

FREDONIA TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

April 2, 2024

25 N. Main St, Fredonia AZ, 86022

7:00 pm

Pursuant to ARS 38-431.01, notice is hereby given to members of the Fredonia Town Council and the Public that a Public Meeting will be held on April 2, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order – 7:02 pm Vice Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order

Roll Call

*Councilor Ballard
Councilor Banks
Vice Mayor Don Johnson
Councilor Johnson*

Invocation – Councilor Johnson

Pledge of Allegiance – All in Attendance

Public comment (*The council shall not discuss or take legal action on matters unless the matters are properly noticed.*)

Mr. Michael Hickman addressed the Council with his concerns re the website showing the last audit results from June 30, 2019. Mr. Hickman would like to know when the missing four (4) years of audits will be available. Vice Mayor Johnson said that we were currently in the process of the audit and we expect the results within the next 30 days. Once the audit is completed the audit will be posted on the website. Councilor Ballard said that he believed that the audit is for the 2023 year only and is not sure the status of the other audits but would follow up.

Vice Mayor Johnson acknowledge the late Mayor’s service and said she would be missed and that they would continue on.

Councilor Ballard shared Teddy Roosevelt’s “Man In The Arena” quote:

*It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually **in the arena**, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat.*

After reading the quote, Councilor Ballard recognized Mayor Christy Riddle as being a person who was always in the arena.

A. Consent Items: (The following items may be approved by a single motion, unless a member of the Town Council requests that any item be considered separately and acted upon accordingly. Each item considered separately may be approved by motion of the Council as though originally listed as an action item)

1. Agenda for April 2, 2024
2. Minutes from March 5, 2024 Regular Meeting
3. Payment register

Councilor Ballard made a motion to approve the agenda for April 2, 2024, the minutes from March 5, 2024 with the following sentence struck from the record “ She [Mayor Riddle] stated that Chief Peterson expressed his desire to continue to see what Colorado City can offer us and that they had a meeting with Chief Raddley on March 6th at 2 pm” and the payment register.

Councilor Johnson seconded the motion. All in Favor.

B. Reports (*The council shall not discuss or take legal action on matters unless the matters are properly noticed*)

1. Mayor - none
2. Council Members

Councilman Ballard discussed the Garkane power line and his understanding of how the power comes across from the substation to the sawmill and from there goes South and to Colorado City. Therefore, there was no need to purchase that line. Councilor Ballard also mentioned that a meeting with Garkane’s Board of Directors would need to take place in order to purchase the line and an engineer would need to provide a proposal of costs. Councilor Ballard shared that there was probably not a good chance that Garkane would sell. After discussion with some of the residents in the audience, the decision was made that Councilor Ballard should pursue a meeting with the engineer. Councilor Ballard agreed and will report back.

3. Department Heads – reviewed department head reports in packet
4. Town Clerk – reviewed report that was in packet

C. Action Items

1. Discussion and possible action regarding approval for Fredonia Short Stop Liquor License

Councilor Ballard made a motion to approve the Fredonia Liquor License.
Councilor Johnson seconded. All in Favor.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding reassignment of Mayor and Council positions

Councilor Ballard read Code 30.003 (Acting Mayor) from the Code of Ordinances that “In the absence or disability of both the Mayor and Vice Mayor, the Council may designate another of its members to service as acting Mayor who shall have all the powers, duties and responsibilities of the Mayor during the absence or disability.” Councilor Ballard then read Code 30.023 (Vacancies in Council) from the Code of Ordinances that “The Council shall fill by appointment for the unexpired term any vacancy that may occur for whatever reason.”

Councilor Ballard suggested that based on Vice Mayor Don Johnson's experience, knowledge and exemplary service that Vice Mayor Don Johnson take over the remaining 1.5 year term of Mayor. Councilor Johnson agreed with Councilor Ballard.

Councilor Ballard made a motion to approve Don Johnson to Mayor. Councilor Banks seconded the motion. All in Favor.

A member from the audience asked if that meant that newly appointed Mayor Don Johnson would need to step down as Fire Chief to which Mayor Johnson said probably but would get confirmation.

For the open Council seat, Councilor Ballard recommended that we post a notice re the vacancy of the council seat to allow anyone who is interested in the seat to provide a letter of intent re their interest to serve. Council members will then review all of the letters of intent and make a decision as to who they would like to see serve out the remainder of the open term.

Councilor Ballard made a motion to post the council position in 3-5 places, with the letters of intent needing to be received on Monday, April 5 by 12 pm and then the Council will vote on it in two weeks. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion. All in Favor.

3. Discussion and possible action for bidding of Kaibab Drive project

Councilor Ballard and newly appointed Mayor Don Johnson, discussed the bid and scope of the project. Councilor Ballard made a comment that the job was put out to bid but only one proposal was received.

Councilor Ballard made a motion to approve the bid from Bistline Construction in the amount of \$38,400 to replace the sidewalk on Kaibab Drive. Councilor Johnson seconded the motion. All in Favor.

D. Discussion

1. Future Agenda Items:

- a. New form for land combination/split/lot line adjustment
- b. Evaluation of Magistrate's Wage
- c. Town Committees and departments; council representation
- d. Sawmill Estate Subdivision progress
- e. General Plan
- f. 911 Readdressing the streets
- g. Emergency preparedness-backup generators, get quotes
- h. Secure water supply
- i. Utility Board
- j. Model City tax code
- k. Equipment and vehicle policy
- l. Dike repairs
- m. Easy Street easement signed
- n. Purchasing policy
- o. Purchasing electrical structure on the old Kaibab land

Councilor Johnson wanted to remind everyone that the inspection of the levee was happening on May 2, 2024.

Adjourn: Mayor Don Johnson made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm which was seconded by Councilor Ballard.

Approved

Attest

Don Johnson, Mayor

Traci Goodall, Town Clerk

Certification- I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held.

Traci Goodall, Town Clerk