

FARMERSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2012

The Farmersville City Council met in a regularly called session on March 13, 2012 at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall with the following members present: Mayor Joe Helmberger, Pansy Hundley, Paul Kelly, Billy Long, Russell Chandler and Jim Foy. Staff members present were Interim City Manager Ben White, Police Chief Mike Sullivan, City Attorney Alan Lathrom, Fire Chief Kim Morris, Finance Director Daphne Hamlin, and City Secretary Edie Sims.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Mayor Helmberger called the meeting to order. Edie Sims called the roll and announced a quorum was present. Mayor Helmberger welcomed all guests and visitors.

Mayor Helmberger announced that the Chamber of Commerce banquet will be held on March 24th. Mayor Helmberger also announced that traffic will be slowed down in the construction zone on Highway 380 to the Hunt County Line to 50 mph.

Paul Kelly announced the annual Reginald Craddock 3-on-3 basketball tournament at the Junior High on March 17th.

Interim City Manager Ben White acknowledged an award from the Texas Comptroller's Officer for Financial Transparency. All future awards will be hung in City Hall in an honorary place for display and to acknowledge the hard work and efforts incurred by City Staff.

Jim Foy stated that existing Voter Registration cards are expired, but the name is still valid to vote. City Secretary Edie Sims added that new cards will be issued prior to the May 29th primary and hopefully should arrive before the City's General Election.

Mayor Helmberger read a proclamation declaring March 18-24, 2012 as Poison Prevention Week.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Helmberger requested Item G – Municipal Court Report be pulled for discussion.

Paul Kelly requested Item D – Code Enforcement/Animal Control Report is pulled for discussion.

Jim Foy requested Item B – City Financial Reports be pulled for discussion.

Jim Foy motioned to approve Items A, C, E, F, H, I, and J. Paul Kelly seconded the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

Item B – Jim Foy stated he was pleased to see the Equipment Replacement Fund reflected on the monthly budget statement. Currently the City has \$183,000 set aside for equipment. Of that \$55,000 has been dedicated thus far. Mayor Helmberger stated the franchise fees have not been reflected for the refuse. Daphne Hamlin reported that since the new contract, the franchise fees should be reflected soon. The income should exceed what was budgeted with the new contracts for refuse and recycling in place. Paul Kelly motioned to approve Item B with Russell Chandler seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

Item D – Mayor Helmberger requested a breakdown of time on Animal Control versus Code Enforcement. Police Chief Sullivan stated the time should be simultaneous. Chief Sullivan took the opportunity to inform the Council that his staff has investigated the issue of the fallen fence behind the veterinarian's clinic on Sycamore Street. Their investigation found that

the resident is responsible to bring the fence up to code. The Code Enforcement personnel is making arrangements to have addressed. Chief Sullivan also replied to Councilman Kelly's question from a previous meeting regarding brush piles. In general, a brush pile should not be addressed with citations or violation notices for up to 1 week. If the issue is not resolved, a written notice is sent out which allows approximately 30 days to resolve the code issue. Chief Sullivan stated the Code Enforcement issues have been complaint generated and his staff is working on those complaints when given. Paul Kelly motioned to approve Item D with Russell Chandler seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

Item G – Mayor Helmberger noted the increased activity with warrant collections. Interim City Manager Ben White indicated that Christi Dowdy, Municipal Court Clerk, has initiated a surface level investigation by letter. Many of those holding warrants are reacting and making payment plans. Chief Sullivan spoke of the cost to place individuals in Collin County Jail to set out warrants which costs the City \$62.50 per day. Chief Sullivan stated he would like to see the City participate in the State Warrant Roundup. Billy Long motioned to approve Item G with Russell Chandler seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

All Informational Items were presented to the Council. Council did not request further information or clarification regarding Informational Items.

READING OF ORDINANCES – SECOND READING: CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND ACT UPON ORDINANCE # O-2012-0313-001 REGARDING ALTERING THE PRIMA FACIA SPEED LIMITS ON STATE HIGHWAY 78 OR PARTS THEREOF, WITHIN THE INCORPORATED LIMITS OF THE CITY OF FARMERSVILLE

The City Council passed this ordinance on the first reading at the last City Council meeting. Billy Long motioned to approve Ordinance # O-2012-0313-001 with Paul Kelly seconding the motion. Jim Foy clarified that the speed limit will be 50 mph on Highway 78 throughout town. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

RECEIVE ANNUAL REPORT FROM SHARYLAND UTILITIES

Dwight Yarbrough, Vice President of Sharyland Utilities, came before the Council to answer any questions regarding Sharyland and their provision of electrical service to the City of Farmersville. The City of Farmersville has had 4 new meters this past year with 100 service orders for turnoffs and turn ons at the same location. Currently the City receives \$2,400,000 which does not include the PCRF cost. If the electric use is higher during the summer months, the City will receive increased income; however this income is dependent on the weather. No further questions were asked of Mr. Yarbrough. The Council thanked Mr. Yarbrough and their staff for working with the City.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON RESOLUTION # R-2012-0214-001 TO CALL THE ELECTION FOR MAYOR AND TWO COUNCIL PLACES

Paul Kelly motioned to approve Resolution # R-2012-0214-001 to call the Election for Mayor and two Council places with Jim Foy seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was

taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

UPDATE ON THE TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE (TIRZ) PROGRESS

Interim City Manager Ben White announced the first TIRZ Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 directly after the Economic Development Board meeting. The Board will be addressing the Interlocal Agreement with Collin County and the adopting By-Laws for the Board.

Paul Kelly motioned to approve Resolution # R-2012-0214-002 with Billy Long seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

UPDATE ON THE WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND RELATED WATER MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Interim City Manager Ben White announced that the Water Management Plan was approved by North Texas Municipal Water District. All ordinances in relation to the Water Management Plan must be reviewed by North Texas Municipal Water District first. The first ordinance was submitted to NTMWD for their review. No further action was taken by the Council.

UPDATE ON AUTOMATIC METER READING SYSTEM FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT

Interim City Manager Ben White presented the Council with mock automatic meter reading systems to show how the installation will be handled and the components of the system. Tamper proofing will be part of the installation so that people will not tamper with the electronic equipment. A cut off valve will be easily accessible for each property which will also include a check valve. The system will work hand in hand with our conservation efforts. The ITRON system will also work with our electric system as well to provide meter reading services. The system proposed, which would be paid with bond funds, would allow drive-by reading. Future enhancements would give the ability to download the data to a central location without having to go to the meters.

CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND ACT UPON RESOLUTION # R-2012-0313-001 AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO HAVE EMPLOYEE CREDIT CARDS FOR CITY PURCHASES

Interim City Manager Ben White discussed Resolution # R-2012-0313-001 as a needed advantage for purchases by employees. All the documents are now in place to allow the credit card system to be implemented. Management of the credit cards will be positive as it will be monitored daily. The cards will have pre-set charge amount with no cash withdrawal capability. Paul Kelly motioned to approve Resolution # R-2012-0313-001 upon having policies and procedures in place. Russell Chandler seconded the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION REGARDING CODE ENFORCEMENT PROCESS

Interim City Manager Ben White familiarized the Council with the Code Enforcement process and the steps leading toward issuing citations. After a series of notices, the violator will have had up to 35 days to resolve the violation issue. Mr. White indicated that he is working closely with Police Chief Sullivan and Karen Dixon to have consistency. Police Chief Sullivan indicated that Karen Dixon has started to meet with Paula Jackson regarding issues so that

complaints can be fielded smoothly. The Code Enforcement process will be in constant improvement stages and should be beneficial for networking between City Hall and Code Enforcement. Russell Chandler stated he has concerns of complaints not being followed up. Mr. Chandler stated he specifically has reported three issues that have not been resolved after 6 months. Chief Sullivan stated some issues could be repeat violators. Chief Sullivan offered to have any issues not resolved in 2-3 weeks to call him directly.

UPDATE ON THE PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE BARN

Interim City Manager Ben White presented a high level scale drawing of the Public Works Maintenance Building displaying improvements to include dust elimination, installation of air conditioning and heating units, renovating the second floor and reconstructing the first floor to allow more storage area and have meeting/rest area improved. Enhancements are also planned for a shower and boot washing pad. The overall facility is in good condition. Mayor Helmberger expressed concern of storage on the second story due to the heat factor from the metal roof. Mayor Helmberger encouraged Mr. White to investigate the code requirements for a sprinkler system on the second floor. Mr. White indicated that funding will be from the sales of equipment.

UPDATE ON THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Interim City Manager Ben White informed the Council that he is in the process of receiving quotes for the water damage and other reconstructive needs for the Public Safety Building. As recalled, several heavy rains have flooded the police side of the building and the building had incurred roof damage as well as flat work issues. Texas Municipal League, the City's insurance company, has not responded to calls requesting an appeal to their denial of claim. Mr. White stated that the City must supply a good work place. Steps that have been taken include getting the infiltration to stop; per an investigation, found that repointing the brick, chiseling out the grout and resealing the holes; the flat work needs to be lowered and sloped; and jacking out areas of concrete and have the areas repoured. Our City Engineer, Eddy Daniel, has looked at the plans and concurs the work should be performed. Mr. White will present a plan to the Council on a method to pay for the repairs and believes the funds may be in reserves. TML has sent their engineer, but has not responded to the City as of date.

Jim Foy stated that over the last 20 years, engineering has not been a priority due to cost; however we are now paying for the cost and see the necessity of paying engineering costs. Mr. White indicated that this item will be brought to the next meeting with a budget amendment.

UPDATE ON THE PROJECT ACCOUNTING AND TIME ENTRY SOFTWARE

Interim City Manager Ben White informed the Council that training has been offered to the employees for the time entry software and we are "off and running."

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DISCUSSION OF MATTERS PERMITTED BY THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 551: SECTION 551.074, DELIBERATION REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS: APPOINTMENT OF CITY MANAGER AND RELATED COMPENSATION PACKAGE ISSUES

Council went into Executive Session at 7:24pm.

Council reconvened into Regular Session at 8:24pm.

ACTION REGARDING ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jim Foy motioned to offer the City Manager position to Ben White effective tomorrow morning, March 14, 2012, with the terms to be negotiated. Billy Long seconded the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: Pansy Hundley yes, Paul Kelly yes, Billy Long yes, Russell Chandler yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

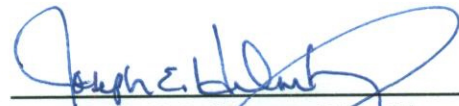
REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF PLACING ITEMS ON FUTURE AGENDAS

No items were requested for future agendas.

ADJOURNMENT

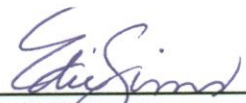
Council adjourned at 8:25pm.

APPROVED



Joseph E. Helmberger, P.E., Mayor

ATTEST



Edie Sims, City Secretary

