

FARMERSVILLE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES
September 29, 2014

The Farmersville Citizens Advisory Committee met in special session on September 29, 2014 at 7:10 p.m. at the City of Farmersville Council Chambers with the following members present: Tom Waitschies, Patti Ford, Bryce Thompson, Charles Casada and Craig Overstreet. Commission members absent were Mark Vincent and Todd Rolan. Staff members present was City Manager Ben White, City Attorney Alan Lathrom and City Secretary Edie Sims. Council Liaison John Klostermann was present.

CALL TO ORDER AND RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS/VISITORS

Chairman Waitschies called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Edie Sims called roll and announced that a quorum was present.

Item II – A) CONSIDER, DISCUSS AND REVIEW PLANNING-RELATED ISSUES AND THE CITY’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND THE SUBMISSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL REGARDING SUCH DISCUSSIONS

City Manager Ben White stated this particular session of the Comprehensive Plan will cover the Utilities and Public Facilities. The first section regards the Water Utility. Design Standards are imperative and the Council will be working toward having our standards enhanced and current per Strategy 1.1.

Per Strategy 1.3 and 1.4, the City has been funded through a bond to improve water line capacity along Highway 78. Highway 380 has been improved and will continue to have improvements made. The City is very privileged to have attained an ISO Level 2 through the Insurance Service Organization lowering the citizen’s insurance rates.

According to Strategy 2.1 and 2.2, both have been achieved and we are awaiting development. Strategy 2.3 is a given; however development opportunities have not become prevalent as of yet.

The next section regards the Sewer Utility. The City has worked diligently to resolve infiltration problems. We are heavily involved with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The City has been attaining grants and incrementally replacing the old clay tile lines with PVC. The City also has been approved for \$15,000,000 loan to construct a wastewater treatment facility. Currently planning and engineering is underway for this project. Although stated in the Sewer Strategy 1.4, the City has been moving forward to identify and eliminate sources of inflow and infiltration as stated earlier. Strategy 2 has been complete and we are awaiting development opportunities.

The next section regards the Electric Utility. Mr. White was very pleased to inform the Committee that all areas of this goal have been complete. An electronic metering system is being implemented which will improve accurate billing. A wholesale contract for electric energy is in place and energy was bought at the lowest gas rate for a 5 year term. Maintenance agreements are in place as well.

Broadband is the next section. Mr. White has been researching the development of broadband in our City utilizing fiber optics. Having this utility would be a key economic factor and provide more services to our citizens.

Public Facility Goal is the last section to be discussed at this meeting. Mr. White informed the Committee he has been working with the Parks and Recreation Board who is developing a plan for J.W. Spain Athletic Complex. This plan will then be a task list to start implementing projects and improving the facilities at the Complex. Southlake Park and other facilities are also being planned for improvements. Historical markers are also planned in the future. The Annex behind City Hall will be renovated for office space after the Public Safety Building (Service Center) has been completed.

Item III) ADJOURNMENT

Craig Overstreet motioned to adjourn with Patti Ford seconding the motion. The Advisory Committee adjourned at 7:44pm.

Patti Ford, Secretary

Bryce Thompson, Vice-Chairman