

Town of Farmington
Preliminary Budget Hearing
Regular Town Council Meeting
Town Hall
October 28th, 2024

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Blanche Rhea, Clerk Treasurer Lynn Yarnell, Council Members: Lavon Walser, Josh Gamez and Mike Erickson

Guests:

Cody Lord, Brian and Diana Oliver, Mark and Liz Hellinger, Joan Smith, Lonnie Erickson and Brian Westgate

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Blanche Rhea called the Preliminary Budget Hearing to order at 6:00PM

Questions Concerning 2025 Budget:

Council member Mike Erickson asked how to understand the current budget. Cody Lord gave a detailed explanation of how the budget is set in place. Cody offered his time and knowledge to a decided date in the future to have a Budget Training class for council members.

Lavon Walser **MOVED** to close the preliminary budget hearing. Josh Gamez **seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.** The Public Hearing was closed at 6:30 pm.

REGULAR CONSENT AGENDA MEETING:

Check Register, Checks and Invoices were all approved by the council. July, August and September meeting minutes were all reviewed. Lavon Walser **MOVED** to pass the consent agendas. Josh Gamez **seconded the motion and the motion was passed.** Mike Erickson was a nay vote.

OLD BUSINESS:

- TIB Grant working with Garfield happening in early spring on Whitman Street.
- Mayor Rhea updated the council with details about the TIB grant and funding along with the update for Whitman Street. Mike Erickson **MOVED** to approve the additional funding and agreement with TIB for future road work on Whitman ST with an interlocal agreement with the Town of Garfield. Josh Gamez **seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

- Ziplly and Avista Franchise agreement, on track for fiber and Avista permits. Ziplly has a statewide franchise agreement RCW-3599030. Mayor Rhea will be in talks with Bishop Law office.
- Council positions #2 and #5 are still open.
- Mayor Rhea appointed Lavon Walser as Mayor Pro-tem.
- FEMA would like to come to have a meeting with the Town of Farmington about flood plains and high-flood spots.
- Critical Area Ordinance- Fish and Wildlife would like to update the ordinance. Mayor Rhea will have copies of said ordinances for all who want it.
- Building Permit changes will be modified to Whitman County way. Lavon Walser, Mike Erickson, and Josh Gamez are all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mayor Rhea Introduced Lynn Yarnell as the new Clerk/Treasurer and seeking approval from council for her official position and office hours. Mayor Rhea stated that there will need to be a motion to have herself, Lynn Yarnell and Lavon Walser, on new credit cards and bank authorizations. Josh Gamez **MOVED** to approve banking authorizations. Mike Erickson **seconded the motion, and the motion was passed.** Lavon Walser abstained.
- Resolution 423-24 is a resolution detailing the pay scale for town workers. Mike Erickson **MOVED** to approve Resolution 423-24 adopting employee pay rates as of 10/28/24. Josh Gamez **seconded the motion, and the motion passed.** Lavon Walser abstained.
- Mayor Rhea made a request to purchase a new printer and office chair for town hall. Mike Erickson **MOVED** to approve the office purchases. Josh Gamez **seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.**

MAINTENANCE COMMENTS:

- Liz Hart had a new sewer line installed. Jacob Billington came to town to help assist. They tore up a large chunk of road in the process. Main contractor stated that the asphalt will be fixed.

CLERK COMMENTS:

- Lynn Yarnell stated that she is enjoying her new position as the new town clerk.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

- Mayor Rhea said the prior clerk did not place the levy on the general ballot and therefore there will be no funds available for extra repairs and maintenance this coming year and may affect snow removal.

Lavon Walser **MOVED** to adjourn the council meeting. Josh Gamez **seconded the motion,**
and the motion was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7 pm.

X *Blanche Rhea*

Mayor Blanche Rhea

X *Lynn Varnell*

Attest: Lynn Varnell, Clerk Treasurer
