

**Town of Farmington
Regular Council Meeting
Onsite Town Hall
August 19, 2024**

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Blanche Rhea, LaVon Wasler, Haleigh Varney, Josh Gamez, Jason Brausen

GUESTS:

Mark & Liz Hellinger, Brian Westgate, Ben and Joan Smith, Mark Olmstead, Elizabeth Hart, Kurt Bartleheimer, Mike Erickson.

OPEN REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING:

Farmington's August 19, 2024 Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM. This was an onsite meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

Due to changes in the Town Clerk's office, no consent agenda was available. Council approved that the next council meeting the Consent Agenda will be reviewed and motioned at that time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council was informed of Beth Anderson, Town Clerk, termination of employment with the Town of Farmington on August 9, 2024. Discussion began with Ben Smith asking Haleigh Varney why she was in Town Hall Office during closed hours. After much discussion and questions from the community members and council, Haleigh stated she was helping a friend with an ordinance. More discussion ensued with Haleigh telling Ben Smith that "if he and anyone else doesn't like what she has to say or does that he, Ben and anyone else can "shove it". Community member, Mark Hellinger reprimanded Haleigh, stating that she is bound to "professional conduct" as a council member. At this time Haleigh declined to participate any further in the meeting. Discussion of securing the office was of importance to avoid any further problems from anyone in the future. Council approved the mayor to find and purchase fire proof and secured file cabinets since the ones in the office are in very poor shape. Motion was made by Jason Brausen and seconded by Josh Gamez. All voted in favor with the exception of Haleigh Varney who did not vote. Majority vote passed this motion.

Ben Smith resigned his position as Council #4. Ben assured the council members that he did not resign because of the termination of the town clerk and the anger from Ms. Varney over that. He stated he resigned because he did not have the energy nor the time to do what was expected for council to be doing.

Council Position is open and will be posted

Clerk/Treasurers position is open and will be posted

OLD BUSINESS:

Building permit discussion. It was agreed that fee structure needs to be re-done. Council discussed this with several ideas coming forth. It was decided by council to table the building permit re-vamping for a month and will be re-visited at the September council meeting.

MAINTENANCE COMMENTS:

Lavon Wasler stated that the recently paved roads have a few issues that need to be fixed. This will be forwarded to Keltic Engineering so they can get the contractor back to Farmington to do the repairs.

CLERK COMMENTS:

None

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Elizabeth Hart and Mark Olmstead gave updates as to the construction project. More questions from council about how things were being done and if all requirements were followed. Ms. Hart stated that she had not heard back from Department of Ecology yet. She was told to follow up with them and then as long as she did what was required from them, council could see no reason for her not to begin her project. Ms. Hart will contact DOE and keep the Town of Farmington informed of her progress.


COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Haleigh Varney asked the Mayor if the banking accounts and credit card accounts now had the previous clerks name off. Mayor stated that all was being taken care of. Haleigh then asked about the job posting of the clerks position and again was told that all was being taken care of and handled.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Rhea reminded council of the professional conduct requirement from each one that serves and represents the town. Showing respect to the community and other council members is required at all times, WE all work for the Town of Farmington.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM. Motioned by Jason Brausen and seconded by LaVon Wasler



Mayor Blanche Rhea

-Attest: _____



Lynn Yarnell Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Farmington-Public Regular Town Council Meeting
Monday, August 19, 2024 Farmington Community Center 6:00PM- 7:35PM