

Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
January 18th, 2021 – 6:00 PM
Telephone Dial-in Available
Telephone: 1-317-934-0200 / PIN: 776 515 354#

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Brian Oliver, Councilmembers: Lavon Walser, Jaime Lopez, Diana Oliver, and Blanche Rhea.

VISITORS:

Kurt Bartelheimer, Joni Denton and Monty Rojas.

Kurt Bartelheimer introduced himself to the council and said he is the owner of the post office building in Farmington. He read the minutes from the last council meeting and just wanted to inform council that he is scheduling to do some improvements to the Farmington post office building in the spring.

OPEN REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:

Farmington's January 18th, 2021 Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM. This was an all-virtual meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of December 21st, 2020 Public Hearing and Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the December 31st (13th Month Transactions) and January 1st – January 18th, 2021 Check Register; 13th month expenditures total \$5,214.28 with \$2,918.45 in claims and \$2,295.83 in payroll. Check Register January 1st thru January 18th, 2021 with expenditures totaling \$19,980.29, claims total \$18,462.13 and payroll total \$1,518.16.
- Approval of the December 2020 Treasurer's Report; total cash balance of \$281,285.57 with \$191,075.47 in the checking account and \$90,210.10 in the MMDA Account.

Diana Oliver **MOVED** to approve the consent agenda for the January 18th, 2021 council meeting. Jaime Lopez **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

PLANNING AND ZONING:

Joni Denton is present for the planning and zoning committee. The group has put together an RV Ordinance that was distributed to all council members. The main reference for the ordinance was the City of Palouse's RV ordinance. There was discussion about the length of time that a homeowner could allow a guest to stay on their property within an RV. The RV would be allowed to hook to the water system but not the sewer system. Some discussion was had about days staying inside the RV versus days the RV was onsite but not in use. It was encouraged that there should be no RV use allowed in the commercial district and must be in combination with a resident of town. The water that is used by the RV during this time would be billed to the homeowner. Blanche Rhea suggested calling a few more local towns to see if they have an RV ordinance in place and try to gather more information to reference for a final decision. Joni said the group will call a few other towns and see what they have in place.

1 member of the planning and zoning has left the committee. A future resident of the town, Heliëgh Kliewer, has expressed interest in joining the committee now that there is a vacant spot. Mayor Oliver said he would be fine with this decision, but she must be moving to Farmington soon.

The planning and zoning committee looked at the building plans for the new property being built off Washington Street. There were a couple of concerns. The first being the lot line and setbacks, are these being followed with what is currently in the planning and zoning ordinance for that zone? The committee was also interested in knowing what the process is for determining the setbacks and who makes the property owner conform to these requirements? Mayor Oliver said he walked off the property the other day and he has followed all setbacks at this time. On the west side of the property, he is close to the setback requirement. The setbacks are determined from the property line. Joni said the committee was also concerned about the driveway entrance on this property and they were thinking if entrance happens off Washington Street, this could cause some congestion or be unsafe. Mayor Oliver said driveway entrances should come off the side streets and not main arterials, however there are a few properties in town that do enter from the main road and they would be grandfathered in. Dwayne will be responsible for paying the cost to have someone cut

the curb and put his driveway in. Joni said she will talk with the rest of the committee and bring the changes to the next meeting. Also, the new ordinance should specify that no mobile home parks or RV parks will be permitted within the town limits.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cody reported that the town does have a volunteer policy that was created when Ron Dugan was mayor. He will provide the council a copy of this volunteer policy at the next council meeting. Of all the policies that Cody had time to review, none provided protection for volunteers using heavy equipment unless they were with a company that was covered by their own insurance policy and were donating time on behalf of the company to that town. Cody will gather more information pertaining to volunteering and see how the town's insurance would prefer this type of situation be handled.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 401-21 2021 Employee Salary Resolution. Council reviewed the pay rates and Blanche Rhea **MOVED** to approve Resolution 401-21 establishing the pay schedule for employees and hourly help for snow removal in 2021. Jaime Lopez **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Oliver said he has an agreement from Whitman County to adjudicate the ordinance violations within the town. The county would collect money from violations and a certain portion of those funds would come back to the town. Mayor Oliver said the town just needs to find someone to become the code enforcer and issue the citations, ideally this would be someone from outside of the community. Cody mentioned that the town had reached out to a gal in Rosalia in the past and there was interest in her taking the responsibility and creating a contract with the town for the cost of providing the service. Diana Oliver questioned, how do they get this going and Mayor Oliver said the first step is finding the code enforcer and having a contract in place. Blanche was a bit concerned about the cost of this and wonders if the town will be able to recoup the cost of such a service. Jaime Lopez said it is likely something the town will need to do but it should only be used sparingly and wonders if the town should not be providing a written warning first. Mayor Oliver said he has already delivered several written warnings, and nothing has resulted from providing the warning. Council was in support of seeing if the gal from Rosalia would be willing to come and talk with the council and provide a cost estimate to take care of the ordinances.

Mayor Oliver addressed Monty Rojas (maintenance) saying the restaurant building in town needs to be hooked to the water system. It has been 20 to 30 years since service has been working in the building so likely all service lines to the building will need to be replaced. The owner of the building would be responsible for the cost of materials to make the connection since the service is no longer established and the water service ordinance lays out these details.

Mayor Oliver said the fire department would like to put together a fireman's park picnic this summer since they will not be able to do the pancake feed as usual.

Cody asked the council if they would like to supply a town credit card to Monty Rojas for town maintenance purchases. Diana Oliver **MOVED** to approve a town credit card be granted to Monty Rojas for town maintenance purchases. Jaime Lopez **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

Diana Oliver **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 pm. Jaime Lopez **seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**



Mayor Brian Oliver

Attest:  _____
Cody Lord Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Farmington - Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday, January 18th, 2021 - Farmington Community Center
6:00 PM – 7:06 PM