

Town of Farmington

Regular Town Council Meeting

January 19, 2015

Farmington Community Center

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Roll Call:

Mayor James Woomack and Council Member Joel Abbott were absent, Council Member David Baker served as Mayor Pro-Tem, present were Council Members Noreen Ewing, Diana Lowley, and Billie Wolff.

Visitors:

Katherine Barnes Pawson, Brian Oliver, George Martzall, Josh Martzall, Ron Dugan, Kirby Kiehle, Max Mohan, John Ewing, Richard Durst, Jesse (Grenz) Anashore, Rose Anderson, Tanya Thygeson, Layne Merritt and Mark Hellinger.

Open Regular Council Meeting:

Farmington's Regular Town Council Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of the December 15th, 2014 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes:

Diana Lowley **moved** for approval of the December 15th, 2014 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Billie Wolff **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

J-U-B Engineers – Layne Merritt:

Layne Merritt from J-U-B Engineers spoke to the council about a possible grant opportunity for a water system project. Noreen Ewing **made a motion** to authorize Layne Merritt through J-U-B Engineers to make application on behalf of the Town of Farmington to the Washington State Department of Health for a pre-construction grant, for "any project" deemed by Mayor Woomack and Farmington's Water System Operator, Todd Lobdell as the highest priority project for Farmington. Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Unfinished Business:

- **Resolution 365-15 – Redistribution of Water & Sewer Rates:**

Utility rates were discussed at the December 15th, 2014 Town Council Meeting. The Council voted against increasing the rates and decided to instead redistribute the funds already being collected between water and sewer in order to build a reserve in the water fund. Council member Billie Wolff **motioned** to pass **resolution 365-15** to redistribute the utility rates as follows:

Water \$44.25 Usage Fee + \$2.66 Tax = \$46.91

Sewer \$24.25 Usage Fee + \$1.46 Tax = \$25.71

Council member Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion**, the motion passed. The effective date for this change was January 1, 2015, which will show on the customer's February 1st bill. Customer's bill totals will remain unchanged at \$72.62 per month.

- **Farmington Harvest Festival Committee – Final Report: Tanya Thygeson and Mark Hellinger:**

Farmington Harvest Festival Co-Chairman, Mark Hellinger reported that the Farmington Harvest Festival Committee met with their CPA Sally Bishop, who finalized the necessary tax filings for their unincorporated "for profit" association.

Treasurer Tanya Thygeson presented the Town Clerk with copies of those tax filings (should any interested party wish to inspect them) along with a donation to the Town in the form of a check for \$7752.90 to close out the Farmington Harvest Festival's bank account.

- **Tree City USA 2015 Grant Funding:**

Council Member Noreen Ewing reported that she was recently notified that Farmington missed the opportunity to apply for a \$5000.00 Tree Grant from Tree City USA due to failure to meet the December 31, 2014 grant application deadline.

Noreen reported that Farmington's Tree Committee held their first meeting of 2015 on Friday, January 16th and that the afternoon of Sunday, May 10th has been selected as the date for their 2015 Arbor Day celebration.

Approval of Claims & Payroll:

Diana Lowley moved for approval of the December 16, 2014 through January 19, 2015 claims & payroll totaling \$20,791.53.

Billie Wolff seconded the motion, the motion passed.

CHECK REGISTER

Town Of Farmington
MCAG #: 0806

12/16/2014 To: 12/31/2014

Time: 15:05:15 Date: 01/16/2015
Page: 1

Trans	Date	Type	Acct #	Chk #	Claimant	Amount	Memo
773	12/31/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	Internal Revenue Service	640.30	941 Deposit For 12/01/2014 - 12/31/2014
774	12/31/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	Department Of Labor & Industries	463.20	4TH Quarter 10/01/2014 - 12/31/2014
775	12/31/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	Employment Security Department	20.08	Unemployment Quarterly Report
777	12/31/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	DIVISION OF CHILD SUPPORT DSHS	100.00	12/01/2014 To 12/31/2014 - DSHS - Child Support
770	12/31/2014	Payroll	1	1589	Todd Lobdell	387.98	
771	12/31/2014	Payroll	1	1590	Barbara Dial-Flomer	837.42	
772	12/31/2014	Payroll	1	1591	George Martzall	724.15	
						1,401.43	
001 Current Expense						395.89	
101 City Street						895.12	
401 Water Fund						480.69	
409 Sewer Fund							
						<u>3,173.13</u>	Payroll: 3,173.13

CHECK REGISTER

Town Of Farmington
MCAG #: 0806

01/01/2015 To: 01/19/2015

Time: 16:33:34 Date: 01/19/2015
Page: 1

Trans	Date	Type	Acct #	Chk #	Claimant	Amount	Memo
4	01/05/2015	Claims	1	EFT	Department of Revenue	839.14	2014 4th Quarter - Excise Taxes Water & Sewer
20	01/15/2015	Payroll	1	1592	Barbara Dial-Flomer	840.42	
28	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5618	AWC Risk Management Service Agency	9,346.00	2015 - RMSA Insurance Assessment
29	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5619	Anatek Labs, Inc.	20.00	2015 - January Water Testing
30	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5620	Association Of Washington Cities	100.00	2015 - AWC Membership Dues
31	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5621	Avista Utilities	1,579.06	2015 - January For December 2014's Electricity
32	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5622	BIAS Software	2,519.12	2015 - BIAS Program & Support Contract
33	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5623	Bank Of Fairfield	653.69	2015 - January VISA Charges
34	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5624	Bishop Law Office	200.00	2015 - January Legal Retainer
35	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5625	Cougar Graphics	70.09	2015 - W&S Shut Off Notice Printing
36	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5626	Empire Disposal	39.66	2015 - January For December 2014's Garbage Collection
37	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5627	Frontier Communications NW, Inc.	127.04	2015 - January Phone - Fax - Internet Services
38	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5628	John Deere Financial	85.53	2015 - January Supplies
39	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5629	Tekoa Hardware & Supply	54.63	2015 - January Tekoa Hardware Billing
40	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5630	Town Of Farmington	72.62	2015 - January W&S Account 465
41	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5631	Town Of Farmington	72.62	2015 - January W&S Account 85
42	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5632	Town Of Farmington	72.62	2015 - January W&S Account 546
43	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5633	Whitman County Auditor	172.80	2014 - November Special Election (Levy) Fee
44	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5634	Zumar Industries Inc.	478.36	2015 - January Street Sign Replacement
49	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5635	Anatek Labs, Inc.	200.00	2015 - January Water System Testing PDM & HAA & T
50	01/19/2015	Claims	1	5636	Bill Foreyt	75.00	2015 - January Beaver Trapping Service
						7,089.59	
001 Current Expense						3,834.34	
101 City Street						3,637.68	
401 Water Fund						3,056.79	
409 Sewer Fund							
						<u>17,618.40</u>	Claims: 16,777.98 Payroll: 840.42

Approval of Treasurer’s Report:

Noreen Ewing **moved** for approval of the December Treasurers Report showing Farmington with a **\$170,477.76** cash balance. **\$81,040.39** in checking and **\$89,437.37** in the MMDA account. Diana Lowley **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

2014 Year End Financial Report:

Ron Dugan presented the council with the 2014 year-end financial report showing Farmington finishing **2013** with a cash position of \$158,339.00 (including an adjustment for inflation) and **2014** with a cash position of \$170,478.00, an increase of \$12,139, which Dugan attributes to the \$11,000 received in 2014 from Whitman County Assessor for taxes collected on the County’s “Railroad Rolling Stock” which will decrease to \$9,000 in 2015, \$6,000 in 2016, \$3,000 in 2017 and \$0.00 in 2018. Dugan warned that had the voters failed the excess levy propositions, Farmington’s cash position would have decreased by 15%.

Proposal for Usage of the Town Owned Methodist Church - Kirby Kiehle & Billie Wolff:

Kirby Kiehle and Billie Wolff proposed to the Town Council that the town lease to them for a two year period the town owned Methodist Church building to potentially be used as a “gathering place” for people to drop in, drink coffee and have conversation. Several people noted that the building needs **extensive and expensive** repairs and upgrades (including handicapped access) before it would pass building codes and inspections needed to deem it inhabitable. An occupancy permit would have to be obtained and a legal lease would need to be drawn up by an attorney. Council member Ewing questioned whether or not the “option to lease” would have to be advertised to allow any other parties (who may be interested in leasing it) the opportunity to compete for the lease on the property. Kirby stated that he is not interested in involving inspectors and lawyers and if their involvement is necessary the building will remain vacant.

Proposal for Capital Project Improvement of the Library & City Hall Area:

Due to cold temperatures in the winter and hot temperatures in the summer, the inadequate/inefficient heating system and no air conditioning, a substandard working environment has existed for several years in the Library/City Hall area of the Farmington Community Center building. Librarian Rose Anderson proposed to the council a capital improvement project for this area of the building where in the Town Council would match the funding already approved by Whitman County Library (\$500.00) for the purchase and installation of padding and carpet for the joint area of the Farmington Library and City Hall. Council agreed that this area of the building had been neglected for quite some time and that upgrades need to be made, Council did not feel that carpet would be the solution. It was agreed that Diana Lowley would check with the historical society to see what improvements can be made to the building. Mayor Woomack will be asked to obtain quotes for the purchase and installation of four new windows and for spray foam insulation for beneath this section of the building.

Citizens Comments:

Richard Durst asked why the “Out of Order” fire hydrant on Lincoln Street had not yet been repaired, Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Baker advised Richard that he would ask the Mayor to contact Farmington’s Water Operator to check on the status of this repair.

Brian Oliver stated that spray foam insulation (even though a more expensive option) would be the only sensible way to efficiently insulating an area like Farmington’s Library and City Hall.

Max Mohan reported that he is receiving no cooperation or response from his co-“Planning Commission” members as he tries to set up a meeting to finalize the Kiehle-Wolff variance request. Council advised Max to not only e-mail the other members of the committee but to also contact them by phone. He stated that he would attempt this approach to scheduling a meeting.

Max Mohan advised Council Member Ewing that he would be willing to assist her in the removal of the Christmas Lights from the park this coming weekend.

John Ewing stated that Christine Mikalson has given written permission to himself, Kirby Kiehle, Mark Hellinger and anyone else who may volunteer to remove the wood from the downed trees located on Christine’s property behind the town owned Methodist Church building. John also reminded the council that at the April 21, 2014 council meeting, Mayor Woomack advised them that Derek Bryan AWC program manager stated that it is legal for Farmington to barter goods for services rendered such as wood from town owned trees in exchange for the labor involved in the removal of the same said trees. Council unanimously agreed to abide by AWC’s advice/ruling on this issue.

Council Comments:

Council Member Billie Wolff stated that she will be doing periodic vehicle patrols around Farmington during late night hours, due to the recent thefts of diesel fuel.

Clerk-Treasurer Comments:

No Comments:

Mayor Pro-Tem's Comments:

Mayor Pro-Tem David Baker thanked Mark Hellinger, Tanya Thygeson and the entire Farmington Harvest Festival Committee (The Farmington Five) for their hard work on the two past festivals and for their generous donation tonight of \$\$7752.90. He also thanked the community members who came out to attend tonight's town council meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

David L. Baker, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest: _____

Barbara Dial-Flomer, Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Farmington

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Monday, January 19, 2015 - Farmington Community Center

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM