

FARMERSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
August 11, 2015

The Farmersville City Council met in regular session on August 11, 2015 at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall with the following members present: Mayor Joe Helmberger, John Klostermann, John Politz, Michael Hesse, Leaca Caspari and Jim Foy. Staff members present were Police Chief Mike Sullivan, Fire Chief Kim Morris, City Attorney Alan Lathrom, Warrant Officer Rick Ranspot, Finance Director Daphne Hamlin, Assistant to the City Manager Paula Jackson, Librarian Trisha Dowell, Main Street Manager Adah Leah Wolf and City Secretary Edie Sims.

Item I) 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. Edie Sims offered the invocation with Mayor Helmberger leading the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and the Texas Flag.

Several visitors came to the meeting to speak during the forum on non-agenda items.

Diane Piwko, residing at 200 McKinney Street, came before the Council stating she is noticing a trend regarding the minutes on the City's website. Since Mayor Don Smith's term, the draft minutes have been placed on the website shortly after the meetings. The June 2015 minutes were a month late. The draft minutes are very helpful to keep everyone informed. If the City Secretary's priorities need to be adjusted, please do so or get her help so the minutes can be placed on the website in a timelier manner.

Tiffany Long, residing at 1894 Kristen Court, Caddo Mills, brought a packet of information she felt would be enlightening to the Council regarding Muslims. A petition has been started to show the City the public's position on having a Muslim cemetery. Ms. Long asked the City to follow their own ordinances and apply the Subdivision Ordinance evenly. Lastly, the comment from the Town Hall Meeting by Khalil Abdur-Rashid stating his translation of a paper to attain his degree has been discredited as just a translation.

David Meeks, David Meeks, Bethlehem Baptist Church located at 6615 CR 664, stated he attended the Town Hall Meeting. Mr. Rashid stated Islam is an honest religion. Mr. Meeks is appalled by the history of Islam. Mr. Rashid stated he is not associated with CAIR (Council on American-Islamic Relations) which is the nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization. However, when interviewed by Channel 8 news, Mr. Rashid's wife was promoting with a banner behind Mr. Rashid. CAIR is associated with the Islamic Brotherhood who are terrorists. The Islam's method is to infiltrate, then influence the government, infiltrate the schools and influence the school's rules, then enforce Sharia Law. There is danger in letting the Muslims get a foothold in Farmersville.

Gwen Kakakska, residing at 5258 CR 660, stated CAIR was co-indicted as a conspirator with September 11. Ms. Kakakska contacted the Muslims who have

purchased the land for a cemetery and asked them what if they sold the land? As their conversation continued, the tone changed. They are dishonest and are not trying to work with Farmersville. Ms. Kakaska stated she will continue her personal pursuit to talk with the Muslims not install a cemetery in Farmersville.

Betty Mondy, residing at 211 S. Washington, spoke to the audience stating Farmersville has been under a lot of turmoil lately. We should not allow this issue split our town. We should love each other. Most of the people in the audience did not vote for the Council, but those that did should allow our Leaders to do their job they were voted in to do. Those that are making threats should be ashamed and that is wrong. If we are Christians, then we should act like it. If you are interested in what is going on, then attend the meetings and do not come asking what happened. Our Council should be trusted and allow them to look out after our best interests.

Precious Perkins, residing at 315 S. Washington, stated we are all Christians in Farmersville and Farmersville is a Jesus town. If the Muslims do come, will we have to move out?

Alice Lynn Bridges, residing at 509 Gaddy Street, stated when all is said and done, we should still love each other and continue to be friends and neighbors. No matter which side is chosen, she does not want to be mad and see others be kind to each other.

Gary Lehrmann, residing at 3945 CR 1125, stated he is not ready to throw in the towel. The head man with the Muslims is a legal scholar and has done his homework. We must also do the same. If a cemetery is allowed, then we should structure so they will follow all requirements so the property will be kept as ours is kept.

Billie Goldstein, residing at 1453 State Highway 78 North, stated whether the Muslim cemetery goes thru or not, hate should be pulled. We should make Farmersville the most patriotic city in America. That is something the government cannot take away and we should show our patriotism with flags from the bridges west of town all along Highway 380 and heading to Greenville.

James Moss, residing at 2092 CR 700, stated he is content to be unknown but with recent events, he is very shaken. Islam is a culture that changes things forever. When we are desensitized, we will conform to their ways. The question should be asked what is expected and what will we be in the next five years. The Muslims are judging us without being here and knowing us. There are too many trying to impress upon us their opposition and opinions. Mr. Moss stated he hopes his home town will remain the same. God is enough. Be aware of being desensitized.

Mayor Helmberger read a proclamation declaring August 11, 2015 as Safe Digging Day in Farmersville.

The Bugtussle Antique Car Trek will be on August 29th from 7:45am – 8:45am. And finally, congratulations were given to Daphne Hamlin for attaining the Certificate of Distinction from the Government Treasurers' Organization of Texas for the City's Investment Policy.

Jim Foy stated the City is on top of the awards, including the Platinum for Transparency through the Texas Comptroller's Office. These are recognized as an outstanding job.

Item II) CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Helmberger asked for any items to be pulled for discussion with Jim Foy requesting the Public Works Report be pulled. With no other items being pulled for discussion, Leaca Caspari motioned to approve Items A, B, C, D, E, F, H, and I with John Politz seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: John Klostermann yes, John Politz, Michael Hesse yes, Leaca Caspari yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

Item G – Public Works Report: Jim Foy stated the water usage has dramatically lowered. The Water Usage Chart reflects we are using under 20 million gallons opposed to the peak of 50 million gallons. This is a dramatic situation for the budget. It is a shame water is being conserved to the point it is now costing the City since we must pay the peak usage.

The Wastewater System is still having infiltration issues. Mayor Helmberger stated lines are being televised and issues are being repaired as soon as found. Jim Foy motioned to approve the Public Works report as presented with John Klostermann seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: John Klostermann yes, John Politz, Michael Hesse yes, Leaca Caspari yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

Item III) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Council did not request any information or clarification regarding Informational Items. Jim Foy noted to the public this information is available in the Council packet the Friday before the upcoming meeting.

ITEM IV – A) ONLY READING – CONSIDER ALL MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF "CITY OF FARMERSVILLE, TEXAS, GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING AND IMPROVEMENT BONDS, SERIES 2015", INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS

Mayor Helmberger introduced David Medanich with First Southwest who is the City's bonding agent. Mr. Medanich presented the last withdrawal of the bond funds from the 2012 Bond Series. The City has an underlying bond rating of A+ with an insured rating of AA through Standard and Poors. This rating is very good. Mayor Helmberger questioned why the use of refunding bonds with Mr. Medanich replying it is a terminology factor. In his side of the business, it is deemed as a refunding of a bond where we would consider it to be a refinancing. The remainder of the bond is what is left from the election and the 2006 Bonds to be funded at 2.77% interest with the refinancing will save the City \$200,000. BOSC is purchasing the bond and Mr. Medanich recommended awarding the

bond to BOSC. Jim Foy motioned approve all matters incident and related to the issuance and sale of the "City of Farmersville, Texas, General Obligation refunding and improvement bonds, Series 2015" including the adoption of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of such bonds with John Klostermann seconded the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: John Klostermann yes, John Politz yes, Michael Hesse yes, Leaca Caspari yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

ITEM V – A) CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND ACT UPON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE, SET TWO PUBLIC HEARING DATES FOR THE TAX RATE, AND DIRECT STAFF IN THE PREPARATION OF AN ORDINANCE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SELECTED RATE

Daphne Hamlin, Finance Director for the City of Farmersville, directed the Council to the Budget Workshop information regarding the tax rate worksheets from the Collin County Tax Office. Jim Foy stated the tax rate is slightly lower from the last budget workshop meeting. Ms. Hamlin stated 15¢ of the tax rate is due to the Interest and Sinking fund for our bond indebtedness. Without the bond indebtedness, the tax rate would be at 70¢/\$100 valuation rather than 85¢.

Leaca Caspari motioned to approve the proposed tax rate of \$0.859000 per \$100 valuation and set a public hearing for the tax rate on August 25, 2015 and September 1, 2015. John Politz seconded the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: John Klostermann yes, John Politz yes, Michael Hesse yes, Leaca Caspari yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

ITEM V – B) CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND ACT UPON A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AGENTS OF THE CITY TO EXERCISE BUSINESS FOR THE CITY THROUGH WIRE TRANSFERS AND ACH TRANSFERS

A resolution was presented to the Council regarding wire transfers and ACH transfers. Daphne Hamlin stated a majority of transfers are made for the City through this method and the bank requires a resolution with specific agents and the amounts allowed by Council. Ms. Hamlin recommended a limit of \$400,000 be placed on all wire and ACH transfers. All transfers are presented to the Council and the Council Treasurer or Mayor signs off on each transaction. Jim Foy motioned to approve the resolution designating Michael Hesse, Daphne Hamlin, Edie Sims and Paula Jackson as signers for the City with a limit of \$400,000 per transaction. Michael Hesse seconded the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: John Klostermann yes, John Politz yes, Michael Hesse yes, Leaca Caspari yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

ITEM V – C) CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND ACT UPON A RESOLUTION TO AUCTION ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

A resolution was presented to the Council regarding surplus items to be auctioned. Jim Foy questioned if the auction was local with Paula Jackson replying the City has used Rene Bates online auction which has been very productive. John Klostermann motioned

to approve the resolution as presented with John Politz seconding the motion. A poll of the Council was taken as follows: John Klostermann yes, John Politz yes, Michael Hesse yes, Leaca Caspari yes and Jim Foy yes. Motion passed with full Council approval.

ITEM VI) BUDGET WORKSHOP

Finance Director Daphne Hamlin came before the Council directed them to page 10 of the Budget Workshop highlights. From the previous meeting, the Council requested the Marketing line item be moved from the Mayor/City Council to Administration. All the requested items were added to the General Fund budget with the tax rate below the City of Wylie. Both items were accomplished.

With all the requested items to be funded, the budget is falling short \$146,223.32. Jim Foy questioned the amount of Reserves. Ms. Hamlin stated a total of \$800,000 is in Reserves with \$670,000 being dedicated for our 90 day Emergency Fund. Ms. Hamlin asked the Council what direction they prefer to balance the budget. Jim Foy stated it was important to have the additional Code Enforcement Officer. The unrestricted funds would be enough to cover the additional personnel per the requested items and still leave the 90 day Emergency Fund intact. John Politz stated he too would like to see an additional Code Enforcement Officer.

Council concurred to remove the budget retreat expenditure of \$5,000. Council concurred to utilize unrestricted reserves is the way to go and fund individual performance increases, bunker gear for the Fire Department, cost of living increases, dispatch increase, backhoe lease from the Wastewater Fund, SAN City Hall server, two patrol car lease agreements, additional fireman, change a part-time Library employee to full-time and add an additional Code Enforcement Officer.

The other option would be to increase the property taxes to cover these expenditures. To do so, the tax rate would need to be 93¢. Jim Foy stated he is not for increasing taxes more than needed. Council concurred to keep all the projects as listed and strike the retreat.

ITEM VII) REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF PLACING ITEMS ON FUTURE AGENDAS

Leaca Caspari stated she would like to discuss why various committees are not meeting. Ms. Caspari was encouraged to visit with City Manager Ben White before having this on the agenda. No one else requested items to be placed on a future agenda.

ITEM VIII) ADJOURNMENT

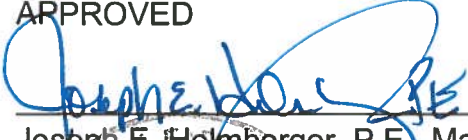
Council adjourned at 6:59:11pm.

ATTEST



Edie Sims, City Secretary

APPROVED



Joseph E. Helmberger, P.E. Mayor

