



Mayor Ernie Penn

City Attorney Jay Moore

City Clerk Kelly Penn

City Council Member Sherry Mathews
Ward 1 Position 1

Council Member Keith Lipford
Ward 2 Position 1

Council Member Brenda Cunningham
Ward 3 Position 1

Council Member Diane Bryant
Ward 4 Position 1

Council Member Hunter Carnahan
Ward 1 Position 2

Council Member Linda Bell
Ward 2 Position 2

Council Member Bobby Morgan
Ward 3 Position 2

Council Member Kara Gardenhire
Ward 4 Position 2

A meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on September 9th, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Farmington City Hall, located at 354 West Main Street, Farmington Arkansas. Vice Mayor Morgan called the meeting to order.

PRESENT: Council Members Diane Bryant, Keith Lipford, Brenda Cunningham, Hunter Carnahan Linda Bell, Bobby Morgan, Kara Gardenhire, City Attorney Jay Moore, City Business Manager Melissa McCarville, Administrative Assistant LeAnn Tolleson, Staff, Press and Audience Members. Mayor Penn and City Clerk Penn were not in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Mathews arrived at 6:03 pm.

Comments from Citizens – All comments will be taken under advisement with no action taken.

Approval of the August 12th, 2024, City Council Minutes

On the motion of Council Member Bryant and a second by Council Member Cunningham 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

Vice Mayor Morgan presented the financial reports to the City Council. The monthly city sales tax increased by 1.058%. The monthly state/county sales tax increased by 1.039%.

Entertain a motion to read all Ordinances and Resolutions by title only.

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

Proclamations, Special Announcements, Committee/Commission Appointments –

Fire Chief Hellard announced 4 firefighters were awarded the Narcan Life Saving Award presented by the University of Arkansas Criminal Justice Department for their actions during a call. Those firefighters were Logan Hattabaugh, Tyler Miller, Will Watts, Pete Oxford and Chance Wright.

Committee Reports – There were no committee reports included in the agenda packet.

Items to be removed from the City of Farmington Inventory – Police Department -Police Chief Hubbard

On the motion of Council Member Carnahan a second by Council Member Bryant and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion to remove from inventory and destroy four Whelan Lightbars. serial number 10604, city tag 982, serial number 31586 city tag 535, serial number 36475 city tag 540 and serial number C0321006 city tag 564 was approved 8-0.

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2024-06 An ordinance amending Ord. No 2023-09 regarding the 2021 Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, providing for an emergency clause and for other purposes.

After a brief presentation from Fire Chief Hellard, a motion was made by Council Member Bell and a second by Council Member Carnahan to suspend the rules reading ordinance No 2024-06 in full and place ordinance on its second reading for a vote. After a roll call vote it was approved 8-0. A motion was made by Council Member Carnahan and seconded by Council Member Lipford to approve the emergency clause for Ordinance No. 2024-06; after a roll vote, the Emergency Clause was approved 8-0. City Attorney Moore read Ordinance No. 2024-06 by title only.

New Business

Presentation and Acknowledgment of the 2023 Legislative Audit

City Business Manager McCarville presented the 2023 Legislative Audit. All city council members should have received a copy of the 2023 City of Farmington Arkansas Regulatory Basis Financial Statement and Other Reports from Legislative Joint Audit Committee in the mail at their home addresses. The audit was released August 14th, 2024, and will be presented and accepted by the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee September 14th, 2024. As evidenced by the letter on page six in your audit report the city of Farmington had no financial or accounting issues, however it did reference an issue with fraud at Arvest Bank on September 14th, 2023. Arvest Bank was at fault and funds were reimbursed to the City of Farmington September 15th, 2023. On the motion of Council Member Carnahan and a second by Council Member Cunningham, and by the consent of all council members after a roll call vote, the motion to acknowledge the presentation of the 2023 Legislative Audit Report was approved as presented by a vote of 8-0.

Ordinance No. 2024-07 An Ordinance rezoning property at 9 Locust Street, Parcel 760-00851-0002 from C-2, Highway Commercial to R-O, Residential Office as requested by Jill Storlie.

Council Member Cunningham made a motion to pass Ordinance No. 2024-07, with a second by Council Member Carnahan, after a roll call vote it passed 8-0. City Business Manager asked if they wanted to pass it tonight.

Council Member Bell made a motion to place Ordinance No 2024-07 to suspend the rule reading in full of Ordinance No. 2024-07, it was seconded by Council Member Cunningham, after a roll call vote the motion passed 8/0. A motion was made by Council Member Lipford and seconded by Council Member Gardenhire to pass Ordinance No. 2024-07 with an Emergency Clause and after a roll vote the Emergency Clause was approved 8-0. City Attorney Moore read Ordinance No. 2024-07 by title only.

Ordinance No. 2024-08 An ordinance rezoning 175 W. Vine, from R-2, Residential Single Family to R-O, Residential Office, as requested by Pedal Pops/Mike Thompson.

Council Member Lipford made a motion, with a second by Council Member Bryant to suspend the rule requiring the reading of an ordinance in full on three different dates be suspended and for Ordinance No. 2024-08 to be read one time by title only and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion was approved 8-0. A motion was made by Council Member Lipford and seconded by Council Member Gardenhire to pass Ordinance No. 2024-08 with an Emergency Clause and after a roll vote the Emergency Clause was approved 8-0. City Attorney Moore read Ordinance No. 2024-08 by title only.

Ordinance No. 2024-09 An ordinance to appeal of Planning Commission denial for Silo Trails Development for rezoning of property located at 275 E. Old Farmington Road, from R-1 to PUD.

Council Member Carnahan made a motion to overrule the planning commission for Ordinance No 2024-09, with a second by Council Member Bryant,, after a roll call vote, the motion failed by a vote 7-1, with Council Member Carnahan voting yes. City Attorney Moore advised that Vice Mayor Morgan should abstain, the vote should reflect 6-1.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Lipford and seconded by Council Member Mathews was approved after a roll call vote 8-0, The meeting adjourned at 7:38 until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held Monday, October 14th, 2024, in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 354 West Main Street, Farmington, Arkansas.

Vice Mayor Bobby Morgan 

Kelly Penn, City Clerk 