

**Town of Farmington  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
June 21, 2021 – 6:00 PM  
Telephone Dial-in Available  
Telephone: 1-925-385-6987 / PIN: 815 960 817#**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**VISITORS:** No Guests

**OPEN REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:**

Farmington's June 21<sup>st</sup>, 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 May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the May 18<sup>h</sup>, 2021 thru June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021, Check Register with expenditures totaling \$9,117.91, claims total \$4,831.56 and payroll total \$4,286.35.
- Approval of the May 2021 Treasurer's Report; total cash balance of \$278,407.12 with \$188,170.91 in the checking account and \$90,236.21 in the MMDA Account.

Diana Oliver **MOVED** to approve the consent agenda for the June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021, council meeting. Shelly Lobdell **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

We are waiting on an editable version of the RV ordinance to come back so that it can be further revised by the council's comments. Mayor Oliver said he would like to see language in the revised RV ordinance that a retrofitted non-traditional recreational vehicle not be allowed. It must be a recreational vehicle that was manufactured as such. For instance, no retrofitted buses or tiny home licensed and RVs. Council agreed this should be added.

**Resolution 404-21 Current Expense and Street Levy**

Mayor Oliver reminded council the town elected to take the levy off the primary ballot because the cost of running the levy was prohibitive. The same amounts will be asked for on the general election ballot on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. \$8,000 is requested in the street fund. There is now a Route A and Route B for road oiling, and it will be posted with the winning bid for street oiling in case a resident is not on the route but would still like to get oil applied. Mayor Oliver said it is approximately \$7,400 for each route to get oil applied. Diana Oliver asked when the road oiling will be scheduled saying if it is not done soon, it won't be worth doing. Treasurer Cody Lord said the budget is in good shape with expenses right inline with projections. Lavon Walser said she is in support of getting the roads completed. Mayor Oliver would like to it completed at least by the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July. Blanche Rhea **MOVED** to approve Resolution 404-21 approving the levies to be placed on the General Election ballot, Current Expense levy \$15,000 and Street Levy \$8,000. Diana Oliver **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

More money was needed to repair the riding mower. The mower is getting up there in hours and starting to cost money to repair and it may be time to start thinking about replacing the current mower. An equivalent mower will cost a minimum of \$12,000. Mayor Oliver instructed Monty to get the current mower working. Blanche asked if there was a backup mower and the mayor said there is an older residential Toro zero turn in the shop, but it is not working. Blanche thinks it would be a good idea to get the Toro serviced as a backup in case the mower goes down again. Mayor Oliver authorized Monty to take it to get an estimate for repair.

A couple letters went out to residents who were in violation of the town's ordinance. They have been informed the town is moving towards having a code enforcer in place and if the issues are not resolved, there will be penalties coming. The adjudication contract with Whitman County is on the commissioner's desk and waiting approval and signatures. Once completed the violation fee schedule can be reviewed and passed and then ordinances the town is wishing to enforce will be sent to the state JIS system to be able to process tickets. Blanche said the truck on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Washington must be moved by the date in the letter or the town will tow and back charge Dwayne Alexander, who owns the truck. Mayor Oliver asked if the council would like to support this. Shelly Lobdell **MOVED** to tow the truck if not moved by the deadline and back charge the owner of the vehicle. Blanche Rhea **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Schaffer has mowed the front of the Mikalson house and Blanche is wondering if Monty can maintain just the town portion of that planting strip in the future so that it does not get out of control again. Blanche would also like to know if Eric and Amanda do not come to take care of the Mikalson yard that is over-grown, can the town have this mowed and back charge them for the expense? Diana said the town cannot arrange to go on their personal property, but with the adjudication agreement in place, the town can start imposing fines for the property not being maintained.

The squatter on the property on Lincoln Street has returned. It was posted in the newspaper that he was supposed to vacate and not return to this property. It is probably time for another courtesy call to the Whitman County Sheriff's office and find out why this is allowed to continue when he was already told not to return. Mayor Oliver said he would reach out to the Sheriff's office and make a complaint about the situation.

**Clerk-Treasurer's Comments:**

CTI will come out and provide a bid for the bridge repair, but it will not happen until fall. ARPA Covid Relief funds have been applied for and the first half of them are expected shortly. There is no hurry to spend these funds, so taking time to find a suitable water and sewer infrastructure project to fund is fine. Monty will be working to get some quotes for the sewer lift station pumps with variable drive motors.

**Mayor's Comments:**

Mayor Oliver said due to dry and hot conditions, he would support putting in place a burn ban starting June 22, 2021. This fire ban will be in place until conditions are more suitable to have recreational fires. He is also suggesting that no fireworks be allowed in town this year, it is just too dry. Council was in support of these recommendations and asked Cody to post on the town's website, public notice display boards outside town hall, the post office and bank if they will post for the town. Ideally everyone will be fully aware of the burn and fireworks ban this year and the importance of following this decision.

Blanche Rhea **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. Shelly Lobdell **seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**



Mayor Brian Oliver

Attest:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Cody Lord Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Farmington - Regular Town Council Meeting  
Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 - Farmington Community Center  
6:00 PM – 6:35 PM