

## **Minutes of the Regular Farmington City Council Meeting May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, a state of emergency was declared by Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson, in order to comply to social distancing requirements this meeting was held virtually using the Zoom Meeting system. Mayor Penn, City Clerk Penn, City Business Manager McCarville, Police Chief Hubbard, Officer Bertorello, Code Enforcement Officer Brammall and Bill Hellard were physically at City Hall. We had no citizens come to city hall to attend the meeting. The regular meeting of the City Council scheduled for Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Ernie Penn. City Clerk Kelly Penn called the roll and the following Council Members answered to their names via Zoom : Sherry Mathews, Abby Spinks, Keith Lipford, Linda Bell, Brenda Cunningham, Bobby Morgan, Diane Bryant and Shelly Parsley. City Attorney Tennant attended via Zoom also. Mayor Penn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Comments from Citizens** – None.

**Approval of the minutes for the April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting.** On the motion of Council Member Morgan and a second by Council Member Mathews and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the minutes were approved as presented by a vote of 8-0.

**Financial Reports** – City Clerk Penn advised the council that this year's election was for all position 1 council member seats. The first day to get signatures was May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The first day to file petitions will be July 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:00. The final day to file petitions will be August 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:00. In light of the Covid 19 virus, all those running for office will take their petitions directly to the Washington County Clerk's office for filing. Packets can be picked up curbside at city hall or can be emailed to citizens that are interested in running. Financials were presented by Mayor Penn and he advised that the city was still in a surplus for the 2020 year but he was anticipating a decline in revenue due to Covid 19 to be reflected in the financial report in June. Council Member Lipford asked what made up the \$17,830.26 entry in the General Fund Administrative Expenses line item. City Business Manager McCarville said she would get him the breakdown and email it to him after the meeting. Mayor Penn also mentioned the street department budget would look a little out of line because the city had not been reimbursed by the state for the right of way acquisitions for the Highway 170 project. The city had been in contact with the state and those departments are working from home so there is a slight delay as the state has to issue an actual check rather than an electronic transfer to the city.

**Entertain a motion to read all Ordinances and Resolutions by title only.** On the motion of Council Member Morgan and a second by Council Member Lipford and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion to read all Ordinances and Resolutions by title only was approved 8-0.

### **Proclamations, Special Announcements, Committee/Commission Appointments. Committee**

Mayor Penn recognized that this was Fire Chief Mark Cunningham's last council meeting, his retirement would be effective June 1<sup>st</sup>. He thanked the Chief for all his years of service to the city and that the city would have a retirement reception for him at a later date because of the Covid 19 restrictions. Mayor Penn said there were 24 applicants for the Fire Chief position and the committee made the decision to hire Bill Hellard, who comes with 22 years of fire and medical experience. Mayor Penn asked the council for a motion to confirm the hiring of Bill Hellard for the Fire Chief's position. On the motion of Council Member Lipford and a second by Council Member Morgan and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, it was approved 8-0 to confirm the hire of Fire Chief Bill Hellard.

**Committee Reports** – All committee reports were included in the council packets.

**Items to be removed from City of Farmington Inventory** – NONE

**Unfinished Business** – NONE

**New Business**

**Request approval of the School Resource Officer contract with Farmington School District.**

Chief Hubbard advised the council this was the same contract they approved last year, there were no changes and asked for their approval. On the motion of Council Member Lipford and a second by Council Member Mathews and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion to approve the School Resource Office contract with Farmington Schools was approved 8-0.

Mayor Penn advised that for now the city is leaving the park status as is, following the guidelines set forth by the Governor and Municipal League. He wants to err on the side of caution right now. City Hall will reopen May 18<sup>th</sup> providing there are no changes by the Governor. Court will resume May 20<sup>th</sup> with masks required, hand sanitizing before entering the building and proper social distancing. Librarian Rachel Sawyer said they are installing metal work and water fountains in the library. There has been a delay on the shelving units until June 1<sup>st</sup> due to the Covid -19 issues. They are accepting book returns and are quarantining the books.

There being no further business to come before the council and on the motion of Council Member Morgan and seconded by Council Member Lipford and by the consent of all members present, the meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held Monday June 8th, 2020 in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 354 West Main Street, Farmington, Arkansas.

Approved;

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly Penn". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

City Clerk Kelly Penn

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ernie Penn". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mayor Ernie Penn