



**FARMERSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
For
April 23, 2019, 6:00 P.M.**

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- Mayor Rice called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council members Craig Overstreet, Michael Hesse, Donny Mason and Todd Rolan were all present. Council member Mike Hurst was not in attendance. City staff members Ben White, Sandra Green, Kim Morris, Daphne Hamlin, Mike Sullivan, Dana Mingo and City Attorney Alan Lathrom were also present.
- Prayer was led by Dana Mingo, Main Street Manager, followed by the pledges to the United States and Texas flags.
 - Calendar of upcoming holidays and meetings.
 - TxDOT will hold public hearings on May 6th, 7th, and 9th in different locations to hear comments regarding the expansion of U.S. Highway 380. Please refer to the flyer in the agenda packet, posted at City Hall and on the City's website for more information.
 - The Texas Community Futures Forum will be held on Thursday, April 25th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Farmersville. Please refer to flyer in the agenda packet.
 - The Farmersville Intermediate School's Annual "Physics Phair" will be Tuesday, May 7th from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Please refer to flyer in the agenda packet.
 - Proclamation for Motorcycle Awareness Month
 - Mayor Rice read the Proclamation and presented it to audience members.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

- No one came forward

Mike Hurst arrived at 6:12 p.m.

III. 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 Council members may request prior to a motion and vote on the Consent Agenda that one or more items be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda and considered individually.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the Consent Agenda, excepting the items requested to be removed, the City Council will consider and act on each item so withdrawn individually.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
- B. Police Department Report
- C. Code Enforcement/Animal Control Report
- D. Municipal Court Report
- E. Warrant Officer Report
- F. Public Works Report
- G. Library Report
- H. City Financial Report
- I. City Manager’s Report
 - o Motion to approve reports made by Michael Hesse
 - o 2nd to approve was Todd Rolen
 - o All council members voted in favor

IV. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

These Informational Items are intended solely to keep the City Council apprised of the actions and efforts of the various boards and commissions serving the City of Farmersville. Council members who serve as a liaison to a particular board or Commission may report to the City Council regarding that body’s most recent and/or upcoming meetings and activities. Council members may also deliberate and/or request further information or clarification regarding any one or more of the items contained in this provision. City Council approval of, or action on, these items is not required or requested. **Matters that require City Council action shall be considered and acted on only if an item related thereto is included in the Consent Agenda or the Regular Agenda.**

Consideration and discussion regarding the following matters, minutes and reports, which consideration and discussion may also include or pertain to individual items and projects set forth in such matters, minutes and reports, as well as related background information and plans for future completion, performance or resolution

as may be necessary to understand such individual items and projects and the City's related operation:

- A. City Amenities Board
 - 1. Possible Council Liaison Report

- B. Farmersville Community Development Board (Type B)
 - 1. Minutes
 - 2. Financials
 - 3. Possible Council Liaison Report

- C. FEDC Farmersville Economic Development Board (Type A)
 - 1. Financials
 - 2. Possible Council Liaison Report

- D. Main Street Board
 - 1. Monthly Report
 - 2. Possible Council Liaison Report

- E. Planning & Zoning Commission
 - 1. Possible Council Liaison Report

V. READING OF ORDINANCES

- A. Consider, discuss and act upon the first and only reading of Ordinance #O-2019-0423-001 regarding the proposed change in rates of Oncor Electric Delivery Company LLC.
 - o Motion to approve made by Craig Overstreet
 - o 2nd to approve was Donny Mason
 - o All council members voted in favor

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consider, discuss and act upon addendum to OpenGov software.
 - Daphne Hamlin presented an example of OpenGov Story Builder for the Council and explained how it would work.
 - Ben White stated it would allow us to eventually get rid of budget books and it would allow us to show goals.
 - Daphne Hamlin stated the budget would be on OpenGov this year and people could view it as it is developing.
 - Craig Overstreet pointed out the Story Builder is \$3,500.00 a year.

- Daphne Hamlin stated yes.
 - Craig Overstreet asked if the city could get out of the contract after a year if needed.
 - Ben White stated he believed it was built into to the original contract.
 - Alan Lathrom stated he was not sure because he would have to see the original contract to be verify if the city could cancel the Story Builder at any time.
 - Craig Overstreet wanted to know if the addendum could be cancelled at any time and find out how many people have looked at or used OpenGov since it went live before the Council made a decision.
 - Mayor Rice stated the item would be postponed until the next City Council meeting in order to obtain the information that was requested.
- B. Consider, discuss and act upon decision to move mowing from contractor to inside city services.
- Ben White passed out a small packet to Council explaining the reasons the city was moving the mowing in house. He stated that McCreary's Mow Time had done a great job for Farmersville. A few months ago Danny Ruff, Public Works Foreman, brought the idea forward about bringing the mowing in house. The city has liability with the electrical wires to get tree trimming done properly. The two new employees would be used for mowing, trimming trees, hanging Christmas Lights, and other various public works jobs that cannot be done my Mow Time. They could help with the maintenance of parks and downtown. He indicated conditions in the city have changed that would allow us to hire the two new employees. He stated he was not asking for any more money. He is moving money around inter-departmentally which could be done to cover the expenses. Effectively, we were using Mow Time two to three days for approximately six months he said. We are going to buy mowers which was built into the overall cost estimates provided. He discussed the last two year comparisons that were on the second page of the handout that he gave to the City Council. He also showed the projected cost spread of the two new employees. He stated it was not just mowing the new employees would take care of because they would help with labor in other departments.
 - Todd Rolen asked what kind of mower could be bought for \$3,000.00.
 - Ben White stated he believed it would be more like \$10,000.00 and it would still fit in the overall budget.
 - Craig Overstreet stated the numbers did not make sense to him, but he did appreciate the work on the budget that was done. He does not feel like it

would work because of the manpower, equipment and efficiency that the contractor provides compared to the city.

- Randy Rice asked what would be the harm in trying it.
- Mike Hurst asked what would happen if one of the employees quit and the city would then become short staffed. He asked what would happen if the city started a more stringent enforcement on mowing of lawns that are not kept.
- Ben White stated we instruct Mow Time to do the mowing of those lots now, but we would have our employees mow them and then we would place a lien on the property just like we currently do.
- Mayor Rice stated he is seeing it as a relief for the other departments.
- Michael Hesse stated years ago he had commented on how he would like to move the mowing back in house, but he would also like to see the city staff take over the herbicide as well. But, he stated that he would like to finish out the full current contract and then move it in house. He explained there are too many things happening for the city to take it over right now.
- Ben White stated the current contract was for one year with automatic renewals for up to four years, and this was the second year of the contract.
- Donny Mason stated he agreed with all the other Council members.
- Michael Hesse asked how the bidding came up before when Oak Grove Landscaping was mowing.
- Ben White stated because he was asked to rebid it.
- Mike Hurst stated he was worried about the equipment holding up and how it could sever relationships with mowing contractors in the future.
- Craig Overstreet stated he did not understand how it would be cheaper for the city.
- Mayor Rice stated he believed it would be more efficient and beneficial for the city to utilize two new employees.
- Donny Mason asked why Ben White did not just put it in the budget for next year.
- Ben White stated from the discussion of Council he would not go forward with bringing the mowing in house in the near future.

C. Consider, discuss and act upon a Substation Maintenance and Repair Agreement with Garland Power & Light.

- Ben White stated that Garland Power & Light requested a few changes on the maintenance agreement.
- Craig Overstreet asked if the dollar amount changed.
- Ben White stated no they just wanted to have 60 days to notify the other party if they wanted to terminate the contract.

- Motion to approve made by Todd Rolan
- 2nd to approve was Donny Mason
- All council members voted in favor

D. Update on Camden Park and consider, discuss and act regarding possible issues.

- Ben White stated they are continuing to build homes, but they have had problems getting internet service out to the development. We are having some success with Spectrum in regards to that. Two house contracts have been cancelled because of no internet services. He stated that private enterprises are not interested in what is happening in the city. He would like the Council to consider a very low cost way to discover if the citizens would like effective internet service. He recommended the Council allow him to go forward with a survey to see if the citizens would want better internet options.
- Mayor Rice asked if the cost of the survey could be reduced by using students or other services at a lower rate.
- Ben White stated he could probably get students, Collin College, or Texas A&M – Commerce involved.
- Mike Hurst stated he believed it was a good idea and asked if Mount Belvieu would come to the City and have a workshop with the Council.
- Ben White stated that in Camden Park they placed copper in the ground and it has limited services and fiber would not be limited. He explained we are putting limitations in the ground that are holding our kids back for tomorrow.
- Council agreed to let him go forward with the survey.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Mayor Rice read the statement below and stated the Council would convene into executive session at 6:56 p.m.

A. Discussion of Matters Permitted by Texas Government Code Section 551.071, CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY:

1. *United States of America v. City of Farmersville, Texas*, Civil Action No. 4:19-CV-00285.

VIII. RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND DISCUSS/CONSIDER/ACT ON MATTERS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PERMITTED BY:

- Mayor Rice stated the Council would reconvene from executive session at 7:27 p.m.

A. Texas Government Code Section 551.071, CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY:

1. *United States of America v. City of Farmersville, Texas*, Civil Action No. 4:19-CV-00285.

- Mayor Rice announced the Department of Justice dismissed the lawsuit against the City of Farmersville yesterday.

VI. **REQUESTS TO BE PLACED ON FUTURE AGENDAS**

- Craig Overstreet wanted an update on the striping of parking spaces in downtown.
- Donny Mason requested an update on Hamilton Street.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

APPROVE:



Jack Randall Rice, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sandra Green, City Secretary

