

Town of Farmington

Regular Town Council Meeting

May 19th, 2014

Farmington Community Center

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Open Regular Council Meeting:

The Regular Town Council Meeting was opened at 6:00 PM

Roll Call:

Mayor Pro-Tem David Baker, Council members: Joel Abbott, Noreen Ewing, and Billie Wolff.

Visitors:

Max Mohan, Mark Hellinger, Steve Martin, Ron Johnson, Jerry Wagner, Brian Oliver, Katherine Barnes Pawson, Ron Dugan and Royce Johnson.

Approval of Minutes:

Billie Wolff **moved** for approval of the April 21st, 2014 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Noreen Ewing **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Unfinished Business:

- **Status Report - Road Grading & Graveling: – Council Member Abbott**

The Supervisor from Whitman County Road Department inspected Farmington's streets and advised Mayor Woomack that most roads in town are well below grade and because they have no crown or ditches (due to years of neglect), any money put toward either graveling or grading would be wasted until the current potholes can be filled and the sod removed from the shoulder of any roadway less than 16 feet wide. The short-term solution will be to purchase enough gravel to repair potholes this year and begin a gravel stockpile. Farmington does not have the funds or equipment to raise the grade or crown and ditch all of the streets. Joel Abbott will contact the Coeur d' Alene Tribal Agency to obtain a price quote on 5/8 top coat gravel. Joel also agreed to obtain further information from the Whitman County Road Department supervisor in regard to the delivery price for a 15 to 20 yard load of gravel from the Warner pit. If the price is reasonable it was agreed upon by the council that Joel will order a truck load to be stock piled at the end of Adams Street for use in the repairing of pot holes. At a later date after potholes have been filled, it is planned to have a truck belly dump approximately 200 yard of gravel on the streets to be spread by the town maintenance department. Joel Abbott advised the council that Farmington will hold a public hearing at the beginning of the June 16th council meeting with J-U-B Engineer Layne Merritt present, to discuss any changes to Farmington's six year street plan.

- **Status Report – Farmingtonwa.com Website: – Council Member Abbott**

The Website hosting has been set up through Network Solutions and a transfer for the farmingtonwa.com domain has been successfully initiated and transferred to the Network Solution's servers. All elected officials as well as the Clerk-Treasurer will have the ability to post to the site. The site will have restricted access until interested parties have had a chance to critique the site and any bugs have been worked out. The previously discussed ".gov" site was not an option due to the exorbitant price and red tape involved to obtain it. Anyone wishing to donate photos of Farmington to be used on the website is welcome to do so.

- **Tree Committee/Rose Garden Report – Council Member Ewing:**

Tree work in the park has been at a standstill while awaiting the results of the AWC Safety Grant selection process and the decision regarding funding for tree removal expected at tonight's meeting. A Sub Alpine Fir had been donated to the Town by Ron Johnson and will be planted in front of the gazebo in the park this fall.

Noreen Ewing reported that the Memory Rose Gardens located at the North and South ends of the basketball court have been prepared, the roses have arrived from the vendor and are ready for planting. So far Farmington has received \$1200.00 in Rose Garden Donations.

- **Discussion of Funding For Tree Removal:**

Farmington was just awarded two \$1000.00 AWC/RMSA Safety Grants to be used for any two of the six projects which were applied for, they include the removal of four dead trees in the park, electrical upgrades at the park and fencing at the children's playground. At the June 16th Town Council Meeting the council will select two projects to be funded by these grants. Jerry Wagner has generously offered to fall the town owned Poplar Tree growing near the front yard of Jim Trimble's rental property at North 101 3rd Street. Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Baker consulted with Roger Neal from AWC/RMSA who advised him that Jerry should obtain a certificate of insurance showing Farmington as a certificate holder from his insurance provider. Roger also stated that as an authorized volunteer Jerry would be covered by the town's liability insurance, but they would not cover any damage to his equipment. Billie Wolff **motioned** to allow Jerry Wagner to remove the tree on town owned property at North 101 3rd Street. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.** Jerry agreed to assess the three other trees in need of removal and advise the council at the June 16th meeting whether or not he is willing to remove any or all of them. Council member Ewing stressed the danger involved in removing these particular trees and went on record as being adamantly opposed to Jerry falling any of these trees. Noreen Ewing agreed to obtain a bid for tree removal from Rembrandt Tree Care in Moscow which she will present to the council at the June 16th meeting.

- **Disaster Preparedness Report – Council Member Wolff:**

Council member Wolff did not present a Disaster Preparedness Report to the council as she has been recovering from surgery.

- **Resolution 361-14 - Inter Fund Transfer From The Current Expense Fund to The Street Fund:**

Noreen Ewing **motioned** to approve Resolution 361-14, an Inter Fund Transfer From The Current Expense Fund to The Street Fund, as the Current Expense Fund has excess revenue and funds available and the Street Fund does not have sufficient funds to purchase gravel and necessary items for street repair, and sufficient revenue is not expected during the 2014 fiscal year. Billie Wolff **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Approval of Claims & Payroll:

The council questioned an expenditure to H.D. Fowler Company of \$1,024.74 for the purchase of 18 water line cut off valves, since the large dollar amount had not received approval from them. Brian Oliver was able to look at the invoice and justify the purchases on behalf of the Water Department, therefore the council agreed to pay the bill. Council requested that personnel be reminded that the Mayor cannot authorize any expenditure over \$500.00 without their prior approval. Noreen Ewing moved for approval of the April 22nd, 2014, to May 19th, 2014 claims & payroll totaling **\$ 8,464.97.** Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Town Of Farmington						Time: 17:05:51	Date: 05/18/2014
MCAG #: 0806						Page: 1	
CHECK REGISTER						04/22/2014 To: 05/19/2014	
Trans	Date	Type	Acct #	Chk #	Claimant	Amount	Memo
254	04/30/2014	Payroll	1	EFT	Internal Revenue Service	597.78	941 Deposit For 04/01/2014 - 04/30/2014
250	04/30/2014	Payroll	1	1549	Duane Groom	46.17	
251	04/30/2014	Payroll	1	1550	Todd Lobdell	387.98	
252	04/30/2014	Payroll	1	1551	Barbara Dial-Flomer	837.42	
253	04/30/2014	Payroll	1	1552	Brian Oliver	216.10	
278	05/15/2014	Payroll	1	1553	Brian Oliver	250.11	
279	05/15/2014	Payroll	1	1554	Barbara Dial-Flomer	837.42	
285	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5513	Anatek Labs, Inc.	520.00	April 2014 - Quarterly Testing East & West Lagoons Quarter One & April 2014 - Water Coliform Testing.
286	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5514	Avista Utilities	1,512.08	April 2014 - Electrical Utilities
287	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5515	Bank Of Fairfield	554.70	April 2014 - Visa Charges
288	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5516	Bishop Law Office	200.00	April 2014 - Legal Retainer
289	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5517	Empire Disposal	39.66	April 2014 - Garbage Collection
290	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5518	John & Noreen Ewing	37.31	Reimbursement For The Purchase Of Rose Garden Arbor Brackets
291	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5519	Frontier Communications NW, Inc.	117.77	April 2014 - Phone - Fax - Internet
292	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5520	H.D. Fowler Company	1,024.74	Water Maintenance Supplies - Shut Off Valves
293	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5521	JMT Petroleum	290.32	May 2014 - Unleaded Fuel
294	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5522	Dept. of Health Washington State	327.00	2014 Operating Permit & 2014 Operator Certification System Fee
295	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5523	Whitman County Gazette	75.25	April 2014 - Legal Publishings
296	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5524	Hospital Dist. #2 Whitman County	244.71	Half Of (\$489.41) For Shared Expense Of New Automatic Garage Door Mechanism At Farmington EMS Shed.
297	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5525	Wilbur-Ellis / Main	100.00	2000 Pounds Of Compost - Memorial Rose Garden
299	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5526	Annie Pillers	196.73	2013 Annual Report Training - Consultation & Submittal - May 16 & May 23, 2014 - Plus Mileage At 55.5 Cents Per Mile For 84.20 Total Miles.
300	05/19/2014	Claims	1	5527	John & Noreen Ewing	51.72	2 Gallons Of Stain For Memorial Rose Garden Arbor - Benches & Trellis.
001 Current Expense						3,429.57	
101 City Street						1,023.55	
401 Water Fund						2,640.11	
409 Sewer Fund						1,371.74	
						8,464.97	
							Claims: 5,291.99
							Payroll: 3,172.98

Mayor's Financial Report:

A copy of the mayor's year-to-date financial summary was given to the council. It was noted that Farmington has a positive \$ 6,336.00 variance through April 2014 and a budget surplus of \$2,896.00.

Approval of Financial Reports – Treasurer's Report:

Noreen Ewing **moved** for approval of the April financial report showing Farmington with a \$158,142.24 cash balance. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Resolution 362-14 – Acknowledging the Palouse Regional Transportation Organization & Membership Therein:

Noreen Ewing **motioned** to approve Resolution 362-14 – Acknowledging the Palouse Regional Transportation Organization & Membership Therein. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Planning Commission & Tree Committee Resignation:

John Ewing was ill and not able to attend tonight's meeting. His resignations from the Farmington Planning Commission and the Farmington Tree Committee were tabled until the June 16th Town Council meeting.

2013 Water Line Break at First & Lincoln:

On behalf of Lavon Erickson, Royce Johnson requested the council authorize \$997.16 in reimbursement to Lavon for costs she incurred to repair a separated sewer line which caused a sewer blockage at her residence on April 26, 2014. Erickson's sewer line was separated when repairs were being made to both a broken water and a broken sewer line at First and Lincoln in April of last year. Noreen Ewing **motioned** to immediately reimburse Lavon Erickson the \$997.16 she paid to Roto-Rooter to have a separated sewer line (which was accidently caused by town employees), diagnosed last year. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.** Check #5528 was issued to Lavon Erickson for \$997.16 on May 20, 2014.

Citizens Comment:

Ron Johnson raised the issue of dark yellow to almost brown tap water in the West end of town. Several other residents in attendance commented that the issue of discolored water exists all over town. Jerry Wagner and Royce Johnson (both in attendance at tonight's meeting) concurred that the only way to remedy the problem is to have the Water Maintenance Employee bleed all of Farmington's fire hydrants.

Ron Johnson questioned whether or not Frank Triplett has resigned as the Lead Farmington Water Operator. Ron was advised that Farmington's Water Operator did state that Frank Triplett will no longer be assisting with any of Farmington's water needs. However, Town officials have not been personally contacted by Mr. Triplett with the offer of his resignation. A volunteer, it is well within his rights to simply stop volunteering, he is not required to offer the town a letter of resignation.

Mark Hellinger responded to an inquiry made by Max Mohan to the Town Council during the April 21st council meeting in regard to his concerns about the 2013 festival. Mark stated that as a representative of a private volunteer association that was involved with the 2013 festival, he wanted to report that the issue is under investigation and resolution by Stephen Bishop, the Town's Attorney and Sally Bishop, CPA. Mark stated that he will report back to the council with full disclosure when the current investigation and resolution is complete. He also stated that at this point there is seemingly no individual, association, or town government committee that he is aware of who is actively pursuing a 2014 Town Festival activity.

Mark Hellinger submitted a letter of resignation from the Farmington Tree Advisory Board effective immediately. Billie Wolff **moved** to accept Mark's resignation from the Farmington Tree Advisory Board. Joel Abbott **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Max Mohan reported that traffic on Bridge Street has increased tremendously since signs were posted to divert traffic off of 5th Street. Max stated that the dust has become a real problem and he suggested alternating traffic between Bridge and 5th Street. He stated that his neighbor Junior Hurley would like the town to oil the road to cut down the dust but that he does not want any dust control substances put onto Bridge Street. Mayor Pro-Tem Baker advised Max that the council will take the matter under advisement.

Council Comments:

Noreen Ewing expressed her disappointment in the fact that the 2014 Farmington Harvest Festival will probably not be taking place this year.

Clerk-Treasurer Comments:

None.

Mayor Pro-Tem's Comments:

Mayor Pro-Tem Baker reported that per Layne Merritt of J-U-B Engineers, Cynthia Wall from the Department of Ecology is gathering final comments from Department of Ecology staff in regard to permit changes in relation to the sampling of Pine Creek. Once the sampling plan is finalized Cynthia will advise the town when to begin taking water samples from Pine Creek.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baker advised the Council of a bid from Ryan Excavating of Cheney, WA for the repair of the water leak at First and Main Street near Farmington State Bank. Noreen Ewing **motioned** to pay Ryan Excavating up to \$3,000.00 to abandon and shut off the current service at First and Main streets and to dig and install new water line from a new bank meter, west to the existing water main. Billie Wolff **seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

David Baker, Mayor Pro-Tem

Attest: _____

Barbara Dial-Flomer, Clerk/Treasurer

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