for the town. There were ideas about making it a dry camping area or even a storage for trailers and campers. Nate made a motion to table the leasing of the 40 acres till the February meeting. Tammy Taylor Second and votes as follows. Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Next up was the Mayor and Council. Tammy Taylor asked since there isn't a spot for the Clerk and Public works directors to give an update. Tammy would like to see there be a written report of what they did for the month. The council would also like to see an inventory done of everything in the office and the shop. Discussion of the ball field and who should get ahold of Mr. Vargas. The council would like to see this on the next agenda so they can discuss further of what they can do about getting the 80ft donated. Next meeting will be February 12th. Mike made a motion to adjourn Nate second the motion, votes as follows

Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Tim Nottingham, Mayor

Attest:

Harlie Riddle, Clerk/Treasurer

Special Meeting

HELD BY THE FROMBERG TOWN COUNCIL ON

Thursday, February 1, AT 7:15 PM

AT 118 WEST RIVER STREET IN FROMBERG MONTANA

The special meeting was called to order by Mayor Tim Nottingham at 7:00 pm on Thursday, February 1st. Attendance of this council meeting was as follows: Mayor Tim Nottingham, Councilman Nate Caton, Councilman Robert Haseman, Councilman Mike Ventling, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor, Town Clerk Harlie Riddle, and Town Citizens.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Tim thanked everyone for coming tonight. He also thanked Jennifer Hickok, Brandi Paugh, and Kirstin Bauwens from the Fromberg school for coming. We have been reconciling books and it was brought to our attention that FEMA paid \$10,185.67 to the town to pay for the damages done to the gym floor.

Councilwoman Tammy Taylor made a motion to pay the school \$10,185.67 for the damages done to the gym floor. Councilman Mike Ventling seconded the motion. Votes as follows Councilman Mike Ventling-yay, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor-yay, Councilman Robert Haseman-yay, and Councilman Nate Canton-yay.

The floor was then opened for public comment. Kirstin Bauwens expressed that it wasn't right for the Mayor to ask if they would like to donate the money back for the River Bank Project. The school had to pay for damages done to not only the gym floor but the kitchen and laundry as well.

Corril H then expressed her concerns about how the bookkeeping isn't being kept up and that she would like to see the town do an audit.

Councilman Nate Canton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Councilman Mike Ventling seconded. Votes as follows Councilman Mike Ventling- yay, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor-yay, Councilman Robert Haseman-yay, and Councilman Nate Canton-yay.

Meeting adjourned 7:36



Tim Nottingham, Mayor

Attest:



Harlie Riddle, Clerk/Treasurer

Special Meeting

HELD BY THE FROMBERG TOWN COUNCIL ON

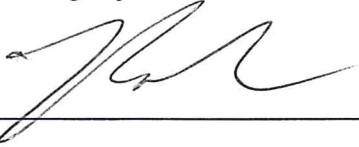
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The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Tim thanked everyone for coming tonight. He explains tonight's meeting is to allocate funds to the River Bank Project.

Councilman Nate made a motion to allocate money from the Water fund to pay 50,000 for the River Bank Project. Councilman Robert Second the motion. Votes as Follows Councilman Mike Ventling-yay, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor-yay, Councilman Robert Haseman-yay, and Councilman Nate Canton-yay. Motion passed. Nate Canton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Tammy Taylor second. Next meeting will be to pay the school at 7:15. Votes as Follows Councilman Mike Ventling- yay, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor-yay, Councilman Robert Haseman-yay, and Councilman Nate Canton-yay. The meeting adjourned at 7:12.



Tim Nottingham, Mayor

Attest:



Harlie Riddle, Clerk/Treasurer

SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD BY THE FROMBERG TOWN COUNCIL ON
Tuesday February 6th, AT 7:00 PM
AT 118 WEST RIVER STREET IN FROMBERG MONTANA

The special meeting was called to order by Mayor Tim Nottingham at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 6th. Attendance of this council meeting was as follows: Mayor Tim Nottingham, Councilman Nate Caton, Councilman Robert Haseman, Councilman Mike Ventling, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor, Town Clerk Harlie Riddle, and Town Citizens.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Tim thanked everyone for coming tonight. We are talking about the grant money that was received for the hardening of the river bank. The 50,000 dollar check was voided and the new check for 21,810.38 dollars was to cover our share of the town. The check will be deposited and the Army Core of Engineers will sign off on it then the application will be waiting for the floodplain administrator's signature.

Councilwoman Tammy Taylor then says that the total broke out over the water users is \$88.88 and if you divide that up over 12 months it would be \$7.41.

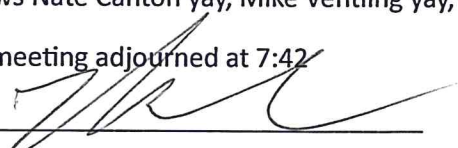
Clerk Harlie Riddle states that all donations have to be taken off the top and still dispersed throughout the whole town. It has to be fair for all water users.

Tammy Taylor made a recommendation that we put this on Facebook, and posters around town to allow donations. This would be considered a tax write-off for those who donate.

Nate Caton made a motion to have a list of duties, line items, and who will help at our next meeting. Mike Ventling seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Nate Caton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike Ventling seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42



Tim Nottingham, Mayor

Attest:



Harlie Riddle, Clerk/Treasurer

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD BY THE FROMBERG TOWN COUNCIL ON
Monday February 12th, AT 7:00 PM
AT 118 WEST RIVER STREET IN FROMBERG MONTANA

The February 12th, 2024 council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Attendance of this council meeting was as follows: Mayor Tim Nottingham, Councilman Nate Caton, Councilman Robert Haseman, Councilman Mike Ventling, Councilwoman Tammy Taylor, Town Clerk Harlie Riddle, and Town Citizens.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Tim thanked everyone for coming tonight. First up on our agenda tonight is the Carbon County Sheriff's Report. The total hours patrolled were 167 hours and 24 minutes and 6 hours and 45 minutes of calls of services.

Tammy Taylor made a motion to approve the 01-01-24 meeting minutes with the amendment of Corril H. asked for a temporary extension of the ball field. Mike Ventling seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Mike Ventling made a motion to approve the 01-19-24 meeting minutes with the amendment of 200.80 and the location changed to Senior Center. Robert Haseman seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Tammy Taylor made a motion to approve the 01-29-24 minutes with the amendments of the location being changed to the Fromberg High School and to add Clinton Geezic and Amy Bailey to the attendance. Mike Ventling seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Nate Caton made a motion to approve the payroll summary. Tammy Taylor seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Next up was public comment. Irwin Sankey got up and expressed his concerns on why the public cant comment before motions were made.

Then we moved on to the voting of the Council President. Robert made a motion to nominate Nate Caton as Council President. Mike Ventling seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

The burn pile was up next on the agenda. Mayor Tim explained that residents are putting items in the burn pit that can't be burned. Clerk Riddle then explained that the easement agreement states that authorized personnel only are allowed to be using that road and that Sean Zaske the owner of that property isn't going to allow others on that road. Tammy then states that the burn pile benefits the town. The council decided to put this on the next agenda so they can come up with ideas on what can be done with the burn pit.

The funding of the River Bank Project was discussed next. Tammy Taylor drafted up a letter explaining what was going to happen with the water bills and expressing that if everyone donated, we wouldn't have to raise the rates. Mike Ventling also expressed that administration costs and the cost of having it put in the news paper needs to be added on the bills as well. Mayor Tim would like to have hard numbers before we hand out this letter. Nate Caton made a motion to move the River Bank Project to the March Meeting. Tammy Taylor seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Next up was the Table of fees. Tammy Taylor explained that our fees are low compared to other towns in the county. Tammy Taylor asked if she could put a committee together to go over and revise our rates. She wants to break it down further on what people have to pay and make it very clear for new people coming into town. Mayor Tim would like to see that done and permitted for her to form a committee. When she has the revision done, she will bring it back to the council to be approved.

Next was the audit update. It would cost 14,000 to have an audit done from 2017 to present. The auditor would also come in and talk to the town for 3,000-4,000 dollars at a meeting.

The HB-355 Grant was next on the agenda. There was a discussion on what project the funds would cover. More information needs to be collected so we can move forward with the grant. Tammy Taylor made a motion to table the Grant to the next regular council meeting. Nate Caton seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

Next up was the floodplain school. Tammy Taylor expressed that with the budget not done she doesn't think it's a good idea for Clerk Riddle to go. Nate Caton made a motion to approve Clerk Riddle to go to the Floodplain school. Robert Haseman seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor nay, and Robert Haseman yay. Mayor Tim broke the tie with a yay. Motion passed.

Mark Schutterle the Public Works Director gave his update next. He has been working on repairing roads and getting the issues fixed with the well house. He will be going to school for the water and sewer to test to become certified.

Harlie Riddle the Clerk was next with her update. The books are close to being done and will have the budget done in March. Tammy Taylor expressed her concerns about the curtains being closed in the office and that they need to be open. The mayor stated that it is up to the Clerk if she wants to open them or not.

Next on the agenda was Mayor/Council Mike asked for an update on the River Bank Project. Mayor Tim explained that everything was ready to go and that we are just waiting on the Floodplain office to sign off. Tammy Taylor explained that the trees next to the ballpark need to be professionally pruned and that allies need to be rocked and graded. Mayor Tim introduced Keith MacLhaney as head of the zoning committee and asked if anyone else would like to be on the zoning committee with him. Niki Schutterle stated that she would like to be on the committee as well.

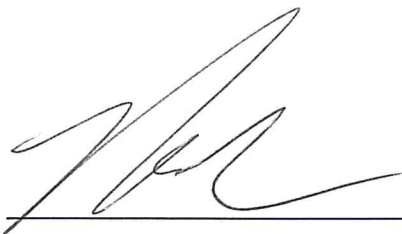
Public comment was next. Irwin Sankey expressed his concerns with how much money we are spending on getting the books caught up.

Jerry Hall asked when we got the money from Fema.

Corril H. Got up and asked Mayor Tim Nottingham to resign from his position. She feels that he is not doing his job correctly.

Nate Caton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert Haseman seconded the motion. Votes are as follows Nate Canton yay, Mike Ventling yay, Tammy Taylor yay, and Robert Haseman yay. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tim Nottingham', written over a horizontal line.

Tim Nottingham, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Harlie Riddle', written over a horizontal line.

Harlie Riddle, Clerk/Treasurer

FROMBERG TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MARCH 14, 2024

The March 14, 2024 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 at 7:00 pm by Council President Nate Caton. Other council members present were Robert Haseman, Michael Ventling and Tammy Taylor. Others present were Kelle Ventling, Jerry Hall, Keith McElhaney, Kristen Bauwens, Chad Hanson with Great West Engineering, Cyrill Hergenrider, Ashley Michel, Lori B., Elton Kirtley, Irwin Sankey, Marge Taylor, Jim White, Public Works Director Marcus Schutterle and Clerk Harlie Riddle.

The first item on the agenda was The Carbon County Sheriff's report. No officers were present to give a report.

Next on the agenda was correspondence. Council President summarized correspondence regarding the Fromberg Improvement Committee. Since the committee was not formed by the Town and the Council has no jurisdiction over the committee, the correspondence was not read aloud in its entirety.

The next item on the agenda was approval of the minutes. Minutes from the February 1, 2024 7:00 pm meeting, the February 1, 2024 7:15 pm meeting, the February 6, 2024 meeting and the February 12, 2024 regular meeting. Councilwoman Taylor asked for amendments to the February 1st 7:00 pm minutes. The time was listed incorrectly, it should be 7:15 pm. A motion to approve the amended minutes for February 1, 2024 7:00pm was made by Councilwoman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. Councilwoman Taylor asked for amendments to the February 1st 7:15 pm minutes. The time was listed incorrectly, it should be 7:00 pm. Also, amend Board Chair Kristen Bauwens objected to Mayor Nottingham asking the funds be donated back to the Town. A motion to approve the amended minutes for February 1, 2024 7:15 pm was made by Councilwoman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. Councilwoman Taylor motioned to approve the February 6, 2024 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. Councilwoman Taylor asked to amend the February 6, 2024 minutes was made by Councilwoman Taylor. Change to Councilman Ventling expressed concerns over the curtains. Councilwoman Taylor motioned to approve the amended the minutes for February 6, 2024 and February 12, 2024 minutes was made by Councilwoman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye.

The next item of business was the approval of claims. Councilwoman Taylor addressed concerns regarding some of the claims being over budget according to the reports. Clerk Riddle answered questions regarding claims. Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve the claims including check #23003 to #23027 and electronic check #99913. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye.

Next on the agenda was the Payroll Summary. Councilwoman Taylor motioned to approve the payroll summary. Councilman Ventling seconded the motion. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye.

Next on the agenda was public comment. Corell Hergenrider commented on the agenda layout as well as Montana Code Annotated regarding public interest in Town business and council vacancies created by absences. Irwin Sankey asked the council what the town employees are doing to earn their wages.

New Business was next on the agenda. The first item was the burn pile. Discussion was had regarding the trash at the current burn pile and the sewer lagoon and how to best remove the trash. Discussion was also had regarding how to best offer a burn pile. A motion to table the burn pile discussion was made by Councilwoman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. The next item was setting up funds for the riverbank project. Clerk Riddle reported that approximately \$4,300 has been donated and placed in a separate bank account. Discussion was had regarding how much each utility user may need to pay, how the project will be funded and how the information will get to the water users. A motion was made by Councilwoman Taylor to get a letter to users and assess the \$70.84 due by May 1, 2024. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. The third item was Great West Engineering. Chad Hanson was present to explain the water and sewer projects that will be happening this summer. Bids for the projects are due April 3, 2024. He also explained how the projects will be funded and how they may affect the rates. The next item was FEMA and DES funds. Clerk Riddle explained what was requested and what was received in funds. Discussion was had regarding when the money was received, why it wasn't announced to the public and put into the system. The fifth item was discussion regarding the town cell phones. Discussion was had regarding the phones the Town pays for, how they are used, length of the contract. A motion to table the agenda item was made by Councilwoman Taylor, seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. The sixth item on the agenda was water bills. Discussion was had regarding rates for 2,000 gallons, errors that occurred in the software system and how to fix the problem. Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to rectify the water bills from 2017 to present. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ventling. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. Next was discussion regarding the Fire Department Relief Fund. Councilman Ventling reported that the funds were deposited into the Town's account in May 2023. Clerk Riddle has found the deposit and will get a check for the Fire Relief Association at the April council meeting. The eighth item on the agenda was Resolution #274. Discussion was had regarding the number on the resolution. Due to the discrepancy on the number Councilman Ventling motioned to table the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye. Last was board appointments for the zoning committee. Discussion was had regarding the duties of the zoning committee and how members are chosen. A motion to table this agenda item was made by Councilman Ventling, seconded by Councilwoman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Haseman – aye, Councilman Ventling – aye and Councilwoman Taylor – aye.

Public Works Director Schutterle updated the council on items he is working on. Discussion was had regarding how the public works operates in regards to several items.

Clerk Riddle reported on several items she is working on.

Mayor and Town Council: Councilman Ventling commented on clerical errors made by the clerk and his concern is that the baby in the office is the cause of those errors. Discussion followed regarding the baby in the office.

apply for a permit for building fence. They will not tolerate our gravel piles to be dumped in that area. We discussed moving them down past the burn pit. The town will have to notify the other individuals that they do not comply. DNRC has suggested that they will advise on how to handle Larry Richardson.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at _____ pm.

ATTEST:

Kirstin Sweet

Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk Pro Tem

Tim Nottingham, Mayor

