

FAIRMOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
August 8, 2022; 7:00 P.M.

The Fairmount Town Council met in Regular Session on Monday, August 8, 2022. Town 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: Eric Treon, absent; Karen Pollen, present; Steve Hedrick, absent; Angie Armstrong, present; David Broyles, present. Also, in attendance; Clerk-Treasurer, Jo Ann Treon.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

John Selby spoke with the Council concerning use of the American Rescue Fund Act.

Selby stated Council President, Steve Hedrick, attended the last Main Street Fairmount meeting and discussed a distribution of ARFA to the Town.

Clerk-Treasurer J. Treon advised the first disbursement of ARFA was \$326,000.00 and the second disbursement will be the same amount. The first disbursement was used to complete the paving of the walkway in the park (\$52,000.), street signs (\$31,000.00), a lift (\$32,000.00), fireworks (\$20,000.00) and a fold machine (\$4,500.00). Restrictions for usage of the funds has been loosened; however, Council decision is required to approve purchases using ARFA funds.

Clerk Treasurer J. Treon advised the funds could be used for the lighting on the upcoming Community Crossing project (Main Street from 2nd to 8th Streets).

Selby proposed a façade program for Main Street business owners to help them upgrade or preserve their storefronts. The Town is a destination due to James Dean and the buildings should present a good face.

Vice President Armstrong stated a program is great idea. However, if the Town is going to invest in the businesses, shouldn't the businesses be open.

Councilman Broyles stated this is not investing in the people, but the heritage. He stated his mother had her business open only three days per week.

Selby stated the goal is to restore the buildings and get people into those buildings. The stores would be more aligned with boutique shopping.

Selby advised he had conducted an experiment of his own with a location he owns on Main Street. Three attempts were made with businesses in the building. The lack of foot traffic on Main Street hurts small businesses. He further explained the downtown buildings should be thought of in terms of assets.

Clerk-Treasurer J. Treon advised the Town has a façade program in place for business owners. The program is a 50/50 match up to \$1,000.00. Seven businesses have used the program; three of those businesses using the program a second time.

Mr. Selby and Councilman Broyles advised they were unaware of a such a program.

PURCHASE ORDERS:

None.

CLAIMS:

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

MINUTES:

Motion made by Pollen to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting on July 25, 2022. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with three ayes.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES, BOARD AND COMMISSIONS:

PRESIDENT:

None.

STREETS & PARK:

Assistant Superintendent Hamilton reported brush cleanup and removal from the storm is nearly complete.

Hamilton requested the Council acknowledge Toby Ford and Alan Busby for all of their efforts in helping clean up after the storm. They called to find out what they could do and how they could help.

Hamilton advised two tires have been replaced on the John Deere tractor as well as the door opener on the north overhead door at the street barn.

Hamilton reported the boom lift was delivered to the street barn.

Assistant Superintendent Hamilton advised a minor fender-bender today involving the town's dump truck and a citizen's vehicle. The driver had a suspended operator license and no insurance. Fortunately, no injuries to either party involved in the accident.

POLICE & FIRE:

None.

WATER & WASTEWATER:

Superintendent Deal reported a new water line to a home in the 200 block of West 4th Street will be completed this week.

A leak located after digging across the intersection of 2nd and Rush Streets has been partially repaired with a clamp. A two-inch water line still in service from 2nd to 4th Streets will be abandoned as soon as needed parts arrive. The residences on 2nd Street from Rush Street to the creek will have a new water main.

Deal reported the Ford service van has been repaired; broken lower radiator hose and fitting were replaced at Skip's. The van is back in service.

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE:

None.

FINANCIAL REPORT & CLERK-TREASURER:

Clerk Treasurer J. Treon reported a quote from Republic Services regarding trash pickup during the festival of \$3,760.30. The Town may pay a portion or the full amount. Trash pickup at the park would be an additional \$4,000.00 for the weekend.

Motion made by Broyles to pay the full amount for trash pickup during the James Dean Festival. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with three ayes.

Clerk Treasurer J. Treon advised the Public Hearing for the 2023 Budget will be September 12, 2022 during the Regular Council Meeting. Adoption of the budget will be on September 26, 2022 during the Regular Council Meeting. The total budget amount for 2023 is \$2,808,000.21.

J. Treon reported the Community Crossing application was sent in August 8, 2022.

AREA PLAN COMMISSION:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Clerk Treasurer J. Treon presented Resolution #2-2022, Reduction in 2022 Appropriation for Local Roads & Streets; \$45,000.00 will be removed from fiscal year 2022 and placed into 2023 for the matching grant.

Motion made by Pollen to pass Resolution #2-2022 on the first reading. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with three ayes. The second reading will be at the regular meeting on August 22, 2022.

Clerk Treasurer J. Treon presented Resolution #3-2022, Appropriation for Rainy Day Fund; transferring \$130,000.00 into the Rainy Day fund.

Motion made by Broyles to pass Resolution #3-2022 on the first reading. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with three ayes. The second reading will be at the regular meeting on August 22, 2022.

Clerk Treasurer J. Treon presented Ordinance #6-2022, Sewage Rate Increase.

Motion made by Broyles to pass Ordinance #6-2022 on the first reading. Seconded by Armstrong; motion carries with three ayes. The Public Hearing and second reading will be at the regular meeting on August 22, 2022.

Vice President Armstrong reported the Fairmount Museum Board has decided not to allow Mr. Tucker the area in front of the residence on Main Street. Mr. Tucker has stated he will be putting signage in the business regarding current events such as the reproductive legislation.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

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

Angela Armstrong, Vice President

ATTEST

Jo Ann Treon, Clerk-Treasurer