



**FARMERSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
For
April 14, 2020, 6:00 P.M.**

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- Mayor Rice called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council members, Mike Hurst (via teleconference), Craig Overstreet, Dwain Mathers (via teleconference), Jim Hemby (via teleconference) and Donny Mason (via teleconference) were all present. City staff members Ben White, Sandra Green, Mike Sullivan, Kim Morris and City Attorney Alan Lathrom were also present.
- Prayer was led by Craig Overstreet followed by the pledges to the United States and Texas flags.
 - Calendar of upcoming holidays and meetings.
 - Applications for Boards and Commissions are now being accepted. An application can be download on the website or picked up at City Hall via drive-thru window.
 - Chief Sullivan stated he would like for the City Council to consider hazard pay for the officers and fireman working during the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - Alan Lathrom stated this section of the agenda was not appropriate for this discussion but they could discuss it during the Disaster Declaration section of the Regular Agenda.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENA ITEMS (FOR NON-PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA ITEMS)

- Due to the pandemic of Covid-19, no citizens were allowed in the Council Chambers. No one came forward on the teleconference to speak.

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

- Due to the pandemic of Covid-19, no citizens were allowed in the Council Chambers. No one came forward on the teleconference to speak.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Items in the Consent Agenda consist of non-controversial or "housekeeping" items required by law. Council members may request prior to a motion and vote on the Consent Agenda that one or more items be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda and considered individually. Following approval of the Consent Agenda, excepting the items requested to be removed, the City Council will consider and act on each item so withdrawn individually.

- A. City Council Minutes for March 10, 2020
- B. City Council Minutes for March 24, 2020
- C. City Council Minutes for March 30, 2020
- D. Police Department Report (OpenGov)
- E. Code Enforcement/Animal Control Report (OpenGov)
- F. Fire Department Report (OpenGov)
- G. Municipal Court Report (OpenGov)
- H. Warrant Officer Report (OpenGov)
- I. Public Works Report
- J. Library Report (OpenGov)
- K. City Financial Report
- L. City Manager's Report
 - Motion to approve Jim Hemby
 - 2nd to approve was Donny Mason
 - All council members voted in favor

V. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consider, discuss and act upon Ordinance #O-2020-0414-001 extending the Mayoral Declaration of Local State of Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency in accordance with state law.
 - Mayor Rice stated the only change in the document from the last time it was approved was the date.

- Alan Lathrom stated the date was changed to May 15th, unless it was terminated before that date by the City Council. He made changes to the document that would reflect the changes made by County Judge Chris Hill's declaration. He explained that he cleaned up a lot of areas to also make sure that it matched the Governor's orders. He said that all essential businesses remained the same. He added a few new paragraphs to show that people could still go to the gas station, grocery store and other similar activities. He stated he added a clause that people performing these essential activities would still have to abide by the social distancing requirements. He indicated that he followed the church services guidelines as the Governor's order did. He did state that a person could be penalized more than once for breaking the order.
- Chief Sullivan stated that Daphne Hamilin ran the numbers for the hazard pay and it could be put in the order. He said the officers and fireman take precautions such as gloves and they wear masks. He indicated they take the temperatures of staff in the morning and when their shift is over. They are also washing their hands frequently and using alcohol gel. He said they have a few gowns to wear in situations, but getting those in stock has been a problem.
- Jim Hemby stated he thought it was a good idea to give the frontline employees hazard pay. He asked if from a budget stand point the city could manage it.
- Ben White stated there would have to be a budget amendment.
- Alan Lathrom stated Ben White could make an interdepartmental transfer and then do a budget amendment at a later time.
- Mike Hurst asked where the money would be transferred from and how would it be replenished.
- Ben White stated the city has funds that have extra money in them, but ultimately the funds would come out of the surplus funds.
- Dwain Mathers stated he did not have a problem with the hazard pay.
- Donny Mason also stated he did not have any issues with it.
- Chief Sullivan stated he is filing for some grants that could help pay the city back for the expenditures.
- Dwain Mathers stated that people has asked him about tracking the statistics of the virus and wanted to know what the city has been doing.
- Chief Sullivan stated he posts on social meida, but a lot of the information is protected by HIPPA laws. He inidicated that what is being provided is what they could provide by law. He stated that the police and fire get notified from the county if they receive a call that requires them to take precautions as a result of Covid-19.

- Alan Lathrom stated there is an exception under HIPPA that allows health information to go out to first responders only and they have to protect that information.
- Mike Hurst stated that funeral homes needed to be notified if the death was from Covid-19.
- Craig Overstreet said our first responders needed proper equipment.
- Chief Sullivan stated the equipment was a supply issue.
 - Motion to approve amendment with provision of hazard pay of \$13,000 per month starting on April 15, 2020 until the disaster declaration has been lifted and to have a future budget amendment to be considered made by Craig Overstreet
 - 2nd to approve was Jim Hemby
 - All council members voted in favor

 - Motion to approve Ordinance as amended made by Dwain Mathers
 - 2nd to approve made by Donny Mason
 - All council members voted in favor

B. Consider, discuss and act upon proposed Hunt County Emergency Services District No. 1.

- Ben White stated we received the request from Mr. Ken Campbell to consider the Emergency Services District. He said they are trying to fund their fire departments in that area. In order to go through with this they need the city approval and some of the area is in the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ). He stated he spoke with Alan Lathrom about the Emergency Services District and he did not see any issues with it as it pertains to our ETJ. His recommendation was to approve the Emergency Services District.
- Alan Lathrom explained if the city ever annexed the property that is within the fire district the city could then request for that area to be removed from it. The residents that extend into those ETJ areas would probably support the Emergency Services District at this time and would then visit with the fire departments to release them upon annexation into the city limits.
- Ben White explained that the city's fire department area ended at the Hunt County line right now.
- Dwain Mathers wanted to know if there was an advantage to the City for approving this item.
- Ben White stated there was no advantage, but it is just a matter of being neighborly.
 - Motion to approve Jim Hemby
 - 2nd to approve was Donny Mason
 - All council members voted in favor

VI. REQUESTS TO BE PLACED ON FUTURE AGENDAS

- Craig Overstreet wanted the following updates on the agenda: sewer plant, Martin Marietta, compliance with outstanding Development Agreements, CR 611 construction, and Palladium.
- Donny Mason wanted an update on Hamilton St.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

APPROVE:



Jack Randall Rice, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sandra Green, City Secretary

