

**Town of Farmington  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – 6:00 PM  
Telephone Dial-in Available  
Telephone: 1-304-988-5162 / PIN: 624 718 946#**

**Open Regular Council Meeting:**

Farmington's November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. This was an all-virtual meeting.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Visitors:** Eric and Lisa Hasenoehrl with Keltic Engineering, Todd Lobdell

Eric and Lisa Hasenoehrl with Keltic Engineering attended the meeting virtually to talk about the town's water system and different ways to make improvements, potentially in phases so that more cost-effective programs could be instituted first and not require doing the whole plan at one time. Eric and Lisa provided the town with some maps to show the lines that needed to be replaced, hydrants that needed replaced, and feeder lines that should be increased in size. Keltic talked about the cost of doing all the projects and broke down the per user utility rate increase if the town was going to absorb the cost. Some of the projects are more cost effective than the others and help solve some major issues.

Keltic Engineering talked about alternatives to replacing lines such as cleaning the current lines. Jaime Lopez asked how a line is cleaned and where does the removed particles from the cleaning process go? Eric explained a device that looks like a large brillo pad, can scourer the lines and what is released from the scrubbing process would then be flushed from the system and not enter a user's home. Another cost saving process could be a pipe bursting process in areas where pipes need to be addressed.

Mayor Oliver was in favor of trying to locate some grants to assist in the funding of such an undertaking. Lisa Hasenoehrl said that funding the project through a rate increase over the next 30 years would be the quickest and easiest method to getting the project underway. Grant opportunities are possible but there are more hurdles to get over and will likely take much longer from start to end on the project. Eric thought if the town were not waiting on grants to come through, it would likely take about 3 months for the design process, a couple months to go out to bid and 6 months of construction. Ideally if the town were going to undertake a project like this, they would go out to bid in the winter months when bidding costs are typically lower by 30%. When approaching grants, you are competing against other municipalities that also need attention and the state uses a rating system to grant money to proposed projects.

Lisa said there definitely is a public awareness portion of raising utility rates and what the user is getting in return for the amount their utilities would be increasing. Keltic can help facilitate this conversation with public meetings and make sure the community knows what they are getting in return and the reasons for the updates. Mayor Oliver thinks a project like this should take a lot of planning and thought, so likely a decision on how to move forward would not occur until the end of 2021 and then maybe break ground in the spring of 2022. Keltic Engineering said they were interested in helping the town achieve whatever they decided their goal was. Possibly this will have to be a combination of rate increase and grant money to get the full project done.

Blanche Rhea asked about the chlorination at the water supply and Todd Lobdell, who used to run the water system said chlorine is only injected on demand. It is automatically injected into the system at a volume dependent on how much water use is occurring. Flushing the water lines in the system is only a temporary fix and there are about 3 homes in town that are on dead end lines and have water stagnation issues. The park well is hit with chlorine immediately whereas well #1 has a short run and a containment chamber was added to treat the water before it hits the reservoir.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

Jamie Lopez **MOVED** to approve October 19th Public Hearing and Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Blanche Rhea **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of the Claims and Payroll Register:**

Total claims and payroll from October 20<sup>th</sup> thru November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 totaled \$9,882.02, with claims totaling \$4,892.57 and payroll totaling \$4,989.45. Jaime Lopez **MOVED** to approve claims and payroll from October 20<sup>th</sup> thru November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Diana Oliver **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Approval of the Treasurer's Report:**

The October Treasurer's Report showed a balance of \$265,051.28, with \$174,851.73 in the checking account and \$90,199.55 in the MMDA account. Diana Oliver **MOVED** to approve the October 2020 Treasurer's Report. Blanche Rhea **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

CARES Covid grant funding time is running out and a plan as to how the grant money would be used needs to be presented and purchases made no later than October 30, 2020. All reimbursement requests must be sent the Department of Commerce no later than November 15<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Oliver said an emergency vehicle that fit the description of what they were looking for, has not been located so that appeared to be off the table. Blanche had suggested maybe using the funds for a town hall pantry with food and cleaning and sanitary supplies for the town citizens. Also, the idea of purchasing bleach for the water system was presented.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Oliver has presented some cost estimates to purchase some new equipment for the town. They included a generator, a walk behind lawn vacuum, an edger, a lightweight water pump, and a pressure washer. Jaime Lopez asked the mayor if the cost estimates came from one location and if so, could multiple bids be acquired before discussing which items are most needed for the town. Mayor Oliver will gather some more bids before the next meeting.

Jaime questioned why there were gaps and missing building permits on the list of building permits that had been issued. Clerk/Treasurer Cody said he was unsure why there were gaps in the sequence but would investigate it further to see if some light could be shed on the issue. It appears that permits: 65, 71 and 74 are missing from the inventory of blank permits. Mayor Oliver said there are a few permits that have been distributed and waiting to be filled out and returned to town hall. He says in the future that permits should not leave town hall and Blanche agreed.

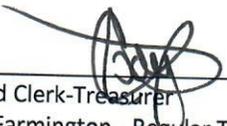
Mayor Oliver said he would like to have the Welcome to Farmington signs redone this next year and continue to put some work into sprucing up the buildings in town. Blanche suggested finding who owns the post office and ask if they would spend some time touching it up since it is a focal point in town. Diana Oliver said the old phone building by the kid's park could also use a rehab. Mayor Oliver said he will be receiving the new solar powered speed limit sign from Sheriff Bret Myers in the coming weeks and that a safety grant will be needed to purchase the second one for the other end of town.

Jaime Lopez **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm. Blanche Rhea **seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Brian Oliver

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

  
Cody Lord Clerk-Treasurer  
Town of Farmington - Regular Town Council Meeting  
Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup> - Farmington Community Center  
6:00 PM - 7:22 PM