

Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting - Monday, September 16th, 2013
Farmington Community Center
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

Roll Call:

Mayor Ron Dugan, Council members: Joel Abbott, Noreen Ewing, Diana Lowley, and Dave Baker.

Visitors:

Brian Oliver, Frank Triplett, Billie Wolff, Kirby Kiehl, Ron Johnson, Brian Rice, Max Mohan and Jerry Wagner.

Opening – Farmington’s Regular Town Council Meeting:

The Farmington Town Council Meeting was opened at 6:10 P.M.

Approval of Minutes:

Dave Baker **moved** for approval of the August 19th, 2013 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Council Position #5 Interviews:

Billie Wolff:

1. **What accomplishments in life make you the best candidate for a position on the Farmington Town Council?**

Answer: I grew up in Farmington and I moved back here because I wanted to come home. I’ve always dreamed of bringing either housing or some sort of industry to Farmington. I have a master’s degree in social work.

2. **What do you consider to be the two most significant and current challenges facing this Council? Tell us how you would deal with each of those.**

Answer: One would be the ongoing wastewater treatment issues and number two would be finances, trying to meet the town’s needs with limited revenue sources.

3. **How would you separate personal issues (either yours or someone else’s) when representing the interests of the Town?**

Answer: I’ve been in this situation as a landlord and it comes down to the fact that you just have to keep things separate.

4. **Have you ever volunteered for any group or agency?**

Tell us about that experience.

Did you handle finances or help to set financial goals?

Answer: Yes, for I volunteered at St. Vincent DePaul in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, we did fund raising events. Yes, I did handle finances; I dealt with Federal Grant funds.

5. **Is there anything else that you would like to add as to why you are interested in serving on the Farmington Town Council?**

Answer: Like I said, this is where I grew up and I’ve spent my lifetime wanting to be of service to this community.

Dave Baker **moved** to appoint Billie Wolff to serve out the remainder of Todd Lobdell’s term on the town council in position five.

Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Oath of Office- Council Position #5:

Clerk-Treasurer Barbara Dial-Flomer administered the oath of office to Billie Wolff who was appointed by the Town Council to serve out the current term of council position five.

Council’s Selection of Mayor Pro Tempore:

Noreen Ewing **moved** to appoint Dave Baker to serve a six month term as Mayor Pro Tempore. Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Unfinished Business:

- **Basketball Court Progress Report – Council Member Ewing:**
Councilmember Ewing reported that the fencing around the court be installed tomorrow, the hoops will go up on Wednesday and the court will be stripped on Thursday and dedicated at the Farmington Festival at 6:00 P.M. Saturday night. Gabbard Electric will install lighting at the court sometime after the Farmington Festival. Noreen stated that an aluminum can drive fund raising project is still going on and also a fund raising raffle is planned for the day of the Farmington Festival.
- **Gazebo – Fire Pit Area Park Project – Council Member Ewing:**
Council Member Ewing reported that the Hickman family (Diana Hurley’s family) would like to pay to have the fire pit and barbeque area at the town park repaired. Noreen said that she will talk with Junior and Diane about their wishes and report back to the council on this issue at the October 21st council meeting.
- **Lift Station Remote Read Out:**
Mayor Dugan advised the Council that at the October 21st meeting he will be calling for a vote on whether or not they will allocate \$3,300.00 of sewer funds for the purchase of a remote readout to record the DMR readings from the sewer lift station. Farmington’s waste water permit mandates that readings will be taken five days per week. The proposed equipment will also alert the user as to any malfunction or emergency with the system as well as automatically log DMR readings seven days a week at the same time each day.
- **Waste Water Issue:**
Mayor Dugan advised the council that even though Farmington did not receive the \$24,000.00 Waste Water Planning Only Grant our engineering firm applied for in June of this year to study a study done by TD&H in 2011, he has been in contact with CDBG to see if our application can be reconsidered. The mayor stated that during a meeting with representatives from the Department of Ecology, he learned that the only requirement of Farmington’s five year permit (which expires in 2018) is that the study done by TD&H be updated. At the October 21st council meeting the council will vote on whether they want to borrow \$15,650 from the Department of Ecology to be paid back at 2.6% interest over a 20 year period or to use existing funds from the sewer fund to pay J-U-B Engineers to review the TD&H study of options to rectify the leakage problem at the lagoons. J-U-B Engineers will explore three options, building a wetland, building an evaporative pond, or installing a drain field.
- **Pine Creek:**
The beaver trapping has concluded and Pine Creek is now free from beavers. Mayor Dugan will be meeting with a representative from the Department of Fish and Wildlife on September 18th to inspect the existing beaver dams in Pine Creek and to hopefully be awarded a permit to allow for the removal of these dams.
- **Graveling & Grading of Town Streets:**
Mayor Dugan advised the council that he has been in contact with Phil Meyer from Whitman County Public Works and learned that Whitman County will be crushing rock at the Warner pit in the spring of 2014 which they will sell to the Town for \$4.00 per ton. Frank Triplett asked the mayor to consider crowning the streets before applying the gravel.
- **Snow Plow Operator:**
Mayor Dugan advised the council that he has hired Kirby Kiehl as Farmington’s snow plow operator for this coming winter season.
- **Town Owned Acreage Revenue:**
The mayor reported to the council that the Town owns five acres on Cemetery Road which is being farmed by Ron Johnson with no lease agreement and no revenue from this property being received by the town. Dave Baker **moved** to continue to allow Ron Johnson to maintain the five acres of Town owned land on Cemetery Road without compensating the Town and to have the mayor draft a five year lease agreement for Ron to sign. Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

- **Utility Rate Increase:**

The Council will vote on a utility rate increase at the October 21st Town council meeting. Mayor Dugan has proposed that the Town charge a base rate of \$34.25 for each, water and sewer (including tax \$72.61 vs. the current \$67.31) a \$5.30 total increase over the current rates which includes taxes. Farmington residents will be notified of the January 1, 2014 utility rate increase proposal via their October 1st utility bill. The notice will also advise residents that this rate increase will be discussed at the October 21st Town Council Meeting.

Trimble Property:

Mayor Dugan addressed the issue of the Town's desire to purchase lots from Jim Trimble at the corner of Third and Washington. The Mayor stated that the Town is indeed interested in acquiring lots at that location and that it is his desire to discuss this issue with Mr. Trimble if and when Mr. Trimble so desires to meet.

Approval of Claims & Payroll:

Dave Baker **moved** for approval of the August 20th, 2013 thru September 16th 2013 claims & payroll totaling **\$18,818.99**

Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

| Trans | Date | Type | Acct # | Chk # | Claimant | Amount | Memo |
|---------------------|------------|---------|--------|-------|--|-----------|---|
| 536 | 08/30/2013 | Payroll | 1 | EFT | Internal Revenue Service | 824.20 | 941 Deposit For 08/01/2013 - 08/31/2013 |
| 532 | 08/30/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1488 | Barbara Dial-Flooner | 835.42 | |
| 533 | 08/30/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1489 | Duane Groom | 46.17 | |
| 534 | 08/30/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1490 | Brian Oliver | 373.17 | |
| 535 | 08/30/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1491 | Samuel Stone | 343.17 | |
| 487 | 08/30/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1492 | Todd Lobdell | 377.21 | |
| 571 | 09/13/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1493 | Brian Oliver | 373.17 | |
| 569 | 09/13/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1494 | Barbara Dial-Flooner | 835.42 | |
| 570 | 09/13/2013 | Payroll | 1 | 1495 | Samuel Stone | 343.17 | |
| 547 | 08/23/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5400 | Speciality Asphalt & Construction | 7,179.32 | Payoff Final Balance For Asphalt - Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project. |
| 577 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5401 | Anstak Labs, Inc. | 20.00 | 2013 August - Water Testing |
| 578 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5402 | Avista Utilities | 1,730.84 | 2013 AUGUST - AVISTA |
| 579 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5403 | Bank Of Fairfield | 503.72 | 2013 August - VISA Charges |
| 580 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5404 | Bill Foreyt | 250.00 | Beaver Trapping - Pine Creek |
| 581 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5405 | Bishop Law Office | 200.00 | 2013 AUGUST - Retainer Fee |
| 582 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5406 | Department Of Ecology | 910.70 | BIOSOLIDS PER MIT FEE -FISCAL YEAR 2014 July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014 |
| 583 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5407 | Empire Disposal | 36.52 | 2013 August - Garbage Collection |
| 584 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5408 | Frontier Communications NW, Inc. | 124.09 | 2013 AUGUST Phone & Fax Charges |
| 585 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5409 | Industrial Chem Labs | 300.71 | Sewer System De-Greaser |
| 586 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5410 | JMTPetroleum | 636.58 | 116 Gallons Of Unleaded Fuel - \$439.52 53 Gallons Of Dyed Diesel - \$182.80 7.8% Tax - \$14.26 |
| 587 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5411 | Moscow Building Supply | 482.85 | 2013 August - MBS Charges |
| 588 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5412 | Talco Hardware & Supply | 163.49 | Basketball Court Rehabilitation Purchases |
| 589 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5413 | Town Of Farmington | 116.07 | Account 485 & 85 - Water And Sewer |
| 590 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5414 | Washington State University | 431.20 | Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project - (2) Two Baseball Back Stops From WSU Surplus Store |
| 592 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5415 | Atlas Concrete | 1,046.85 | Basket Ball Court Rehabilitation |
| 597 | 09/16/2013 | Claims | 1 | 5416 | Quality Fencing and Construction, Inc. | 334.94 | Basketball Court Rehabilitation Fencing |
| | | | | | | 13,285.20 | |
| 001 Current Expense | | | | | | 1,347.44 | |
| 101 City Street | | | | | | 1,916.03 | |
| 401 Water Fund | | | | | | 2,270.32 | |
| 409 Sewer Fund | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 18,818.99 | |
| | | | | | | | Claims: 14,467.89 |
| | | | | | | | Payroll: 4,351.10 |

Mayor Dugan's Financial Report:

A copy of Mayor Dugan's year-to-date financial summary was given to the council. The mayor noted that Farmington had a negative \$ 7,354.00 variance through August cause by four unforeseen events which were \$1,600 in dead tree limb removal at the park, \$2,000 to Roto Rooter, \$2,600 in repairs to Farmington's Fire Truck and \$1,900 for the constructions costs of the Well One Pump House which were not covered by CDBG grant funding. The Mayor stated that the 2013 levy figures are not reflected in the budget and therefore in actuality, Farmington has a budget surplus of \$ 9,000.00 for the first eight months of 2013. The mayor had warned the council last month to expect a negative variance for the next few months.

Approval of Financial Reports:

Joel Abbott **moved** for approval of the July financial reports, Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Animal Control Issues:

Council member Baker stated that a citizen came to him reporting that two minors had been bitten by a local dog. It was agreed that the proper course of action to take in an incident like this is to instruct the complaining party to call the Whitman County Sheriff.

Citizens Comments:

Frank Triplett reminded everyone that the Farmington Festival is this Saturday from 12 noon until 11:00 P.M. He also stated that a meeting for all volunteers will be held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday evening at the gazebo in the park.

Council Comments:

Noreen Ewing asked anyone with some time to please assist with the fencing at the basketball court tomorrow and Wednesday.

Diana Lowley asked that the Town be more vigilant in their attempt to notify residents of pertinent information. Diana asked that the water bill be used as a source of making notifications to residents. Articles in the newspaper, as well as notices posted on the Farmington web site, the community bulletin board, at the local bank and the local post office are not being seen.

Joel Abbott questioned when the contractor who built the well house will be back to fix the low spots he caused when excavating the site. Mayor Dugan stated that he will call Layne Merritt from J-U- B Engineers to have Layne order the work to be completed in a timely manner.

Joel Abbott also expressed citizen concerns over the maintenance of the town owned equipment. Brian Oliver assured Joel that regular maintenance is being done and recorded on all of the Town's equipment.

Clerk-Treasurer Comments:

The Clerk-Treasurer asked that anyone who walks or drives by a water sprinkler in the next day or so help out the Town with irrigation by moving the sprinkler to another location. Farmington is irrigating lawns in preparation for the Farmington Festival being held in town this Saturday.

Mayor's Comments:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Mayor Ronald S. Dugan

Attest: _____
Barbara Dial-Flomer, Clerk/Treasurer

Regular Town Council Meeting, September 16, 2013