

The regular council meeting was called to order by Loretta Smart at 6:00 p.m. on February 21st, 2006.

Silent roll call: Loretta Smart, Steve Brown, Ron Sullins, Joe Thomas, and John Ludy.

Others representing the town were:

Mary K. Parsons-Clerk Treasurer

Chris Snyder-absent-Town Superintendent

Kurt Bachman-Town Attorney

Ed Johnson-absent-Town Marshall

Jim Humbarger-absent-Sewer Superintendent

Dan Frasier-Street Superintendent

Steve Gard-absent-Water Superintendent

Martha Hagerty-absent-Judge

Eric Hufnagle-Fire Chief

Lon Keyes-Park Board President

Teri Steele,IAMC -Administrative Assistant

Others attending were Darci Gaff with the Fremont Chamber of Commerce and Yvonne Schroeder with the Herald Republican.

John Ludy moved to approve the minutes, second by Joe Thomas, all in favor.

Steve Brown moved to approve the claims and payroll, second by Ron Sullins, all in favor.

John Ludy moved to approve authorizing and signing the agreement with American Legal Publishing for codification, second by Steve Brown, all in favor.

A short discussion was held on the By-pass. Kathy reported that Chris is waiting to here from INDOT in regards to whether a left turn lane is required at the intersection of State Road 120 and Walters Road.

Kurt Bachman added information on the By-pass. He stated that the Federal Government is not financing for slug projects (State and Local Government Security) at this time, so the Town may have to find different ways to finance. Kurt will communicate this with Umbaugh and Associates.

There was no report on the annexation west of Town. Ron Sullins requested a report to be put in councils boxes during the interim.

John Ludy gave an update on the Tree Committee. There are 15 people who have volunteered to be on the committee. The first meeting will be held on February 28, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the community room at the Town Hall.

Kurt Bachman stated that an agreement was given to Steuben Regional Lakes Waste District. He has not heard a response as of yet and does not think an agreement will be reached soon.

Dan Frasier stated that Doug Wilson will be digging out the pond at the Moose Skate Park. Making it deeper and wider will help provide more drainage and could help with the drainage problem at South Pleasant Street.

The Fremont Community Schools have made a commitment to contribute \$2,500.00 for the new Fiber Optic project. Chris would like the Town to match this amount, and then the Steuben County Community Foundation will match \$5,000.00.

Ron Sullins moved to approve matching the schools commitment of \$2,500.00, second by Joe Thomas, all in favor.

A meeting was held at the Town Hall in regards to street lighting at Willow Prairie. There was no other information given.

Danny stated that stop signs need to be placed at the intersection of Alan Drive and Deborah Drive, and also at Coffin Street and Water Street. An ordinance will be needed and will be presented at the next council meeting.

Joe Thomas moved to approve ordering stop signs, second by John Ludy, all in favor.

Ron Sullins moved to approve the utility credits as presented, second by Steve Brown, all in favor.

Ron Sullins moved to approve anyone wanting to attend IACT classes in March, second by Joe Thomas, all in favor.

Ron Sullins moved to approve proceeding with street bids, second by Joe Thomas, all in favor.

Kathy reported that Chris wanted to remind the council that the garbage contract will expire at the end of this year. Chris will provide more information at the next council meeting.

The Primary Elections and the November Elections will be held at the Town Hall this year. Chris has been working with Diana Penick and Ken Lowden on the details.

Reports

Court submitted-nothing to add.

Police submitted-nothing to add.

Street submitted-Dan stated the new truck has been out for a small run, but is now in the garage, cleaned and waxed.

Sewer submitted- Kathy reported that Jim would like to purchase the diffusers needed at the sewer plant. The quote with Mason Engineering doing the installation would be \$6,000.00 to \$8,000.00. Joe Thomas moved to approve purchasing diffusers with installation not to exceed \$8,000.00, second by John Ludy, all in favor.

Water submitted-nothing to add.

Town Superintendent-nothing to add.

Fire Department submitted- Eric stated the Department would be having their annual appreciation dinner not exceeding \$500.00 this coming week-end. He also stated he would like to send 4 firefighters to a class "15 Points to Size Up" in Angola in the amount of \$60.00 each. Eric was wondering about dissolving the corporation of the Volunteer Fire Department. They still operate under two sets of standard operating procedures. Discussions followed. Consensus was that Kurt and Eric will check into this further.

Fremont Park Board-no report submitted. Lon stated it was a slow time for the park. He said that Neil Fisher would be the part-time employee for the park this summer.

Other General Matters

Kathy stated that she has been working on the Capital Assets, and with them not done in the past, the street inventory needs to be updated. DLZ Engineering can do this update, and will take 24 hours to do so.

John Ludy moved to have DLZ Engineering proceed in updating the Street inventory, second by Ron Sullins, all in favor.

Kathy requested amending Ordinance 2004-8 allowing the Clerk-Treasurer to pay gasoline vendors and make reimbursements to employees from the Flexible Spending Fund prior to the Council meetings. This ordinance will be presented at the next regular council meeting.

Ron Sullins moved to approve paying gasoline vendors prior to the council meeting, second by John Ludy, all in favor.

John Ludy presented the proposal for the B.A.D.G.E. program. The purpose of the program is to develop a feeder system for future Fremont Police Officers. It stands for

- B** - Background and Evaluation
- A** - Applied Instruction
- D** - Department Reserve Status
- G** - Gradual Incorporation
- E**- Employment with the Fremont Police

Attorney Kurt Bachman will draft an Ordinance.

John Ludy moved for Kurt Bachman to draft an Ordinance for the B.A.D.G.E. program, second by Steve Brown, all in favor.

Darci Gaff with the Fremont Chamber of Commerce stated there would be an after hours meeting at Rugiono's on February 22nd at 5:30 p.m. She asked for comments and feed back for Music Fest. She said the Chamber has formed a retail growth committee. And there will be an open forum on March 10th at 7:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Ron Sullins to adjourn the meeting, second by Steve Brown, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Loretta Smart

Steve Brown

Ron Sullins

Joe Thomas

John N. Ludy

Attest:

Mary K. Parsons
Clerk-Treasurer