

January 20, 2009

Regular Meeting of the Fremont Town Council

The meeting was called to order by President Loretta Smart, at 6:00 p.m.

Silent roll call: Loretta Smart, Steve Brown, John Ludy, Kay Clark and Joe Thomas.

Others representing the Town were:

<i>Chris Snyder, Town Superintendent</i>	<i>Mary K. Parsons, IAMC/CMC/CPFA- Clerk-Treasurer</i>
<i>Ed Johnson, Police Chief</i>	<i>Eric Hufnagle, Fire Chief</i>
<i>Steve Gard, Water Superintendent</i>	<i>Danny Frasier, Street Superintendent</i>
<i>Neil Ledet, Park Board</i>	<i>Martha C. Hagerty, Judge</i>
<i>Kurt Bachman, Town Attorney</i>	

Others attending were: *Jim Measel with WLKI and Jim and Carol Mercer, Town residents.*

Election of Officers: *First order of business was the election of Officers. President Loretta Smart opened the floor for nominations. Councilmember Kay Clark moved to retain the same officers as 2008, Loretta Smart for President and Steve Brown for Vice-president, second by Councilmember Joe Thomas, all in favor.*

Minutes: *Councilmember Joe Thomas moved to approve the minutes, second by Councilmember Steve Brown, all in favor.*

Claims, payroll and comp time: *Councilmember Steve Brown moved to approve claims, payroll, and comp time, second by Councilmember Kay Clark, all in favor.*

Court Report: *President Loretta Smart allowed the Judge to give her report since she had to leave early. The Court contributed to the Town, \$320,648.23 for 2008. This was an all time high for the Court. The Council thanked the Court for their work.*

OLD BUSINESS:

Execute contracts for Institutform: *Councilmember Joe Thomas moved to sign the contracts for the lining and repair to the sewer line, second by Councilmember Kay Clark, all in favor.*

By-Pass: *Superintendent Chris Snyder reported to the Council that we have released the retainage, and all other paper work has been sent into EDA at this time. We have not received any further reimbursement.*

Downtown Project: *Superintendent Chris Snyder reported that packets contained a quote from DLZ for preliminary engineering work to assess the grade changes necessary on State Road 120. Superintendent Snyder thought this was necessary to proceed with the grant application in the fall. Councilmember Ludy voiced concern on the availability of funding in the fall and thought it may be better to wait until March to see what happens with Legislature. Discussion followed. Councilmember Steve Brown moved to table the discussion until the March meeting, second by Councilmember Kay Clark, all in favor.*

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Main Street Program: On January 7th, a presentation was made to Business owners and residents. It was recommended that we become a member of the Main Street program to assist with the grant process. Town Superintendent Snyder said the Fremont Chamber of Commerce agreed to be the vehicle and become a member of the Main Street Program. The consensus of the Council was that this was a good idea.

Year end purchases: Town Superintendent Snyder reported that both the grass rig for the Fire Department and the Police car have been ordered and are expected to be delivered by the end of the first quarter of 2009.

Annexation: Town Superintendent Snyder reported that Umbaugh has been in contact with us and they would like to schedule a working meeting on Tuesday the 27th at 10:30 a.m. Clerk-Treasurer Kathy Parsons and Town Superintendent Chris Snyder will be on the working team and asked if any Council Members would like to participate. Both Councilmember Loretta Smart and Councilmember Steve Brown thought they could attend.

NEW BUSINESS:

Utility Credits: Councilmember John Ludy made a motion to approve the utility credits as presented, second by Councilmember Steve Brown, all in favor.

Street Lights: Town Superintendent Snyder introduced Jim and Carol Mercer who wrote a letter to the Council, asking that additional street lighting be considered by Follett Estates. Carol Mercer stated it is very dark in the area and she almost hit someone in the middle of the road. Town Superintendent Chris Snyder reported that he had spoken with Bill Stackhouse at REMC and was given prices for lighting.. Placing a light on the pole at Coldwater and Hope would be \$160.00, and at the corner of Elmer and Hope would be \$100.00. A new pole would be needed at Spring Haven Drive and Hope Street at the cost of \$300.00. The Homeowners Association at Spring Haven would need to approve. These were estimates and did not include the monthly charge for the electricity. Councilmember John Ludy asked the Mercers if there would be any opposition from neighbors to add the lighting. She said she did not think so since it was by her property, and also at Fremont Community Church, there is an open field. Councilmember Ludy wanted it noted that this has been addressed. Councilmember Joe Thomas felt a plan should be put together and brought back to the next meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Mercer thanked the Council for their time.

Region 3A: - Councilmember John Ludy made a motion to reappoint Town Superintendent Snyder to serve on the Board of Directors for 2009 for Region 3-A, second by Councilmember Kay Clark, all in favor.

Steuben County EMS agreement: Councilmember Steve Brown moved to allow President Loretta Smart, Fire Chief Eric Hufnagle and Medical Officer Brett Steele, to sign the contract for Medical services with the EMS, second by Councilmember Joe Thomas, all in favor.

Fremont Township Contract – Councilmember Joe Thomas moved to accept the 2009 Fire contract with Fremont Township for \$21,500.00, second by Councilmember Kay Clark, all in favor.

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Outstanding Checks: Clerk Treasurer Parsons asked the Council to approve the outstanding checks that are two years old to be receipted back into the funds as required by the State Board of Accounts. Councilmember John Ludy moved to approve the outstanding checks, second by Councilmember Steve Brown, all in favor.

REPORTS:

Police – monthly report submitted. Nothing to add.

Street – monthly report submitted. Superintendent Frasier reported that we have 60 ton of salt and sand mix. We have used 200 ton to date.

Sewer –monthly report submitted. Nothing to add.

Water – monthly report submitted. Superintendent Gard would like permission to attend the AWWA conference on February 17, 18 and 19, for a cost of \$105.00, plus three nights lodging. Councilmember Steve Brown made a motion to allow Steve Gard to attend the conference, second by Councilmember Joe Thomas, all in favor.

Town Superintendent – The streets being considered for repair this year are Hardy Street, from State Road 827 to Tillotson. Curbing and sidewalk would go on both sides of the street, to Mill Street. Councilmember John Ludy asked if curbing would be placed to Tillotson Street and Superintendent Frasier said it was not planned, but could be added. A Slurry seal process would be done on approximately 25 blocks in town. Superintendent Snyder asked if the Council had any areas that they would like to see sidewalk work done. The area by the school is planned for repair in 2009. Councilmember Steve Brown suggested that the sidewalk on State Road 120 and Washington be looked at. Councilmember Joe Thomas thought all areas should be looked at, from the school to downtown, to make sure they were in good shape. Councilmember John Ludy thought the sidewalk on North Wayne and Spring Street should be addressed.

Fire Department – The monthly and the 2008 annual report were submitted. Fire Chief Hufnagle would like permission to advertise the grass rig for sale and accept sealed bids at the February meeting. Councilmember Steve Brown moved to accept sealed bids, second by Councilmember Kay Clark, all in favor.

Park Board – Neil Ledet reported that the Park Board has considered setting hours for the park, since they have had reports of malice at the Park. He has been in contact with Bob Walter from Angola and has read through their ordinances in regards to the Park. He will report back to the Council at the next meeting.

IACT Legislative conference – Councilmember John Ludy made a motion to give approval for those wanting to attend the legislative conference in February, second by councilmember Joe Thomas, all in favor.

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Building Corp - Clerk-Treasurer Parsons reported that Hillard Lyons, the firm that serves as the Building Corp for the Town Hall, will be closing their Ft. Wayne office and combining with the Indianapolis office. Chip Hampel, who serves on the Board, will not be relocating with them. Clerk-Treasurer Parsons asked that she be given authority to determine what needs to be done and would work with attorney Bachman as needed. Motion made by Councilmember Joe Thomas to allow Clerk-Treasurer Parsons to pursue this, second by Councilmember Steve Brown, all in favor.

Councilmember Kay Clark moved to adjourn, second by Councilmember Steve Brown, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Approved:

February 17, 2009

Loretta Smart, Council President

Steve Brown, Vice President

Joe Thomas, Council Member

John N. Ludy, Council Member

Kay Clark, Council Member

Attest:

Mary K. "Kathy Parsons, IAMC/CMC/CPFA

Clerk-Treasurer

