

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN OF BREMEN, INDIANA
April 8, 2024**

The Town Council of the Town of Bremen, Indiana, met in regular session at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2024, at the Bremen Town Hall pursuant to notice previously published. Council Members Michael Leman, William Daily, Bryan Miller, and Alex Mikel were present. Also present were Keith Fraine, Director of Operations; Janet Anglemyer, Clerk-Treasurer; Ben Wright, Superintendent of the Electric Department; Chief Brad Kile, Police Department; Chief Matt Neher, Fire Department; Nate Lockwood, Cemetery Sexton; Ken Jones, Town Engineer, and Anthony Wagner, Town Attorney.

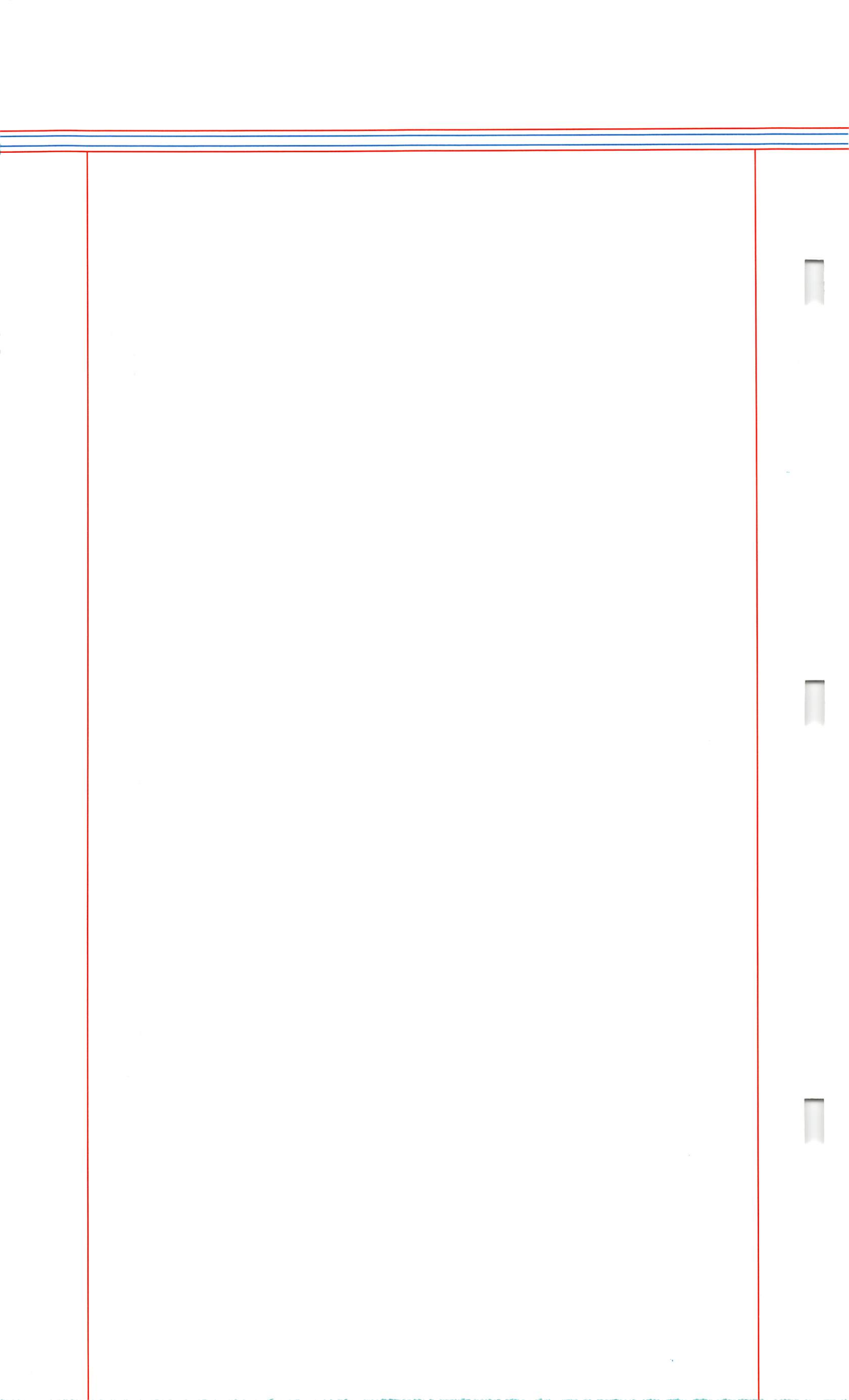
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Mr. Daily made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2024, meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

CLERK-TREASURER: Ms. Anglemyer submitted the docket of claims with the allowance payroll docket; Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the docket as submitted, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer then presented Resolution 2024-04, amending the ARPA disbursement schedule. She explained that there had been a slight revision to the cost of repairing the elevator in the apartment building, and that the remaining balance had been dedicated to the aquatic center project. Mr. Daily made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-04, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Ms. Anglemyer presented pay application number 3 for the Center Street project, payable to Haskins Underground in the amount of \$12,043.18. She explained that this was 3% of the retainage. Mr. Jones told the Council that Haskins needed to fix one more thing to receive the entire amount. Ms. Anglemyer then presented pay application number 2 for the Aquatic Center project, payable to Brown and Brown; Ms. Anglemyer noted that the payment was mostly grant funds. Ms. Anglemyer also told the Council they would begin their most recent audit the next day.

Mr. Leman offered two resolutions from Mr. Fraine, who could not be present for the meeting. He explained that Hardwood Interior Design would be adding a 60,000-foot renovation and expansion to their current location on West Plymouth Street, and had submitted an application for tax abatements based on \$4 million dollars of real estate investment and an additional \$1 million dollars in equipment. He added that the project would create 30 new jobs while retaining 80. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-03, regarding the real estate abatement, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Miller also made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-02, regarding the personal property abatement, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ATTORNEY: Mr. Wagner presented Ordinance 2-2024, the bond ordinance for the Wastewater Treatment Plant/Interceptor project, for second and third reading. Mr. Leman opened the floor for public comments, but no comments were offered. Mr. Leman closed the public comment. Mr. Daily made a motion to approve Ordinance 2-2024 on second and third readings, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Tyler Coffel appeared on behalf of Baker Tilly and told the Council that the Ordinance may need to be amended in the future but only in the event that the costs increase beyond anticipation. Mr. Wagner then presented Ordinance 3-2024, regarding the reorganized Unsafe Building Commission, for second and third readings. Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve Ordinance 3-2024, which was



seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Wagner also provided the Council with an update on the Code revisions.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Mr. Wright submitted his report on behalf of the Electric Department.

Chief Kile submitted his report on behalf of the Police Department.

Mr. Lockwood submitted his report on behalf of the Cemetery Department.

Chief Neher submitted his report on behalf of the Fire Department.

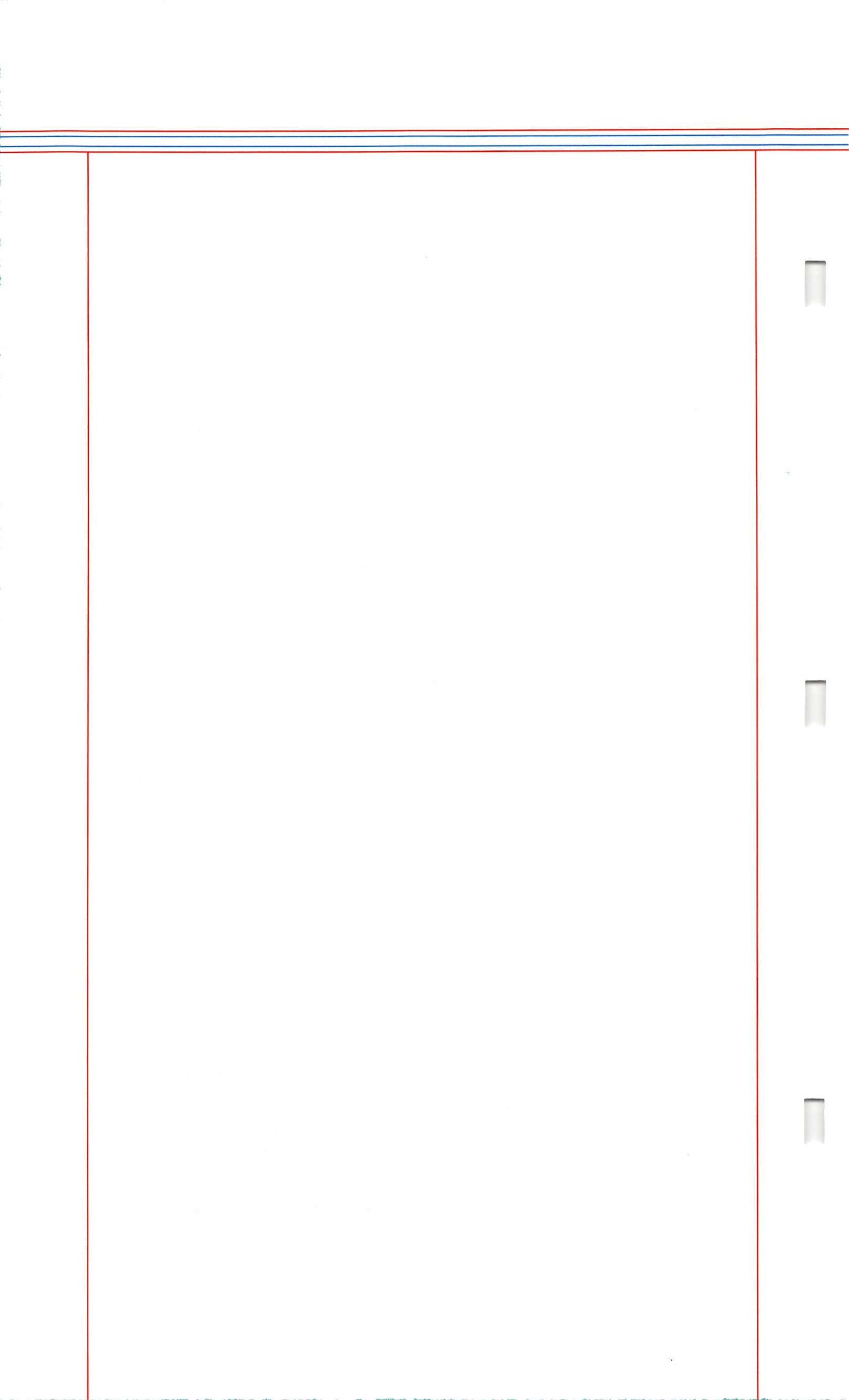
Mr. Mikel made a motion to approve the Department Head Reports, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Marianne Peters, from the Marshall County Solid Waste District appeared and invited the Council to attend a May 15, 2024, meeting regarding the creation of a county yard-waste facility. She explained that Marshall County was the only county in the immediate area that did not have such a facility, so the Solid Waste District had commissioned a feasibility study and was now seeking County-wide feedback. She also presented an annual report from the district. Mr. Leman asked if the facility would be taxpayer funded, and Ms. Peters stated that the district was funded by a separate levy but that a variety of funding options were under consideration. She noted that IDEM had substantial grants for this type of facility. The Council thanked Ms. Peters for the invitation.

Mr. Coffel explained that the proposed wastewater rate ordinance, Ordinance 4-2024, was based on a conservative analysis, and specifically pointed out that the ordinance called for a 50% rate increase, but the expected needed rate was only 47%. The Council discussed the proposed ordinance. Mr. Daily made a motion to approve Ordinance 4-2024 on first reading, which was seconded by Mr. Miller and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

TOWN ENGINEER: Mr. Jones was joined by Dan Byam and explained that the Wastewater Treatment Plant/Interceptor Project had been out for bid with the 11 plan holders for the interceptor project and 7 for the wastewater treatment plant project. Mr. Jones told the Council he was surprised to find that there would be no bids by the upcoming deadline on April 11, as all of the bidders wanted more time. He explained that the Town could give more time for the bidding project if the closing was pushed to the fall. Mr. Jones proposed cancelling the bid opening scheduled for April 14, 2024, reopening a new bidding period at the beginning of May, and closing that bidding period at the end of June. Mr. Leman expressed concern that receiving only one bid would be irresponsible, and Mr. Mikel agreed. Mr. Jones explained they would also look at several new programs and structures. Mr. Wagner asked if the additional time meant that the Town would reconsider the USDA program, and Mr. Jones replied that JPR would have Baker Tilly look at splitting the interceptor project out to the USDA, but that the USDA problem still existed. Mr. Wright asked if it would increase the material costs to push the project back, and Mr. Jones explained that availability was improving but that the other issue would be the cost of concrete. Mr. Mikel asked if the delay would impact the bond ordinance, and Mr. Jones thought the closing would just be rescheduled. Ms. Anglemyer asked if there would be any effect on the bond anticipation that was issued, and Mr. Jones said that Baker Tilly would need to negotiate an extension for the notes. The Council discussed cancelling the bids and setting the new bidding dates at the next meeting. Mr. Miller made a motion to cancel the current bids, which was seconded by Mr. Daily and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

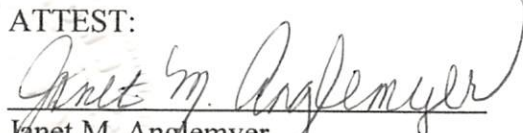
Mr. Jones added that the proposals for evaluating the parking lot and the space needs study would be forthcoming.



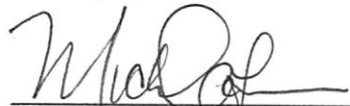
COUNCIL COMMENTS: No Council comments were offered.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Daily made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Mikel and carried by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays.

ATTEST:



Janet M. Anglemyer,
Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Bremen



Michael Leman, President

