

***FAIRMOUNT TOWN COUNCIL***  
***Regular Meeting***  
***January 10, 2022; 7:00 P.M.***

The Fairmount Town Council met in Regular Session on Monday, January 10, 2022. Attorney, Phil Stephenson called the meeting to order and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Clerk Treasurer Treon called the roll: Jane Sickman, present via Zoom; Karen Pollen, present; Steve Hedrick, present; Angie Armstrong, present. Also, in attendance; Clerk-Treasurer, Jo Ann Treon and Town Attorney, Phil Stephenson.

**PURCHASE ORDER:**

Clerk-Treasurer Treon presented purchase order 3279 to Leads Online in the amount of \$1,528.00 for the police department.

Motion made by Sickman to approve purchase order 3279. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with four ayes.

**CLAIMS:**

Motion made by Armstrong to approve the claims and order warrants on same. Seconded by Hedrick; motion carries with 3 ayes.

**MINUTES:**

Motion made by Armstrong to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting on December 20, 2021. Seconded by Sickman; motion carries with all ayes.

***REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARD AND COMMISSIONS:***

**STREETS & PARK:**

Stephenson advised Ryan Gossett was approved for employment with the Street Department under emergency conditions at the last meeting. Acting as Council President, Stephenson will entertain a motion to make Gossett a permanent employee.

Motion made by Armstrong to make the emergency hiring of Gossett permanent. Seconded by Sickman; motion carries with four ayes.

Gossett reported a radiator issue with the street sweeper. The cost of replacement is \$1250.43 through Best Equipment. Gossett will be getting quotes from other suppliers.

Gossett advised the salt truck was out Saturday for icy road conditions.

Gossett reported Rob Kelsey from AEP contacted him regarding replacement of the street lights in town. The new street lights will be LED. The replacement will be completed at no charge to the Town.

Motion made by Armstrong to approve the street light replacement. Seconded by Pollen; motion carries with four ayes.

Gossett requested permission to hire Kyle Hamilton to fill the open position with the Street Department. Vice President Sickman questioned whether an advertisement was published for the position and if applicants would be interviewed. Gossett advised an advertisement had not been published for current position.

Motion made by Pollen to hire Hamilton for the Street Department position. Motion dies due to lack of a second.

Gossett requested permission to hire part-time help from Rick Haynes for snow plowing; possibly Nathan Deal who also has experience with snow plowing.

Marshal Dollar advised he had someone interested in the vacancy which would be left if Hamilton moved to the Street Department. The individual is a Fairmount graduate and has ILEA certification.

Motion made by Sickman for Kyle Hamilton to move from the Police Department to the Street Department effective immediately. Seconded by Pollen; motion carries with four ayes.

Council member Armstrong made a motion to appoint Ryan Gossett as Street and Park Superintendent. Seconded by Pollen; motion carries with four ayes.

The Council discussed amending the Salary Ordinance for the Street Department as follows: Street and Park Superintendent at a pay of \$1850.00 biweekly; Street worker at a pay of \$1750.00 biweekly.

Motion made by Hedrick to approve amending the Salary Ordinance. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with roll call vote as follows: Sickman, yes; Pollen, yes; Hedrick, yes; Armstrong, yes.

### **POLICE AND FIRE:**

Marshal Dollar requested permission to promote Officer Jason Leisure to Assistant Deputy Marshal.

Motion made by Armstrong to approve the promotion. Seconded by Pollen; motion carries with four ayes.

Marshal Dollar requested permission to hire Dylan Vektor to fill the vacant Deputy Marshal position.

Dollar advised Vektor has been interviewed twice and he resides in Town. Vektor would begin after a two week notice to current employer.

Motion made by Hedrick to approve the hiring of Vektor. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with four ayes.

Marshal Dollar advised a portion of mandated was completed by the officers. Physical Tactics Training will be completed next month.

Dollar reported Deputy Ressett is completing Death Investigation Course. He also reported that K-9 Rob is back in service.

Dollar reported the materials for the replacement of police garage roof will be delivered on the 13<sup>th</sup> and repairs will begin.

Marshal Dollar advised the officers will be alternating time off until Ressett completes the course and Vetor completes training. Hamilton does have the option to keep a Reserve Officer status to maintain his certifications. Hamilton is also an instructor.

Dollar advised the end of year reporting will provided at the next meeting.

Vice President Sickman requested Marshal Dollar convey the Council's Congratulations to Ressett for completion of the course.

**WATER & WASTEWATER:**

Superintendent Deal reported M.E. Simpson had completed a leak survey for the utility department; finding a valve leak at Washington and Barclay Streets. The valve has been successfully replaced with help from Pannell Welding. They made a plate to help with the repair.

The leak survey also showed a water main break at Adams and Elm Streets. The repair resulted in a 100,000 drop of water consumption.

Deal advised residents who have issues with frozen service to allow a small stream of water to run.

Superintendent Deal reported training for the new GIS software has been completed. Employees are working on data entry and digitizing files.

**FINANCIAL REPORT & CLERK-TREASURER:**

Clerk-Treasurer Treon advised State Board of Accounts will begin the audit of 2018, 2019, 2020 and a Federal Audit of 2020 due to USDA grants. SBOA will be using remote auditing procedures as well as weekly visits.

Treon advised the Clerk's and Water Office is closed to the public to due the rise of coronavirus illness. Currently, the Town has one employee hospitalized and two employees in quarantine.

Clerk-Treasurer Treon requested the Council allow covid pay for employees. The Council discussed current CDC guidelines for isolation and quarantine.

Motion made by Hedrick to allow five days of covid pay per employee; anything after five days, the employee will use PTO. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with four ayes.

**AREA PLAN COMMISSION:**

Hedrick advised language for the Solar Farm Ordinance is being discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Clerk-Treasurer Treon advised CTC Housing has purchased the mobile home community at 300 North Barclay Street. The new owners are requesting a zoning change for the areas of the park that did not get changed from R-3 to MH-3 zoning. Area Plan will need Council approval to move forward with the change. Treon advised the amendment will be Ordinance 1-2022.

Motion made by Hedrick to suspend the rules and move forward with amending the ordinance pertaining to the zoning of the mobile home community; Ordinance 1-2022, Amending Zoning for 300 North Barclay Street. Seconded by Pollen; motion carries with roll call vote: Sickman, yes; Pollen, yes; Hedrick, yes; Armstrong, yes.

Council member Armstrong questioned if the Council should move forward with Reorganization of the Council.

Council member Armstrong nominated Sickman for Council President. Seconded by Hedrick; motion carries with four ayes.

Motion made by Pollen to close the nomination for President. Seconded by Hedrick; motion carries with four ayes.

Council member Pollen nominated Hedrick for Council Vice President. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with four ayes.

Motion made by Pollen to close the nomination. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with four ayes.

Stephenson requested Council President Sickman have liaison appointments for the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Council member Armstrong addressed the discussion of Executive Meeting information by Council Members to the public. Stephenson advised it is not only unethical, it is also state law.

With no further business to come before the Council, Armstrong made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Pollen meeting adjourned.

---

M. Jane Sickman , President

ATTEST

---

Jo Ann Treon, Clerk-Treasurer