

**Town of Farmington  
Regular Town Council Meeting  
Monday, July 15, 2013  
Farmington Community Center  
6:10 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.**

**Opening - Regular Farmington Town Council Meeting:**

The Farmington Town Council Meeting was opened at 6:10 P.M.

**Roll Call:**

Mayor Ron Dugan, Council members: Joel Abbott, Noreen Ewing, Diana Lowley, and Todd Lobdell.

**Visitors:**

Mark Hellinger, Brian Oliver, Shelly Lobdell and Jerry Wagner.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Todd Lobdell **moved** for approval of the June 17th, 2013 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**Mayor's Opening Comments:**

None.

**Fifth Street Traffic & Dust Control:**

Mayor Dugan invited anyone interested, to attend a meeting at 9:00 A.M. Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center with Phil Meyer from the Whitman County Road Department. Also in attending will be Mr. Meyer's supervisor. Item to be discussed will include the Third Street striping project, as well as Fifth Street becoming an arterial, along with speed control and dust control options for Fifth Street. The mayor reported that per Phil Meyer, the installation of speed bumps as a method to control speeding traffic on Fifth Street is not an option. Shelly Lobdell and Brian Oliver both expressed concern over the heavy recreational traffic which travels Fifth Street enroute to Skyline Drive and Mary Minerva McCroskey State Park. Council member Lowley stated that she researched the prospect of having a dust control company from Spokane spray Magnesium Chloride on 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Washington Street to almost Pine Street and was quoted a cost of just under \$1,000.00. The council asked Mayor Dugan to investigate having Fifth Street treated with a dust control agent from Washington Street North to just beyond "The Lightening Tree" North of 401 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street. Once the Mayor has gathered this information a special council meeting will be called to vote on whether Farmington will pay the entire cost of the dust control treatment or if the residents living along Fifth Street will be asked to pay a percentage of the cost. And also to decide whether or not other areas of Farmington will receive dust control treatment this year.

**Public Nuisance – Health Issue:**

Mayor Dugan received a complaint from a resident who stated that a neighbor had hauled several loads of household junk and debris into their (already overflowing) yard in the West 200 block of Lincoln Street over the weekend. A second complaint from a different party was received stating that the occupants of the residence in the West 200 block of Lincoln Street were also unloading unsightly debris onto the town's right of way at the corner of First and Main Street. Mayor Dugan contacted all parties involved including the Whitman County Health Department and will update the council as to this situation at the August 19<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting.

**Unfinished Business:**

- **Waste Water Status Update:**

Mayor Dugan advised the council that Farmington did not receive the \$24,000.00 Waste Water Planning Only Grant our engineering firm applied for in June of this year to study a study done by TD&H in 2011. Two reasons cited for the denial of the grant were that Farmington's sewer rates are currently too low at just \$17.50 per month and that Farmington had received the original planning only grant for \$33,000.00 for this same purpose in 2008 (a mere five years ago). The mayor warned the council that at the upcoming August 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting, he will be suggesting a utility rate increase to commence on January 1, 2014. The mayor reported that he met with Layne Merritt and Steve James from J-U-B Engineers

late last week to discuss the 29 year old issue of Farmington's sewage lagoons leaking problem. The mayor reported that in 2008 the Town's engineering firm at the time, TD&H completed a study of the leakage situation in 2011 at a cost of \$33,000.00 in grant funding, which the Department of Ecology finally responded to in 2013. Since the \$24,000.00 grant to study the 2008 study was not granted, the next course of action will be to apply (prior to October 2013) to borrow \$30,000.00 from the Department of Ecology to be paid back at 2.6% interest over a 20 year period. If this loan is granted, the money will be received in June 2014 followed by another grant application submittal in 2015. The \$30,000.00 loan will be used to pay J-U-B Engineers \$15,650.00 to complete a study into options to rectify the leakage problem such as building a wetland, building an evaporative pond, or installing a drain field which would require pumping the sewage across town. The remaining \$15,000.00 would be spent on the environmental review of this new study.

- **Payment for Tree Limb Removal at the Basketball Court Site:**

Mayor Dugan advised the council that Bill's Tree Service from Colfax will be in town later this week to remove approximately one third of a large Cherry Tree on town owned property near East 102 Pine Street at a cost of \$250.00. Bill will also be removing numerous branches hanging over the alleyway between the Basketball Court and the Park, to include a large branch resting on the roof of the old jail building at a cost of \$1000.00. Mayor Dugan asked the council to decide if the Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project should pay for any, none or all of Bill's services near the basketball court. The council unanimously agreed that the town should expect to pay in full to maintain the trees on town owned property and that the Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project should not incur any of this expense.

- **Basketball Court Project Update: Councilmember Ewing:**

Councilmember Ewing reported that great progress is being made at the basketball court rehabilitation site thanks to a group of loyal volunteers and their earth moving equipment. She noted that to save money, posts and top rails being stored at the lagoons will be used for the fence. She expects to spend \$300.00 on cement, approximately \$760.00 for wooden posts, \$1,000.00 in cement repair material, \$10,800.00 for asphalt pavement and \$4,200.00 for two backboard/hoop systems. Todd Gabbard of Gabbard Electric in Tekoa has generously agreed to provide all electrical materials (including LED lights) at his cost and to donate all of his labor to the project. Noreen projects expenses to run approximately \$ 17,995.00. To date, expenses are at \$ 2,184.00.

- **Basketball Court Easement:**

- **Mayor Dugan stated that he will be meeting with Jim Trimble and Jim's real estate consultant next week to discuss long and short term options for the town to obtain ownership of Jim's lots located at North 101 Third Street, adjacent to the basketball court. The Mayor feels that someday the Town should purchase the lots for the park.**

- **Recycling of Existing Aluminum Poles:**

- It was learned from past mayor, Royce Johnson, that the aluminum poles stored at the lagoons cannot be sold for scrap per an agreement he made with the government at the time he purchased them as surplus goods.

**Completion of Re-Roofing Projects in the Park:**

Premier Roofing completed the Gazebo and Bell Tower roofing projects in the park for their quoted price of \$ 4,385.00. Shelly Lobdell requested (and was granted) permission to purchase paint for the gazebo and agreed to donate her labor to complete the painting project at that site.

**Remaining Funds - Harvest Festival Gift \$1088.54:**

Mark Hellinger Co-Chairman of the Farmington Festival Committee, stated that the Farmington Festival committee's wishes would be fulfilled if the remaining \$1088.54 donated was used toward a park improvement project such as the paint for the gazebo, the upgrading of the park's electrical system, or the removal of the unsafe tree limbs in the park.

**Snow Plow Operator:**

The mayor advised the council that Sam Stone (Farmington's part-time maintenance employee) has agreed to obtain his Class "B" CDL in order to plow snow for the town this winter, and that his step-dad, John Ewing has agreed to do the same in order to back Sam up during the day time hours when Sam is employed in Oakesdale. The Mayor stated that both men have until November 1, 2013 to complete the testing requirements including the CDL road test. If Sam and John have not obtained their licenses by November 1<sup>st</sup> the mayor will advertise to fill the position.

**Approval of Claims & Payroll:**Todd Lobdell moved for approval of the June 18, 2013 thru July 15, 2013 claims & payroll totaling **\$18,791.37**

Joel Abbott seconded the motion, the motion passed.

**CHECK REGISTER**

Town Of Farmington

MCAG #: 0806

Time: 18:14:50 Date: 07/14/2013

06/18/2013 To: 07/15/2013

Page: 1

Trans	Date	Type	Acct #	Chk #	Claimant	Amount	Memo
398	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	EFT	Internal Revenue Service	821.24	941 Deposit For 06/01/2013 - 06/30/2013
399	06/25/2013	Payroll	1	EFT	Department Of Labor & Industries	593.56	2ND Quarter 04/01/2013 - 06/30/2013
400	06/25/2013	Payroll	1	EFT	Employment Security Department	21.99	Unemployment Quarterly Report
414	07/02/2013	Claims	1	EFT	Department of Revenue	718.68	2ND Quarter - Excise Tax 04/01/2013 - 06/30/2013
392	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	1469	Brian Oliver	373.17	
393	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	1470	Samuel Stone	343.17	
394	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	1471	Todd Lobdell	409.54	
395	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	1472	Robert Hill	18.47	50% Of One Building Permit - Hokenson
396	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	1473	Duane Groom	46.17	
397	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	1474	Barbara Dial-Flomer	835.42	
425	07/15/2013	Payroll	1	1475	Barbara Dial-Flomer	835.42	
426	07/15/2013	Payroll	1	1476	Brian Oliver	324.15	
427	06/30/2013	Payroll	1	1477	Samuel Stone	234.96	
403	06/27/2013	Claims	1	5349	Premier Roofing Contractors	4,392.85	Re-roofing Of Gazebo & Bell Tower.
422	07/10/2013	Claims	1	5350	Town Of Farmington	353.75	BUILDING PERMIT FEE - Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project - Valuation - \$22,000
429	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5351	Anatek Labs, Inc.	20.00	2013 JUNE - WATER TESTING
430	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5352	Avista Utilities	1,375.67	2013 JUNE - Electrical Utilities
431	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5353	Bank Of Fairfield	829.72	2013 June - VISA Charges
432	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5354	Bishop Law Office	200.00	2013 JUNE - Retainer Fee
433	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5355	Bob's Fire Equipment	101.33	2013 JUNE - Fire Extinguisher Servicing
434	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5356	Department Of Ecology	207.36	2013 - 2014 Wastewater Permit Fee #ST5344
435	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5357	Barbara Dial-Flomer	183.15	AWC Annual Meeting - June 26, 2013 Mileage Reimbursement - 330 Total Miles (Round Trip) X 55.5 Cents Per Mile= \$183.15
436	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5358	Empire Disposal	37.26	2013 - JUNE - Garbage Collection
437	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5359	John Deere Financial	328.35	2013 MAY - Parts & Shop Supplies
438	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5360	Jones Truck & Implement, Inc.	2,678.19	Repair Of 1971 Fire Truck
439	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5361	Les Schwab Tire Center	114.79	Service Call - Flat Repair - Front Left John Deere Tractor
440	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5362	Moscow Building Supply	746.92	2013 JUNE - Charges
441	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5363	Palouse Hills L.L.C.	543.96	34.8 Tons Of 5/8 Gravel - Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project
442	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5364	Palouse River Rock	458.15	5/8" Basketball Court Rock - 1" Basketball Court Rock
443	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5365	State Of Washington	9.00	Building Code Council Account Fee - RCW 19.27.085 Hokenson - Re-roofing Town Of Farmington - Basketball Court Rehab
444	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5366	Sam Stone	69.93	Basketball Court Rehabilitation. Mileage Reimbursement To Arrow Construction And Back. 126 Total Miles X 55.5 Cents Per Mile = \$69.93
445	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5367	Town Of Farmington	116.07	2013 JUNE - Park & Community Center Utilities
446	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5368	United States Post Office	44.00	Post Office Box Rent For One Year.

447	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5369	Whitman Co. Dept. Of Public Works	105.77	Bridge Inspection - First Street @ South Fork Of Pine Creek
448	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5370	Whitman County Gazette	21.00	2013 JUNE - Public Hearing Notice
451	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5371	John Ewing	33.41	MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT - Equipment Run - Roadtrip To Moscow - Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project
452	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5372	John Ewing	20.00	5 Gallons Of Diesel - Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project
453	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5373	Frontier Communications NW, Inc.	124.80	2013 June - Phone & Fax
454	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5374	Mark Hellinger	60.00	15 Gallons Of Diesel - Basketball Court Rehabilitation
455	07/15/2013	Claims	1	5375	Royce Johnson	40.00	10 Gallons Of Diesel - Basketball Court Rehabilitation
						13,088.73	
001 Current Expense						13,088.73	
101 City Street						1,845.75	
401 Water Fund						2,369.56	
409 Sewer Fund						1,487.33	
							Claims: 13,934.11
						18,791.37	Payroll: 4,837.26

#### **Mayor Dugan's Financial Report:**

A copy of Mayor Dugan's year-to-date financial summary was given to the council. The mayor noted that Farmington had a negative \$ 1,300.00 variance through June. He stated that the levy figures are not reflected in the budget and therefore in actuality, Farmington is \$ 11,200 ahead for the first six months of 2013. The mayor warned the council to expect a negative variance for the next few months.

#### **Approval of Financial Reports:**

Joel Abbott **moved** for approval of the June financial reports, Todd Lobdell **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

#### **Mosquito Spraying:**

- Mayor Dugan updated the council with the information that NO mosquito spraying has been done in Farmington so far this season due to that lack of wind on Farmington's scheduled night to spray, as it takes at least a one mile per hour wind to carry the chemical. The mayor also informed the council that after speaking with Tim Schultz an investigator with the Washington State Department of Agriculture, he learned that the chemical being used to spray for mosquitoes (Bio Mist 4X4 ULV) is NOT authorized to be sprayed on wheat, and should a report be filed, and Bio Mist 4X4 ULV be found on the wheat, the entire crop will be embargoed by the Washington State Department of Agriculture. Mayor Dugan charted the Town of Farmington with regard to the surrounding wheat fields and buffered areas of residents that do not want to be sprayed and determined that half of the town would be affected by a no spray zone. The council agreed that Farmington should attempt no further spraying this year and that the issue of whether or not the town will spray next year will be addressed at that time. Mayor Dugan plans to speak with the Co-Owners of the spray truck to see if a safer chemical can be purchased for next season.

#### **Citizens Comments:**

Mark Hellinger clarified that on out of State internet purchases, if sales tax is not paid, a user tax of 7.8% (the same rate as Farmington sales tax) must be paid on the purchase.

Mark also stated that if the council decides to have a dust control agent applied to Fifth Street, he would like to have West Bridge Street and North First Street (in the area of his property) treated at the same time.

#### **Council Comments:**

- Noreen Ewing mentioned that the Methodist Church should be slated as the next "Community Project," once the Basketball Court Rehabilitation Project is complete. Noreen asked the Mayor to review an e-mail from the Association of Washington Cities in regard to an Economic Development Assistance Program where Federal funding is available for rural and urban communities in distressed regions to support the implementation of regional economic development, including public infrastructure and facilities, and non-construction assistance. The mayor agreed to review this grant opportunity. Council member Ewing felt that the drainage problem at the site could be rectified with volunteer labor as well as the exterior lead paint issue and the mold issue in the basement.

**Clerk-Treasurer Comments:**

None.

**Mayor's Comments:**

None.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Ronald S. Dugan

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Barbara Dial-Flomer, Clerk/Treasurer

**Regular Town Council Meeting, July 15, 2013**