

**Farmington City Council**  
**Meeting Minutes-December 16, 2024**

Meeting Notes, Prepared by Tracy Sollenberger, Deputy City Clerk  
Nancy Reed, City Clerk

The regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on December 16, 2024 at the Farmington City Building 322 E. Fort St. Mayor Stufflebeam led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following Aldermen answered present to roll call: Gilles, Smith, Boggs, Fleming and Rose. Atty. Connor was on Teams. Adm. Bohanan was also present. Ald. Crusen was absent. Wishing Ald. Crusen well on her test tonight to become an EMT.

Mayor Stufflebeam allowed Mr. Dan Kiesewetter to speak regarding the City's insurance renewal. Overall package premium increased 14 % this year, increasing from \$39,986 to \$45,562, worker compensation decreased by 12%, decreasing from \$26,274 to \$23,038. The overall renewal was only increased by \$2,340 from last year. Property coverages were increased from \$4,195,128 to \$4,436,495. Increases have been attributed to Covid, Supply Chain Issues, Inflation and Volatile Weather over the last 2-3 years. Updated equipment lists this year, Law Enforcement Liability deductible was increased from \$2,500 to \$5,000 due to claims activity and plaintiff's awards nationwide. Work Comp payroll is higher than last year, the City also qualifies for a \$2,289 grant award for 2025 from IL. Public Risk Fund to purchase safety equipment. Mr. Kiesewetter advised Adm. Bohanan to apply for said grant as soon as possible. The City thanked Mr. Kiesewetter for his services.

**MINUTES:**

Ald. Gilles moved to approve the minutes of December 02, 2024. Ald. Rose seconded the motion carried with all ayes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was no Correspondence tonight.

**OAK RIDGE CEMETERY BOARD/MINUTES:**

Herb Stufflebeam read from the Oak Ridge Cemetery Board Report tonight. A company will be coming to look at the marble that has pulled away from the wall in the mausoleum. They are also looking into solar lighting for the cemetery. The concern for the safety of the people visiting the cemetery. Colby Evans is working as the new caretaker at the cemetery who replaced retired Jon Frank. The Soldier's Memorial will be power washed before Memorial Day. A new poster will be created with the new rules of the cemetery. The cemetery will be looking for volunteers this spring to help clean grave markers. They also will need volunteers in September for the Cemetery Walk which will include re-enactments and history exhibits. Oak Ridge Cemetery will be creating a new facebook page. Mayor Stufflebeam thanked Mr. Stufflebeam for the report on the Oak Ridge Cemetery Board of Managers.

**ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:**

Adm. Bohanan reported that the Public Works were busy with leaf pickup and winterizing the shop. They have been busy removing all usable items from the original part of Chapman. Reusable items are being used at the Community Center and at Jacobs Park. They also have been preparing for snow removal. There was a surprise inspection from OSHA. The City only had 5 minor infractions that were fixed immediately. The Christmas tree was erected at Reed Park. Parts are ordered to fix the 2 City owned street lights on Main Street by the Daycare and the Bank of Farmington.

Matt Harris has been hired to clean the bathrooms and gym floor weekly during Bidy Ball season starting Jan. 04, 2025 at the Community Center. The Committee is looking for quotes to hire to refinish the gym floor.

The Solar panels are being tested at the City Building on Dec. 17, 2024. The Audit began last week. The City is working with lawyers on Ordinance Violations and to condemn a nuisance building. Office Manager, Tracy Sollenberger has about 30 more people out of 414 to research addresses for collections/liens on past due sewer/garbage bills. The City is also looking to update and condense the permit application form to a singular form. Adm. Bohanan is working on grants for free lunches for Summer Recreation. She also has been attending meetings to possibly qualify the Community Center as a disaster center. Plus grant options for a charging station at Cherry St. and Fort Street. Ald. Gilles moved to approve the Administrators Report. Ald. Boggs seconded the motion carried with all ayes.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no Old Business tonight.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Ald. Gilles moved to read Ordinance 2024-20: Amending our Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year May 01, 2024 and ending April 30, 2025 by title only. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Mayor Stufflebeam read Ordinance 2024-20: Amending our Annual Budget by title only. Ald. Gilles moved to waive the seconded reading of Ordinance 2024-20: Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Ald. Gilles moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-20: Amending our Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year May 01, 2024 and ending April 30, 2025. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

Mayor Stufflebeam reported that the Tax Levy for Ordinance 2024-21 is \$26,000 less than it was last year. Ald. Gilles moved to read Ordinance 2024-21 Tax Levy: by title only. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Mayor Stufflebeam read Ordinance 2024-21 by title only. Ald. Gilles moved to waive the seconded the reading of Ordinance 2024-21. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Ald. Gilles moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-21 Tax Levy: Ald. Boggs seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

The CEDC recommended the Council to approve Mark Gilstrap for window replacement with a TIF grant of \$2,500. Farmington Moose Lodge for a new front door replacement with a TIF grant of \$5,317.50. Ald. Gilles made a motion to approve the CEDC recommendations. Ald. Rose seconded the

motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

Discussion was held with Solar Permitting: The City would like to know who has solar panels within the City. Would like to share this information with the Fire Department. This is becoming a state wide interest. If someone already has solar panels but not in compliance the owner of the solar panels would be grandfathered. This will be brought back for further discussion.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance/Ordinance:** Ald. Crusen was absent.

**Public Safety:** Ald. Boggs had nothing to report.

**Sewer:** Ald. Fleming had nothing to report.

**Streets/Sidewalks/Garbage:** Ald. Gilles had nothing to report.

**Parks & Recreations:** Ald. Smith had nothing to report.

**Public Grounds & Buildings:** Ald. Rose had nothing to report.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Manager Tina from Mi Casa, a newly opened Mexican restaurant located uptown, is interested in the restaurant hanging sign guidelines. Adm. Bohanan and Tina will talk tomorrow. Ald. Boggs had received comments and complaints about the mattresses and full dumpster at 90 N. Main Street. Mayor Stufflebeam commented that the Public Works removed the mattresses. Working on Ordinances violations and moving forward to get the rest of it cleaned up soon. With no other comments, Ald. Gilles moved to adjourn. Ald. Rose seconded the motion carried with all ayes. Adjournment time was 6:33 p.m.