

The Fremont Town Board held their Regular Town Board Meeting on February 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

Supervisor Emily Murray called the Meeting to order at 7 PM; led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dean Kiefer gave the Invocation.

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

Other Public Officials: Tom Flansburg, Highway Superintendent, Domenica Burns, ZBA

Attorneys Seth and David Pullen also attended

Number of Attendees 6

Old Business:

Supervisor Murray asked if there were any corrections or changes to the Minutes from January 14th. Ryan Batte asked the Town Clerk if she made the correction to the minutes regarding the annual attorney fees. She explained that she could not change the minutes outside of the meeting. She stated it could be noted here that in January she stated the costs were \$6600 but actually it was \$33665 for the year.

Resolution #13 Approve the Minutes from January 14, 2025 Town Board Meeting

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #13 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the minutes from January 14, 2025 Town Board Meeting. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton abstain, Smith aye. 4 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstain.

Reports:

Reports of Public Officials submitted and on file: Justice Madeleine Seaman, Assessor Holley Smalt, Charles Cagle, Code Enforcement Officer, Debra Matthews, Dog Control Officer.

Superintendent Flansburg stated that they are plowing roads and mixing icer and sand. Supervisor Murray asked about the truck that was pulled and if it was fixed. He responded yes and stated that something hit the fan he was not sure.

Supervisor Murray stated that Greg Sikosek resigned from the Planning Board because he took a new job elsewhere. The Board needs to have a special meeting to discuss the Planning Board and the ZBA to get a plan going. Council Member Kiefer stated that we need to have the people that resigned come to the meeting and let the Board know why they resigned. Supervisor Murray suggested that they have paid Boards. A discussion continued for a few minutes. It was decided to hold a Special Meeting.

Resolution #14 Approval to Place Ad for Special Meeting on February 25, 2025 at 6:00pm

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Soukup Resolution #14 was adopted. It was resolved to approve placing an ad for a Special Meeting on February 25, 2025 at 6PM. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Domenica Burns stated that she is waiting for an application to come in. She may have a couple of residents interested in joining the ZBA.

New Business:

Supervisor Murray – Final Road Use Agreement – Baron Winds II. She stated that the Attorney Pullen, Tom and Wendell have worked on this agreement for the past two months. She asked Superintendent Flansburg if he was happy with it and he responded that he was not happy with it but felt threatened by the attorney. This is ridiculous as to how we were treated. He thought that the Wind Company treated the town terribly. Attorney Pullen recommended that the agreement be signed. A discussion began regarding the haul routes. A long discussion began regarding other pending issues regarding Phase II.

Resolution #15 Appoint Cindy Smith as the Deputy Supervisor for 2025. Salary of \$800 per year

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #15 was adopted. It was resolved to appoint Cindy Smith as Deputy Supervisor for 2025 with salary of \$800 per year. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith abstain, Murray aye. 4 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstain.

Resolution #16 Approve Deputy Supervisor Cindy Smith to Transfer Town Funds & Sign Checks

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Soukup Resolution #16 was adopted. It was resolved to approve Deputy Supervisor Cindy Smith to Transfer Town Funds and Sign Checks. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith abstain, Kiefer aye, Murray aye. 4 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstain.

Resolution #17 Approve the Fire Contract for 2025 at \$51,000

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #17 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Fire Contract for 2025 at \$51,000. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #18 Approve the Ambulance Contract for 2025 at \$31,000

Motion by Council Member Hilton seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #18 was adopted. It was resolved to Approve the Ambulance Contract for 2025 at \$31,000. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #19 Approve the 284 Agreement for 2025

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #19 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the 284 Agreement for 2025. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #20 Approve Salt/Sand Mixture Policy

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #20 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Sand/Salt Mixture Policy. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Smith aye, Murray aye, Soukup aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #21 Approve the Housekeeping Rules

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #21 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Housekeeping Rules with change of minimum wage added. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Soukup aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #22 Approve the Computer Use Policy

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #22 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Computer Use Policy. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Smith aye, Murray aye, Soukup aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #23 Approve the No Smoking Policy

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #23 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the No Smoking Policy. Roll Call of Votes: Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Council Member Soukup asked Attorney Pullen about a policy he was going to do regarding cell phones in a meeting regarding attorney/client privilege. He will work on it.

Resolution #24 Approve the Cell Phone Policy

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #24 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Cell Phone Policy. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #25 Approve the Historical Records Policy

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Soukup Resolution #25 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Historical Records Policy. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Smith abstain, Murray aye. 4 Aye, 0 Nay 1 Abstain.

Resolution #26 Approve Procurement Policy

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #26 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Procurement Policy. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #27 Approve Drug Policy

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #27 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Drug Policy. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Soukup aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Baldwins and the Justice have come to a date of March 11, 2025 to work on the audit of the Justice's Books

Supervisor Murray asked for 2 Council Members to volunteer to do the audit for the town clerk for 2023. Council Members Soukup and Smith volunteered. A date in April will be forthcoming.

Supervisor Murray has two updates. The Property Maintenance Law is being updated by the attorneys along with the Junk Car Law. Hopefully they will be ready for the next meeting. A discussion began regarding the property maintenance law.

The Historical Society has picked up the mural from the meeting room and will have it on display once they are up and running.

Resolution #28 Approve the Statement of the Supervisor

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #28 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Statement of the Supervisor. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #29 Approval to Pay the Bills on Abstract #2

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Councilman Kiefer Resolution #29 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the payment of the Bills on Abstract #2 in the amount of \$17,395.57 for General Fund and \$25,912.75 for Highway Fund with a total of \$43,308.32. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Soukup aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Public Comments??

Attorney Pullen mentioned the Highway Policy that he reviewed it and made some suggestions. He said it was a good policy and there were some questions.

Jason Dagger stated that the contractor wanted to know if there was anything they could do for the town while they are here working. Any activities would be great. Some things that were mentioned were the fire department, clean cemetery, paint town barns, 4h club. The Board will think about it and get back with Jason.

Jason Dagger stated that the wind company will pave the entire Canfield Road. Would like permission to bring up 6 trucks up on Canfield Road to drop off mulch equipment.

Resolution #30 Move to Executive Session with Town Clerk to take notes for Contract Negotiation

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #30 was adopted. It was resolved to move to Executive Session with Town Clerk regarding Contract Negotiation. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #31 End Executive Session and Return to Regular Meeting

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #32 was adopted. It was resolved to end the Executive Meeting and Return to the Regular Meeting. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Keifer aye, Soukup aye, Hilton. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Resolution #32 Approve to have Ben Wisniewski Represent the Town to Deal with Non-Compliance issues and take an Aggressive Stance regarding Article 10 with Baron Wind Phase II and NYS Siting Board

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #32 was adopted. It was resolved to approve to have Ben Wisniewski represent the town to deal with non-compliance issues and take an aggressive stance regarding Article 10 with Baron Wind Phase II and NYS Siting Board. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Supervisor Murray motioned to adjourn the meeting – all were in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 PM

Susan M. Peck
Fremont Town Clerk