

September 10, 2024

Public Hearing

6:30PM

The Fremont Town Board held a Public Hearing – Local Law #1 of 2024 A Partial Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighter or Ambulance Worker on September 10, 2024 at 6:30pm at the Town Hall.

There were 9 attendees.

Supervisor Murray asked if anyone present had anything to say about the partial tax credit.

Ryan Batte asked how much money it will cost the tax payers and where are the funds coming from every year?

Seth Pullen spoke on getting both the percentage and the tax credit and you cannot do both.

There were no other questions.

Supervisor Murray adjourned the meeting at 6:50PM

October 10, 2023

Town Board Meeting

7:00PM

The Fremont Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on October 10, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

Supervisor Murray called the Meeting to order at 7:00pm; led the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Member Soukup gave the invocation.

Present Town Board: Supervisor Emily Murray, Council Member Cynthia Smith, Council Member Dean Kiefer, Council Member Mary Soukup and Council Member Seth Hilton.

Other Officials: Domenica Burns, ZBA; Tom Flansburg, Superintendent of Highways

14 attendees attended the meeting.

Reports of Public Officials were read and are on file: Justice Madeleine Seaman, Assessor Holley Smalt, Chuck Cagle, Code Enforcement Officer, Debra Matthews, Dog Control Officer. No paper Highway Report.

Superintendent Flansburg stated that the highway department was grading, ditching and working on roads and still mowing.

Supervisor Murray asked the ZBA if they had anything to report and they have a variance but are missing members. They will try to find someone. She stated that the Code Enforcement Officer would help and could he be a vote and *the Supervisor said no.*

The Town Clerk asked what the Town was supposed to do if there was not a quorum. Attorney Seth Pullen responded that you need to appoint members. Council Member Kiefer asked if anyone in the room wanted to serve on the Zoning Board. The Town Clerk asked what would happen if there were not enough members of the ZBA. Attorney Pullen said that the variance would be granted automatically. The Town Clerk asked if the Town could eliminate the Planning Board and move those members to the Zoning Board? Attorney Pullen stated that the Town would have to go through a public hearing process to do this. He suggested that the Town should have a single board.

Old Business:

Resolution #74 Approve the Minutes from August 13, 2024

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #74 was adopted: Resolved to approve the Minutes for August 13, 2024 Town Board Meeting. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Soukup aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

New Business:

Resolution #75 Approve Local Law #1 of 2024 – Partial Property Tax Exemption for Firemen & Ambulance Workers

Motion by Council Member Hilton seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #75 was adopted: Resolved to approve Local Law #1 of 2024 Partial Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firemen and Ambulance Workers. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #76 Approve the Contract for Baldwin Services for 2025 with a \$800.00 Increase

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Soukup Resolution #76 was adopted: Resolved to approve the Contract with Baldwin Services for 2025 with Increase of \$800.00. Town Accounting \$9300 and Payroll Services \$2300. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Soukup aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Supervisor Murray stated that she sent out the tentative budget for 2025 and we were not going to have a property tax increase.

Chief Dye and I have been talking about him wanting to contract with the Hornell City Ambulance. She added \$11,000 to the budget for this. Chief Dye stated that she can reduce it to \$5,000. A discussion began regarding the contract. Chief Dye explained the request. Would only like to use Hornell for a small number of calls, maybe 15. It is like \$700 per call. Supervisor Murray asked if any of the Board members wanted to attend the meeting with the Hornell Fire Department. Council Member Kiefer said he would attend the meeting. So, the Fire Department Budget will go from \$77,000 to \$82,000. Attorney Pullen stated he did not know what the fire district was. Chief Dye stated that they are a private owned company. Attorney Pullen stated that the Town has a Contract for Services for the municipality. Supervisor Murray responded yes.

Supervisor Murray stated that the Highway Department put in for raises. \$25 – for MEO and \$20 – for Laborer. Currently at \$23.50 for MEO and \$18.50 – for Laborer. Highway Superintendent at \$51,000 - \$55,000. The Justice at \$8500 to \$9500. Town Clerk \$500 raise and the Assessor \$500 raises. Clothing Allowance add another \$500.

Resolution #77 Move to Executive Session with Town Clerk

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Supervisor Murray Resolution #77 was adopted: Resolved to approve the

Move to Executive Session. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Soukup aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain

September 10, 2024

Town Board Meeting

7:00PM

Resolution #78 End Executive Session

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #86 was adopted. Resolved to End the Executive Session. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #79 Approve Budget Workshop on September 24, 2024 at 7PM

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #79 was adopted. Resolved to approve the budget workshop on September 24, 2024 at 7PM. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #80 Approve the Handicap Ramp Quote from Accessibility Solutions for \$15,650

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #80 was adopted. Resolved to Approve the Handicap Ramp Quote from Accessibility Solutions for \$15,650. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Ryan Batte asked what the quotes were of the ramps and he was told \$15,650, \$22,650 and \$14,550.

Resolution #81 Approve to Pay the Bills on Abstract #9

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #81 was adopted: Resolved to approve to pay the bills in the amount of Highway \$16,754.72 and General \$18,556.43 totaling \$35,311.15. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Smith aye, Burns aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

ServU FCU shred days are Saturday, October 26, 2024 from 9-Noon in Hornell.

Barry Dye asked about insurance regarding the snowmobile club. A discussion began about ambulance calls. Supervisor Murray will look into the insurance. This was tabled until next month.

Supervisor Murray asked Superintendent Flansburg about the old Mack Truck and *he replied that he was going to put it back on the auction.*

Supervisor Murray asked the Highway Superintendent about the quote for a 5500 Dodge Ram at a cost of \$76,662. Copies were made and given to the Board to review.

Supervisor Murray asked Superintendent Flansburg about the Ryan Lane property and he said he was too busy to get to it right now. He was not going to drop everything and go over there and mulch up brush.

Discussion on the on-site monitor proposal from Wendel. Attorney Seth Pullen spoke about the proposal. This was tabled until the on-site monitor can review it. *Attorney Klami stated she would amend the letter of credit. An escrow account of \$78,000 and an additional \$25,000+\$19,000 for legal fees will be set-up as well.* A discussion began regarding the haul routes and Attorney Klami asked for an approval of the haul routes tonight. *Supervisor Murray asked Superintendent Flansburg what he felt about it and he stated we should wait on it and get the results from the core boring, etc. and there are still outstanding legal issues with the re-hearing. Wait for an engineering firm to be hired so that all can be reviewed. Council Member Kiefer asked what the time frame is on it and Superintendent Flansburg responded with when an engineering firm is hired and when Jason Dagger sends the information requested. Attorney Klami stated that the engineers would have to come together and agree on what needs to be done with the roads if anything. The RUA already covers what Tom is concerned about. We just need Board approval of the haul routes as presented to the Board. The rest of the negotiation is between the engineers and what needs to be done with the roads.* A discussion began about the haul route roads. There will be a \$4 million bond on the haul route roads. Jason Dagger stated that what they are asking for is approval of the routes not what needs to be done to the roads. The roads will be reviewed by the engineers. Supervisor Murray asked Superintendent Flansburg for his blessing on this approval and *he stated that we should wait for the engineer and the final language then we can move forward after that.*

Resolution #82 Approve Haul Routes for Baron Wind II Project

Motion by Council Member Hilton seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #82 was not adopted. Resolved to deny the approval for Haul Routes for Baron Wind Project. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup nay, Smith nay, Murray nay. 2 Aye 3 Nay 0 Abstain.

A discussion began regarding the well testing.

Resolution #83 Approve the Well Testing Agreement

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #83 was adopted. Resolved to approve the well testing agreement. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

A discussion began regarding replacing the Dodge Ram 5500. This will be discussed at the next month.

Public Comments:

Robert Wagner read a statement wondering if the Town Board was on the same page as the attorneys. The reason I ask is the attorney recommended that the MET tower paperwork be reviewed because they had only received the paperwork the day before and the Town Supervisor said no, we will vote. In my opinion when my attorney gives me advice, I take it. This type behavior sends the message that the town board is more interested in serving the wind company not the people. Nothing should be voted on until the citing board makes its decisions.

Mary Soukup started talking about Vesta and handed out some information.

Supervisor Murray motioned to end the meeting all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM

Susan M. Peck
Fremont Town Clerk