

FROMBERG TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON FEBRUARY 14, 2023

The February 14, 2023 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 7:03 pm. Council members present were Councilman Bill Gruel, Councilman Nate Caton and Councilman Dave Stapleton. Others present were Clerk Lacey Breeding, Sheriff Josh McQuillan, Carbon County Commissioner Scott Blaine, Carbon County DES Cyrina Allen, Great West Engineering Chad Hansen, Jerry Hall, Niki Elliot, Marge Taylor and Elton Kirtley. Missing was Public Works Department Jay Carter.

The meeting opened with Sheriff McQuillan giving a report for the time period beginning January 15, 2023 to February 14, 2023. Sheriff McQuillan provided a break down of the hours spent patrolling the town and the hours spent on calls within the town.

Next was public comment. Jerry Hall started with a question regarding a rumor he heard that the town's public works director was resigning. Mayor Nottingham informed everyone on the details of a job offer the public works director had received and that a resignation letter had not yet been received. Discussion was had about the plan for finding a replacement if needed. Elton Kirtley then provided a letter written to the town council that he intended for them to have. Kirtley read the letter aloud and expressed his frustrations with his belief of lack of action on the town council's part regarding mitigation for the near-by river bed and missing banks. Cyrina Allen with DES addressed everyone to provide information on an upcoming workshop in March 2023. Allen also reiterated her role and responsibilities for emergency response in carbon county. She made aware that she is willing to help with whatever she can but that the town must take sole responsibility in actions to be taken in regards to mitigation within city limits. Commissioner Scott Blaine then addressed the council with question on the status of the paperwork required to access flood mitigation. Mayor Nottingham gave a rundown on the current status of permits. Mayor Nottingham also gave a clarification for everyone that the town is currently in the process of solutions and mitigation regarding flood hazards but that it is a lengthy process that involve long-term solutions. Nottingham then explained an ongoing project that had been started on Park Street involving 10 loads of gravel that had already been delivered and what plan would be in place if flood water was to approach in the spring. More Discussion was had about the costs of projects needing to be priority to protect the town. Commissioner Blaine advised of a funding option to take care of some of the projects. He advised that the town search out loan options for funding to be able to provide a 25% match to access the EWP funding available. Councilman Dave Stapleton issued

advice for anyone who had been affected by the flood in 2022, to be prepared to be affected by flooding in the upcoming 2023 spring season. Kirtley added advice that the town should promptly produce a written agreement between the town and property owner Sean Zaske. Zaske had allowed the use of his property as an outlet for the flood water in the previous year's flood which left multiple issues on the property after the water receded.

Next, Councilman Stapleton made a motion to approve the January 2023 meeting minutes. Councilman Caton provided a second and the motion was carried with votes as followed: Councilman Gruel, -aye, Councilman Caton, -aye and Councilman Stapleton, -aye.

Councilman Stapleton then made a motion to approve the January 2023 claims. Councilman Caton provided a second and the motion was carried with votes as followed: Councilman Gruel, -aye, Councilman Caton, -aye and Councilman Stapleton, -aye.

Councilman Stapleton next made a motion to approve the January 2023 payroll. Councilman Caton provided a second and the motion was carried with votes as followed: Councilman Gruel, -aye, Councilman Caton, -aye and Councilman Stapleton, -aye.

The first item of business was to review legal counsel applications. Three applications had been received. Discussion was had on how to go about the process of interviewing the applicants and who should be involved. It was decided on a special public meeting to be held the following Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of February. Clerk Breeding was instructed to contact the applicants and try to arrange for their availability on that date.

Next Item of business was the presentation of Councilman Jim Lister's letter of resignation from his seat on the council. Mayor Nottingham then called for a motion to vote on the acceptance of the resignation. Councilman Stapleton made a motion to accept the resignation and Councilman Caton seconded the motion. The motion was carried out with votes as follows: Councilman Gruel, -aye, Councilman Caton, -aye and Councilman Stapleton, -aye.

Next item on the agenda was updates from Chad Hansen with Great West Engineering regarding our current projects in motion. Hansen gave a quick refresh on the urgent sewer main matter. He then provided details on what actions must be taken to resolve the problem. He gave the stipulations regarding which funding could be used for the sewer line and which funding options had to be used for the town's ARPA project. Hansen informed of House Bill 355 that will possibly go through in the near future and could be a funding option for the sewer line. Hansen would email figures to Clerk Breeding and the council would cast their votes in the next regular council meeting.

No attorney was present.

Mayor Nottingham then stepped in for public works director Jay Carter who was absent. Nottingham gave details on water line breaks that had occurred along with updates on the individuals serving community service that had been sent to help the public works throughout the previous month. Discussion was then had on the town's current inventory of flood emergency supplies.

Next, Clerk Breeding gave updates on FEMA and payments that the town had received so far. Clerk Breeding then asked for opinions on the "Draft" Agenda for this meeting she had posted early on the town's website.

Last on the agenda was Mayor/Council comment. Discussion was had on the boundaries between the town and county's responsibilities and discussion was continued regarding the permits and paperwork required to get the river mitigation plans passed.

The next meeting was set to be the special meeting to occur on February 21, 2023 to start the attorney applicant interviewing. The next regular council meeting was set to be March 14, 2023 and there being no further business, Councilman Gruel made the motion to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Caton. The motion to Adjourn was carried out with votes as follows: Councilman Gruel- aye and Councilman Stapleton- aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm



Tim Nottingham, Mayor

Attest:

  
Lacey Breeding/Clerk