

**Town of Farmington
Regular Town Council Meeting
March 15, 2021 – 6:00 PM
Telephone Dial-in Available
Telephone: 1-414-856-4833 / PIN: 550 555 265#**

ROLL CALL:

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

VISITORS: Mark Hellinger, Rose Anderson and Todd Lobdell

OPEN REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:

Farmington's March 15th, 2021 Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. This was an all-virtual meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of Feb 15th, 2021 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the Feb 16th, 2021 through March 15th, 2021 Check Register with expenditures totaling \$8,373.87, claims total \$4,111.26 and payroll total \$4,262.61.
- Approval of the February 2021 Treasurer's Report; total cash balance of \$266,812.96 with \$176,592.66 in the checking account and \$90,220.30 in the MMDA Account.

Jaime Lopez **MOVED** to approve the consent agenda for the March 15th, 2021 council meeting. Shelly Lobdell **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

PLANNING AND ZONING:

Mayor Oliver opened the meeting by addressing the proposed RV ordinance that went out. There was some concern about allowing guests to reside in an RV for more than 30 days, several council members felt that the 30-day time frame was appropriate. Also, a couple council members thought allowing more than one RV on a property might be appropriate and if the number of RVs collecting at a property became a problem, they could address it with a nuisance ordinance. Jaime was against prohibiting the allowance of an RV living while working on your property if you are in the commercial zone. He thinks a person in the residential or commercial zone, either one, should have the right to use their RV as a living space while their property is under construction. Diana explained that usually a person working on a commercial space is not going to be making that a residential space, so likely they will already have a place that they reside and can go to at the end of the day.

Concern was also raised about RV use and how sewage is handled. If a person were visiting an established resident, they would have access to their utilities and the potential for raw sewage spilling is far less. Charges for water usage was discussed and thought that a homeowner could incur the cost of the overage in water consumption if they had a guest staying in their RV. Guest Mark Hellinger asked if this was a land use issue and said that he spoke with the Town's attorney, Eric Hanson, which was brief due to the town's attorney client privilege. Mayor Oliver explained to Mark that Eric did draft and send this RV ordinance to the town. Mayor Oliver asked what the council would like to do with the Draft RV Ordinance, Shelly said she was good with changing the timeframe a person can stay in an RV to 31 days and maybe table the commercial/residential discussion until the next council meeting. Jaime said he would like to address the commercial zoned use of an RV and questioned who will be enforcing this ordinance. The mayor said at this time any of them, council or mayor could post a notice on the violating property. At some point soon, a code enforcer will be in place to post properties that are violating the town ordinances.

Rose Anderson questioned her having two RVs on her property and how this ordinance would affect her. She also questioned why the town listed this as an enacting ordinance once posted in the official town's newspaper, stating the town does not have a newspaper. The mayor explained, she could store the RVs on her property so there would be no affect to her. Also, the town's official newspaper is the Whitman County Gazette. The council elected to table the RV discussion until the next meeting and Mayor Oliver asked that all council members make notes and send them to Cody so proper revisions could be made to the ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Oliver said he had a meeting with Code Enforcer, Tina Coe. She is highly recommended from Sheriff Myers. She has agreed to a \$50 per trip fee and half of any fines that are collected through Whitman County Courts. Pertinent ordinances will be sent to her and then the town will just notify her of any issues they are seeing. She would make a site visit and leave notification of the ordinance violation and the cost of the infraction if the violation is not taken care of. Council was in agreeance that getting a code enforcer in place would be an incredibly good thing. Mark questioned the codified clause within the interlocal agreement with Whitman County. Cody will ask Eric if anything needs to change there. Shelly Lobdell **MOVED** to approve using Tina Coe as a code enforcement officer for the Town of Farmington with a \$50 trip fee and 50% of proceeds from fines collected by Whitman County as payment. Jaime Lopez **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

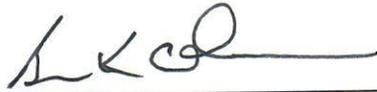
NEW BUSINESS:

There is a property in town where utilities have not been activated yet. Both potential homeowners are saying it is not their issue. Guest Todd Lobdell said that if they do not set up an account, see if there is a way to lock the meter so no services need to be provided. This same property has been given a letter with about half a dozen other code violations, and likely the code enforcer will be visiting there once the contract has been signed and is in place.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Shelly said she has been looking into building permits and how the process is handled at various places. She is hoping this discussion could take place at the next council meeting, so the building permit process is tightened up. Diana said one of the local girls' basketball 5th and 6th graders would like to use the basketball court for practice and she wonders if everyone would be in favor of having a blocked off time for them, if they elect to use the court. Council was in support of this and if the girls team elects to do this, possibly a sign should be purchased and installed that says to play at your own risk.

Shelly Lobdell **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm. Diana Oliver **seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**



Mayor Brian Oliver

Attest: _____


Cody Lord Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Farmington - Regular Town Council Meeting

Monday, March 15th, 2021 - Farmington Community Center

6:00 PM – 7:20 PM