

**Town of Farmington**  
**Public Hearing & Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014**  
**Farmington Community Center**  
**6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

**Open Public Hearing – Vacating Alleyway - Block 23 Truaxe Addition, Lots 3-4 & 5-6:**

The Public Hearing for citizen comments on a petition filed by John & Noreen Ewing to vacate the alleyway in Block 23 Truaxe Addition, Lots 3-4 & 5-6 was opened for public comment and discussion at 6:00 PM. There were no comments or objections.

**Close Public Hearing:**

The Public Hearing to discuss vacating the alleyway in Block 23 Truaxe Addition, Lots 3-4 & 5-6 was closed at 6:06 PM.

**Open Regular Council Meeting:**

The Regular Town Council Meeting was opened at 6:06 PM.

**Roll Call:**

Mayor James Woomack, Council members: Joel Abbott, Noreen Ewing, and David Baker.

**Visitors:**

Layne Merritt, Max Mohan, Steve Martin, Sabra Martin and Jerry Wagner.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Dave Baker **moved** for approval of the March 17th, 2014 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Ordinance 228-14:**  
Ordinance 228-14 vacating the alleyway in block 23 Truaxe Addition, lots 3-4 & 5-6, in accordance with the petition filed by John & Noreen Ewing was approved. Dave Baker **moved** to adopt ordinance 228-14 vacating the alleyway in block 23 Truaxe Addition, lots 3-4 & 5-6. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, Noreen Ewing abstained from the vote and Diana Lowley voted via telephone Per (RESOLUTION NO. 329-12 - A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A TELEPHONIC PARTICIPATION POLICY FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS TO ATTEND COUNCIL MEETINGS) the motion passed.**
- **Discuss Committing Town Funds To the CDBG Water Line Replacement & Hydrant Installation Project Grant Application:**  
At the March 17<sup>th</sup> Town Council Meeting, Layne Merritt from J-U-B Engineers questioned whether or not the Council would like to commit any funding toward the Water Line Replacement & Hydrant Installation project that they chose to apply for CDBG grant funding for. The subject was tabled until tonight's meeting and at tonight's meeting council questioned the actual need for this project at this time. Layne Merritt stated that it was a project outlined for eventual upgrade in the Small Water System Plan, and that the same project was proposed to the funding committee on behalf of Farmington last year and was denied due to Farmington's relatively low water and sewer rates at \$34.25 each, per month when other Towns are charging \$60.00 each, per month. Another reason for the denial of funding per Jon Galow of the CDBG program, was that CDBG likes to see at least 50% in matching funds dedicated to a project which Farmington failed to do last year. The mayor questioned whether Farmington would be more likely to be granted funding for upgrades to the water tower. Layne Merritt stated that Farmington could certainly show a greater need for that type of project. Noreen Ewing **motioned** that Farmington NOT make application for a CDBG Water Line Replacement & Hydrant Installation Project Grant this year and that serious consideration be given to next year's application involving the rehabilitation of the water tower. **Joel Abbott seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

- **A Resolution for Certifications of Compliance for Application for CDBG Grant:**

The Resolution for Certifications of Compliance for Application for CDBG Grant Funding was not approved as council voted to forego this year's application for CDBG grant funding.

- **Disaster Planning – Committee Report:**

Council member Billie Wolff was not in attendance and therefore no report on disaster planning was presented.

- **Farmington Tree Committee Report & Discussion of Funding For Tree Removal:**

Council member Ewing reported that the first quote she received for the removal of each of the three Town owned Poplar trees from a tree removal company from Coeur d'Alene, was for \$850.00 per tree with the community doing the clean-up work. The second quote was from Wilson Tree Service in Moscow who stated they could not justify coming out to Farmington to cut any tree for less than \$1300.00 per tree. A subsequent quote from Bill's Tree Service in Colfax was for \$2700.00 to remove four trees, three Poplar and one which inhibits power lines in the park, plus the removal of three large stumps, all with the community doing the clean-up work. Broken down Bill's quote is as follows: \$2250.00 for three Poplar trees, the tree in the park will be removed for free and \$150.00 will be charged for the removal of each of the three stumps. Mayor Woomack asked the council if they would be willing to allocate \$3,000.00 toward the removal of the problematic trees that Garth Davis, Forestry Program Manager from the Spokane Conservation District recommended be removed. Mayor Woomack stated that it is hoped that a safety grant from the Association of Washington Cities to cover the cost of removing the most problematic Poplar tree at 101 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street will be awarded to the Town on or about May 15<sup>th</sup>. Council asked to table this issue until the May 19<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting at which time it will be known if any AWC Safety grants were awarded for tree removal and to allow for input from the full council.

Farmington Tree Committee members John Ewing, Jerry Wagner and Mark Hellinger were granted council permission at the March 17<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting to sell (as firewood) by sealed bid the left over pieces of the wood from the Ash trees recently removed from the park. One sealed bid was received and opened at tonight's council meeting. The high and only bid was awarded to Jerry Wagner for \$10.00.

- **Graveling and Grading of Farmington Streets:**

Mayor Woomack advised the council that he will be sending a letter to Phil Meyer – Whitman County Public Works Superintendent requesting the grading and crowned of the following streets in Farmington, at a cost of \$90.00 per hour for the town owned portions of these streets and at no charge for the county owned portions:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> between Main Street and Church
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Adams and Washington
- 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Washington Street to Bridge Street
- East Main between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
- Pine Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Adams between 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>
- "C" Street between Main and Pine
- Main Street between "B" and "C"
- Lincoln Street between Garfield/Farmington road and 1<sup>st</sup>

Dave Baker **motioned** to allow for up to \$7000.00 in Current Expense funds to be transferred to the Street Fund, to be used to commission Whitman County Public Works to grade and Rambo Trucking to gravel (with gravel purchased from Whitman County from Warner Gravel pit) the above mentioned streets. Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

- **Replacement of the Starter Motor on the Pump at Well #2:**

Mayor Woomack reported that Phil Stradley of Strom Electric worked up a bid price to replace the failing starter motor on Well #2 which will need approval because of the cost:

- Option A. Starter- \$2435.00 Installed
- Option B. Starter- \$3165.45 Installed
- Electrical Permit - \$ 125.00

Water maintenance operator, Todd Lobdell reported to the mayor that he is definitely leaning towards the "B" option because; It is a direct drive starter which slowly increases power to the pump motor to allow the pump to come up to speed gradually for easier start up and shut down of the pump motor, while also using about half of the electricity of option "A" (and our current starter which is failing), the warranty on option B is better and simplifies wiring controls at the power box by removing 5 separate relays that assist the current starter, which would leave only 2 electrical components to fail versus 7.

Joel Abbott **motioned** to purchase Option B Micro Starter for \$3165.45. Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.** The Acceptance of Bid the Proposal was signed by Mayor Woomack and mailed to Strom Electric on April 22, 2014.

- **Discussion of The Possible Development Of A Farmington, WA.Gov Web Site:**

At the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting Mayor Woomack questioned the Council's interest in Farmington establishing and hosting a Farmington, WA.Gov website. Joel Abbott stated that he would be willing to create and maintain a website for the Town. Both Mayor Woomack and Max Mohan offered any assistance necessary. Billie Wolff **moved** to table the discussion until tonight's council meeting to give Mayor Woomack time to speak with Karla Wagner about the existing Farmington, WA.com website. Karla Wagner advised the mayor that she is indeed willing to hand over the domain [farmingtonwa.com](http://farmingtonwa.com) to the Town of Farmington. She stated that Farmington could use the existing Web pages so as to not to have to start developing from scratch with the understanding that the coding on certain pages cannot be copied since it is owned by a third party. Karla said that as soon as soon as Joel can initiate a domain registrar and has pages set up, she will unlock and approve on her end. Joel agreed to coordinate this effort with Karla.

**2014 Excess Levies for Collection in 2015 – Resolution 360-14:**

Mayor Woomack recommended to the Council that Farmington call for election on two excess levy propositions on the August 5<sup>th</sup> preliminary election ballot and that Farmington request a \$9,000.00 street levy and a \$6,000.00 current expense levy for a total of \$15,000.00 in excess levies, the same as last year. Dave Baker **moved** to approve Resolution 360-14 **CALLING FOR ELECTION ON EXCESS LEVY PROPOSITIONS:**

**PROPOSITION #1**

**SHALL THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON LEVY A SPECIAL TAX OF \$ 9,000.00 AN ESTIMATED \$ 0.84 PER \$1,000 OF THE 2014 ASSESSED VALUATION, FOR CITY STREET MAINTENANCE FUND, FOR COLLECTION IN 2015, BE APPROVED?**

YES  NO

**PROPOSITION #2**

**SHALL THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON LEVY A SPECIAL TAX OF \$ 6,000.00 AN ESTIMATED \$ 0.56 PER \$1,000 OF THE 2014 ASSESSED VALUATION, FOR CURRENT EXPENSE FUND, FOR COLLECTION IN 2015, BE APPROVED?**

YES  NO

Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.** The resolution was mailed to the Whitman County Elections office on Tuesday, April 22, 2014.

**Approval of Claims & Payroll:**

Noreen Ewing **moved** for approval of the March 18th, 2014, to April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 claims & payroll totaling \$ **9,866.65**.  
 Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**CHECK REGISTER**

Town Of Farmington  
 MCAG #: 0806

03/18/2014 To: 04/21/2014

Time: 11:09:44 Date: 04/19/2014

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Trans	Date	Type	Acct #	Chk #	Claimant	Amount	Memo
190	03/31/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	Internal Revenue Service	602.24	March 2014 - 941 Monthly Deposit
191	03/31/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	Department Of Labor & Industries	342.84	2014 Quarter One Report - Labor & Industries
192	03/28/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	Employment Security Department	17.85	2014 Quarter One Report - Unemployment Securities
203	04/02/2014	Claims	1	EFT	Department of Revenue	662.22	2014 Quarter One Report - Department Of Revenue Excise Taxes
185	03/31/2014	Payroll	1	1542	Robert Hill	147.36	50% Of Two Permits Sold - March 2014
186	03/31/2014	Payroll	1	1543	Duane Groom	46.17	
187	03/31/2014	Payroll	1	1544	Todd Lobdell	387.98	
188	03/31/2014	Payroll	1	1545	Barbara Dial-Flomer	837.42	
189	03/31/2014	Payroll	1	1546	Brian Oliver	204.10	
214	04/15/2014	Payroll	1	1547	Brian Oliver	298.14	
215	04/15/2014	Payroll	1	1548	Barbara Dial-Flomer	837.42	
198	04/01/2014	Claims	1	5499	John Ewing	43.44	Reimbursement For Ink Cartridge Refills
221	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5500	Anatek Labs, Inc.	20.00	2014 - March Water Testing
222	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5501	Avista Utilities	1,716.59	2014 - March Electrical Utilities
223	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5502	Bank Of Fairfield	991.29	2014 - March VISA Charges; 2014 - March VISA Charges
224	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5503	Bishop Law Office	200.00	2014 - March Legal Retainer
225	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5504	Crossett's	485.10	2014 - March Water Chlorination - 40 Cases
226	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5505	Empire Disposal	39.66	2014 - March Empire Disposal - Garbage Collection
227	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5506	Frontier Communications NW, Inc.	118.54	2014 - March Frontier Phone - Fax - Internet Billing
228	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5507	J-U-B Engineers, Inc	414.68	2014 - March - Professional Services - Engineering - Impairment Study
229	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5508	Moscow Building Supply	204.32	2014 - March Charges
230	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5509	State Of Washington	9.00	Two Building Permit State Fees (RCW 19.27.085) Lopez - Porch & Kelsey - Car Port
231	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5510	Strom Electric	773.73	2014 - March Repair Of Pump At Well 2
232	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5511	Whitman County Auditor	378.83	2014 Voter Registration Fee (RCW 29A.08.150)
239	04/21/2014	Claims	1	5512	John Deere Financial	87.73	2014 April - Charges
						3,863.35	
001 Current Expense						3,863.35	
101 City Street						1,190.89	
401 Water Fund						3,245.87	
409 Sewer Fund						1,566.54	
						<b>9,866.65</b>	
							<b>Claims: 6,145.13</b>
							<b>Payroll: 3,721.52</b>

**Mayor's Financial Report:**

A copy of the mayor's year-to-date financial summary was given to the council. It was noted that Farmington had a negative \$ **698.00** variance through March 2014 and a budget surplus of \$ **2,172.00**.

**Approval of Financial Reports – Treasurer's Report:**

Dave Baker **moved** for approval of the March financial report showing Farmington with a \$ **142,913.48** cash balance. Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**Citizens Comments:**

Jerry Wagner reported that he and Lyle Wagner have voluntarily done a tremendous amount of construction clean-up work in the area of the Well #1 pump house. Jerry asked permission (which was granted by the mayor) to remove the abandoned helicopter landing pad located at the south end of Second Street, which has become a safety hazard because of protruding and jagged metal.

Max Mohan stated that he is willing to volunteer to mow grass on town owned property when the need arises this spring. He asked the mayor if the mayor reviews employee time sheets and suggested that in addition to reviewing them that the mayor also sign them as a matter of routine.

Mr. Mohan stated that he is concerned as to why the Farmington Harvest Festival is being held on town property and using the town’s name when to date, no proceeds from the 2013 festival have been received by the town. Mr. Mohan would like the mayor to question the festival chairman as to the group’s mission statement. Mr. Mohan stated that he would be willing to personally audit Farmington Harvest Festival’s accounting practices. It was suggested to Mr. Mohan that he discuss his concerns with the Farmington Harvest Festival committee members.

**Council Comments:**

Noreen Ewing stated that Ron Johnson will be donating a Sub Alpine Fir tree to be planted in the park.

Dave Baker asked why water meters were read early this month on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April. He was advised that the notice in the April 1<sup>st</sup> water-sewer bill stated that “Water meters will be read on or about April 25<sup>th</sup> for the first time this year – Please remove the winter insulation from your meter box”.

Dave Baker also questioned why Strom Electric was called out of Troy, Idaho to repair the pump starter on Well #2 when Farmington could have saved mileage fees by using a semi local electrician. The mayor stated that he will keep a closer eye on this type of issue in the future but that Strom was probably summoned due to their experience with working on this same pump starter at Well #2 on past occasions.

**Clerk-Treasurer Comments:**

None.

**Mayor’s Comments:**

Mayor Woomack announced that he will be out of Town from approximately May 12<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> obviously missing the May 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting which will be conducted by Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Baker.

The mayor stated that when Derek Bryan AWC program manager made his recent visit to Farmington, the mayor confirmed with Dereck that it is legal for Farmington to barter goods for services rendered. For example the wood from a town owned tree in exchange for the labor involved in the removal of the same said tree.

Mayor Woomack advised the council that Mike Pendergraff from the Evergreen Rural Water District has agreed to bring the necessary equipment to Farmington, free of charge, in order to locate the water leak at First and Main near Farmington State Bank. This gesture provided a savings to the water fund of approximately \$2000.00.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor James A. Woomack

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Dial-Flomer, Clerk-Treasurer  
Town of Farmington  
Public Hearing & Regular Town Council Meeting  
Monday, April 21st, 2014 - Farmington Community Center  
6:00 PM – 9:00 PM