

# Town of Farmington

## Regular Town Council Meeting

July 20th, 2015

Farmington Community Center

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

### Roll Call:

Mayor Pro-Tem David Baker, Council Members: Joel Abbott, Diana Lowley, Noreen Ewing and Billie Wolff.

### Visitors:

Katherine Barnes Pawson, David Vaudrin, George Martzall, Josh Bonham, Jerry Wagner, Don Schaffer, Lori Schaffer, Ron Dugan, Audrey Neuendorf, Jason Bond, Debra Hurley, James Woomack, Brian Oliver, Kirby Kiehle, Max Mohan, John Ewing, Shelly Lobdell, and Mark Hellinger.

### Open Regular Council Meeting:

Farmington's Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

### J-U-B Engineers – Layne Merritt:

- **Six Year Street Plan:**

Engineer Layne Merritt from J-U-B Engineers reported that his office will be submitting the 2016-2021 six year street plan which was proposed at Farmington's open public hearing on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Projects listed in order of priority are as follows: #1 - 5<sup>th</sup> Street paving project, #2 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Reconstruction Phase One, #3 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Reconstruction Phase Two, #4 - Alder Street, #5 - Bridge Street from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>, #6 - First Street between Washington & Main, #7 – All other roadways – Phase One & Phase Two, #8 – First Street Pedestrian Bridge Project.

- **TIB Application Priorities:**

Engineer Layne Merritt from J-U-B Engineers advised the council that he will be submitting a TIB grant application on behalf of Farmington prior to the August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015 deadline. Layne has been in contact with TIB's Gloria Bennett who advised him that Farmington's chances of receiving TIB funding are very limited due to the size of any project Farmington may have which would qualify for grant funding, to include crack sealing on 1<sup>st</sup> Street South of Washington and the area of 1<sup>st</sup> Street between Main and Washington.

- **Pine Creek Testing :**

Layne Merritt reported that overall, the results of the four sets of water samples taken from Pine Creek's designated testing sites were encouraging. The June tests did show elevated levels of fecal coliform at the downstream location. Due to dry creek conditions water samples from Pine Creek were unable to be collected in July. Cynthia Wall from DOE speculated that the Department of Ecology will ask for samples to be collected in January and February 2016 and that a re-evaluation of the testing requirements will be done in March.

- **Utility Rates:**

J-U-B Engineers would like to do a comprehensive study on the topic of utility rates before making suggestions to the council regarding rate increases. The topic will be revisited at the council's October or November meeting.

### Approval of the June 15th, 2015 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes:

Diana Lowley moved for approval of the June 15th, 2015 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Billie Wolff seconded the motion, the motion passed. Noreen Ewing disputed the following minutes as written **“Councilmember Lowley also stated that she is receiving complaints regarding the Barfus pasture property in the 200 block of North 5<sup>th</sup> Street which is infested with mosquitos due to the tall grass and standing water at that location. Councilmember Ewing stated that she will speak with Mr. Barfus to see what can be done to rectify this situation”**. Council member Ewing stated that she did not agree to talk to Mr. Barfus, she reported that what she said was “Yes, I am friends with him but I won't talk to him about this issue because that property has always been a pasture and was one before any of the residents complaining were there, therefore the use had not changed. Farmington has fields all over town being either hayed or farmed or used as pasture, unless we are going to stop everyone we really have no grounds for this.”

### Approval of Claims & Payroll:

Diana Lowley **moved** for approval of the June 16th, 2015 through July 20th, 2015 claims of \$5,301.50 & payroll of \$4,997.28 totaling **\$10,298.78**. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed**.

Town Of Farmington		<b>CHECK REGISTER</b>				Time: 18:32:29	Date: 07/17/2015
MCAG #: 0806		06/16/2015 To: 07/20/2015				Page: 1	
Trans	Date	Type	Acct #	Chk #	Claimant	Amount	Memo
425	06/30/2015	Payroll	1	EFT	Internal Revenue Service	809.96	941 Deposit For 06/01/2015 - 06/30/2015
427	06/25/2015	Payroll	1	EFT	DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT DSHS	100.00	06/01/2015 To 06/30/2015 - DSHS - Child Support
428	06/30/2015	Payroll	1	EFT	Employment Security Department	22.49	Unemployment Quarterly Report
429	06/30/2015	Payroll	1	EFT	Department Of Labor & Industries	557.22	2ND Quarter 04/01/2015 - 06/30/2015
442	07/06/2015	Claims	1	EFT	Department of Revenue	710.38	2015 - Quarter 2 Excise Taxes
422	06/30/2015	Payroll	1	1615	Todd Lobdell	420.31	
423	06/30/2015	Payroll	1	1616	Barbara Dial-Flomer	1,001.50	
424	06/30/2015	Payroll	1	1617	George Martzall	1,084.30	
452	07/15/2015	Payroll	1	1618	Barbara Dial-Flomer	1,001.50	
469	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5711	Anatek Labs, Inc.	444.00	2015 June - Pine Creek Testing & 2015 June Water Testing
470	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5712	Avista Utilities	1,517.76	2015 June - AVISTA Charges
471	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5713	Bank Of Fairfield	429.81	2015 June - VISA Charges
472	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5714	Bishop Law Office	200.00	2015 June - Legal Retainer Fee
473	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5715	Bob's Fire Equipment	97.02	2015 July - Fire Extinguisher Yearly Servicing
474	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5716	Cougar Graphics	22.75	2015 July - Lamination
475	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5717	Crossett's	507.69	2015 July - Cleaning Supplies & Water Department Chlorination - Bleach
476	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5718	Empire Disposal	40.07	2015 June - Garbage Collection
477	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5719	Frontier Communications NW, Inc.	114.62	2015 June - Phone / Fax /
478	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5720	J-U-B Engineers, Inc	69.39	2015 June - Water Quality Impairment Study (Pine Creek Samples)
479	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5721	JMT Petroleum	514.61	2015 June 31st - Diesel Fuel - 22 Gallons And 130 Gallons Of Non-Ethanol Premium Gasoline.
480	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5722	Moscow Building Supply	323.39	2015 July - Community Center Portable AC
481	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5723	Palouse River Counseling	16.50	2% Of The Liquor Taxes Received For The Past Quarter. R.CW 70.96A.087
482	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5724	State Of Washington	4.50	2015 July - Building Code Council Account State Fee (R.CW 19.27.085) Brian Austin #000029
483	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5725	Town Of Farmington	75.80	2015 July - Water & Sewer - FFD #546
484	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5726	Town Of Farmington	72.62	2015 July - Water & Sewer - Town Park #465
485	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5727	Town Of Farmington	76.59	2015 July - Water & Sewer - Community Center #85
486	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5728	United States Post Office	50.00	2015 July - Annual Postal Box Rental Fee
487	07/20/2015	Claims	1	5729	Whitman County Gazette	14.00	2015 June - Legal Notice Publication For The Six Year Street Plan.
						4,423.41	
001 Current Expense						1,405.63	
101 City Street						2,793.97	
401 Water Fund						1,675.77	
409 Sewer Fund							
						10,298.78	Claims: 5,301.50 Payroll: 4,997.28

**Approval of Treasurer's Report:**

Joel Abbott **moved** for approval of the June 2015 Treasurers Report showing Farmington with a **\$206,129.13** cash balance. **\$116,580.81** in checking and **\$89,548.32** in the MMDA account. Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**Acceptance of Mayor James Woomack's letter of Resignation:**

Mayor Woomack submitted a letter of resignation from his position as Mayor of the Town of Farmington effective immediately on June 26, 2015. Joel Abbott **moved** to accept the resignation, Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**Interviews for the Office of Mayor of Farmington:**

- Council member David Baker & Council member Noreen Ewing:**

Council member David Baker & Council member Noreen Ewing were each asked and answered the following four questions plus additional questions written and asked by Council member Wolff - a copy of which can be found in the official meeting minutes book:

- What special skills do you possess and which of your life's accomplishments make you the best candidate for Mayor of Farmington?**
- What do you consider to be the two most significant challenges currently facing the Farmington Town Council? Tell us how you would address each of these:**
- How would you separate your personal issues (or someone else's) while representing the Town's interests?**
- Is there anything that you would like to add as to why you are interested in serving as Farmington's Mayor?**

**Unfinished Business:**

• **Sprinkler System Quote:**

Councilmember Ewing reported that she has been unsuccessful in reaching the recommended vendor for a quote. She would like to attempt to get a quote from another vendor which she will present to the council at next month’s regular meeting.

**Future Renovation of Farmington’s Fire Pit and Barbeque Area:**

Council member Ewing suggested that a portion of the Harvest Festival donation money be used this fall toward a project wherein she and her husband John would re-construct the old “Garden Club” barbeque grilling area in the park and level the drop which leads from the gazebo down to the barbeque/fire pit area. Once she knows when or if other projects requiring cement work will be done (Old Jail repairs) Noreen will have a more accurate cost estimate for this proposed project.

**Planning Commission Informational Update:**

Farmington Planning Commission Chairman Max Mohan reported that he has spoken with Colfax City Administrator, Mike Ritzolli and the Manager of the Pullman Planning Commission, Pete Dickinson and was able to obtain valuable information. He also reported that he met with Eric Hanson an associate in the Bishop Law Office in regard to the Wolff/Kiehle variance denial. A meeting of the Farmington Planning Commission will be scheduled for the near future.

**Boyer – Sharkey Property:**

Max Mohan on behalf of Joseph Boyer owner of the “Sharkey” property located at 704 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street reported that Mr. Boyer intends to relocate to Farmington and to reside in the yellow residence on his property this fall. Mr. Boyer and Mr. Mohan would like to insure that the Farmington “Yard Waste” Dump Site be clean up and relocated to somewhere other than their back yards. Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Baker advised Mr. Mohan that once Mr. Boyer shows a good faith effort to clean the Sharkey property and has an occupancy permit for either house on the property the town will then look into moving the yard waste site from its current location.

**Resolution 367-15 – November 3<sup>rd</sup> General Election Excess Levy Propositions:**

Joel Abbott **moved for the approval of Resolution 367-15** allowing for the following levies to be placed on the November 3rd General Election Ballot. Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**PROPOSITION #1**

SHALL THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON LEVY A SPECIAL TAX OF \$ 12,000.00 AN ESTIMATED \$ 1.08 PER \$1,000 OF THE 2015 ASSESSED VALUATION, FOR CITY STREET MAINTENANCE FUND, FOR COLLECTION IN 2016, BE APPROVED?

YES  NO

**PROPOSITION #2**

SHALL THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON LEVY A SPECIAL TAX OF \$ 8,000.00 AN ESTIMATED \$ 0.72 PER \$1,000 OF THE 2015 ASSESSED VALUATION, FOR CURRENT EXPENSE FUND, FOR COLLECTION IN 2016, BE APPROVED?

YES  NO

**Discuss Amending or Repealing 1940 Ordinance 64/Ordinance 160-93:**

Councilman Abbott asked that within the next month, his co-council talk to the Farmington citizens and get their feelings on Farmington either repealing or amending the existing Fireworks Ordinance number 160-93 which was written in 1940. This topic will be re-visited at the August 17<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting.

**Appointment of Mayor by Council Vote:**

Farmington Town Council voted 2 to 1 to appoint David Baker as Farmington’s Mayor to replace James A. Woomack who resigned from the office on June 26, 2015.

**Mayor’s Oath of Office:**

Clerk-Treasurer Barbara Dial-Flomer issued the oath of office to Farmington’s newly appointed Mayor, the Honorable David Baker.

### Citizens Comments:

- Ron Dugan pointed out that when the council is making decisions related to the future of Farmington, each residence needs to be polled for their opinions. Dugan used as an example Max Mohan showing an interest in using the Methodist Church building as an incubator for new business in Farmington and Dave Baker stating that he is opposed to promoting Farmington because he wants it to remain the small quaint town he moved to 20 years ago.
- Ron Dugan noted that the valve to the primary lagoon needs to be opened to equalize the ponds which prevent them from getting too low and smelling. James Woomack stated that he will train Farmington's maintenance worker on how to take care of that issue within the next few days.
- Ron Dugan volunteered his services to assist with the 2016 budget process should the Clerk-Treasurer and Mayor desire his assistance.
- Ron Dugan suggested that someone check with Stephen Bishop to see if he plans to have a legal intern in the near future who could codify Farmington's ordinances.
- As a final point Ron Dugan suggested spending the Farmington Harvest Festival donation money to have additional survey pins and a survey map prepared for the town by Melvin Taggart of Taggart Engineering. Mr. Taggart has done over 10 private surveys in Farmington and is in his early 80's. Royce Johnson and Jerry Wagner possess a wealth of knowledge that will be gone within the next 20 years.
- James Woomack thanked the council and citizens for the support they gave to him while he was mayor.
- Audrey Neuendorf advised the council that she has hired John Ewing and Kirby Kiehle to excavate a trench across East Main Street to install the new water service at her residence. Audrey asked for assurance from the council that neither she nor her workers will be held liable in the event of an incident or injury. Mayor Pro-Tem Baker informed Audrey that he will check with the Town's insurance agent and attorney to ascertain liability information.

### Council Comments:

- Joel Abbott asked the citizens and his co- council to use good judgement when bringing topics to the table for discussion. Joel stated that all major topics (such as water) need to be on the agenda so that the council can prepare to deal with the issue prior to the meeting.
- Billie Wolff volunteered to check into having Farmington's ordinances codified.

### Clerk-Treasurer Comments:

- The Clerk-Treasurer reported to the council that she has made multiple requests to two different companies for a quote on the purchase and installation of chain link fencing for the Children's Playground Park, as of this meeting neither company (Pearson Fencing from Colfax or Quality Fencing from Princeton) have replied to her requests.
- Following the comment of Ron Dugan about polling Farmington households for their opinions, the Clerk Treasurer suggested dividing the phone numbers or e-mail addresses for the 88 Farmington residences up amongst the five council members so that each council member can touch base with approximately 17 households prior to final decisions being made.

### Mayor Comments:

- Mayor Baker asked the council to appoint a mayor pro-tem from amongst themselves. Diana Lowley **moved** for the appointment of Joel Abbott as Mayor Pro-Tem. Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**
- Mayor Baker thanked his employees for jobs well done and advised the audience that he will continue to employ Mayor Woomack's staff.
- Mayor Baker stated that he will be making some changes to the agenda format in the next few months to include moving the "Citizen Comment" portion of the agenda to the beginning of the meeting.
- Mayor Baker asked the council for permission to block Willow Street at Third when the Yard Waste Dumping area needs to be closed for the season. Diana Lowley **moved** to allow Mayor Baker to close Willow Street leading to the Yard Waste Dumping site at his discretion. Billie Wolff **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

### **Meeting adjourned 8:30**

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David L. Baker, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Barbara Dial-Flomer, Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Farmington

Regular Town Council Meeting

Monday, July 20, 2015 - Farmington Community Center

6:00 PM – 8:30 PM