

Town of Farmington
Regular Council Meeting
Onsite Town Hall
March 18th, 2024

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Blanche Rhea, Council Members: LaVon Walser, Haleigh Varney, Ben Smith, and Jason Brausen

GUESTS: Joan Smith, Mike Erickson

OPEN REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:

Farmington's February 18th, 2024, Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. This was an onsite meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of the February 21st, 2024, Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes
- Approval of the February 22nd to March 18th, 2024, Check Register.
- Approval of the February 2024 Treasurer's Report

Ben Smith **MOVED** to approve the consent agenda for March 18th, 2024. Jason Brausen **seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS:

TextMyGov:

Clerk Beth explained what the platform of TextMyGov was and how it can be used for localized emergency alerts, as well as the cost if the town is interested and would like to sign up for it. The Town of Garfield is also interested and if both towns are agreeable, then the costs would be shared.

After much discussion, in which most people liked the idea, the cost of \$1500/yr seems prohibitive for the low number of people potentially wanting to participate. Beth said it is possible to get a grant but needs to do more research on it. Haleigh Varney asked about contacting AWC to see what ideas they may have, and others suggested looking into what the public school system uses for their calling system. More research will be done before making a final decision.

Resilient Team for Farmington:

Mayor Rhea relayed the conversation she had with Frances Wagner about putting together a response team for the Town of Farmington. It's a program to help small towns and the idea is to have volunteers in place with counseling backgrounds to help people with mental health concerns, such as struggling with post partem, medical issues and/or suicidal thoughts, get the help they need. Mayor Rhea said they are looking for volunteers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Keltic/TIB Update:

Lisa and Eric provided a bulleted letter of the current status of the street project. The ad is in the paper for the next 3 weeks and bids will be opened on April 9th at 2pm at town hall. Then Keltic will review them to make sure they are legitimate. After TIB approves them, then council can act on awarding the lowest responsive bid. Hopefully this can be done during the April town council meeting.

Zipty:

An email was received from Chris St. Germaine stating that she received confirmation that the plan in Farmington will be an aerial build and does include connection to the old Wilbur Ellis facility. The marketing and construction zone materials that can be imbedded on the town website as well as social media pages were also received.

Dog Ordinance:

Mayor Rhea asked if everyone was ready to review Garfield's Dogs and Cats Ordinance. An extensive section by section discussion ensued. Points considered were what methods are sufficient to physically hold a dog back in a potentially dangerous situation, electronic collar/fence vs physical leashes/boundaries; should the town put in a shelter/kennel for holding loose animals or contract with the humane society; and whether or not to enforce dog licensing again vs creating a Dog Directory.

Mayor Rhea reminded everyone that if a loose dog is found chasing/killing your farm animal, state law, per RCW 16.08.020, gives you the right to shoot said dog in protection of your property/food source.

Discussion was also had concerning the town's current ordinance on banning the Pitbull breed of dog. Jason Brausen relayed the event that happened that brought about the creating of ordinance 142-90 and after a few minutes, the consensus was to repeal that ordinance. Mayor Rhea asked for a motion to repeal Ordinance 142-90. Jason Brausen **MOVED** to repeal Ordinance 142-90 Pitbull Ban, Haleigh Varney **seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.**

MAINTENANCE COMMENTS

Lavon Walser has been cleaning the gravel off the streets and sidewalks so she can start mowing as the weather gets nicer.

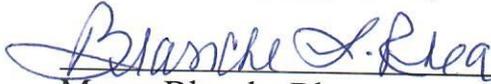
CITIZEN COMMENTS

Joan Smith asked about having a cell tower in Farmington and Haleigh Varney responded with information about a cell tower going up in Oakesdale at their cemetery sometime before the end of the year.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Rhea thanked council for their work on the dog ordinance and said the notes taken for the changes made will be taken to the town's attorney to continue the process of updating it. Next ordinance to work on will be for farm animals and fowl.

Mayor Rhea asked if there were any other concerns needing to be discussed, and as there were none, she asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason Brausen **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Haleigh Varney **seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.** The regular town council meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.



Mayor Blanche Rhea

Attest: 

Beth Anderson Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Farmington – Public Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday, March 18, 2024 - Farmington Community Center
6:00PM – 7:50PM