

**Farmington City Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**October 07, 2024**

Prepared by Nancy Reed, City Clerk

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on October 07, 2024 at the Farmington City Building 322 E. Fort Street. Mayor Stufflebeam led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following Aldermen answered present to roll call: Gilles, Smith, Boggs, Rose and Crusen. Atty. Connor was on Teams, Adm. Bohanan, and Chief Darsham were also present. Ald. Gilles moved to approve Ald. Crusen to use Teams to attend tonight's meeting. Ald. Smith seconded the motion carried with all ayes. Ald. Gilles moved to approve September 16, 2024 meeting minutes. Ald. Rose seconded the motion carried with all ayes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mayor Stufflebeam read a resignation letter from Officer Austin DeWester. He is leaving, September 30, 2024 to take the next step in his career. Officer DeWester also appreciated the opportunity and training. He also appreciated the support from his fellow officers and administration. Mr. DeWester's resignation letter was accepted with regrets.

**BILLS PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT:**

Ald. Boggs moved to approve Bills Presented for Payment as presented. Ald. Gilles seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; Ald. Crusen, yes; Ald. Gilles, yes; and Ald. Smith, yes.

**BALANCE OF ACCOUNTS:**

Mayor Stufflebeam read from the Working Cash Report, Balance of Accounts. Mayor Stufflebeam commented that the City's audit is almost complete and next year's audit should go smoothly.

**TIF REPORT:**

Mayor Stufflebeam reported the ending balance of \$1,903,583.47.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

Police Chief Darsham read from the Farmington Police Department Report. Ordinance work continues. Officer Rice attended the Homecoming Dance as the SRO. The K9 bags tournament during the Italian Fest raised over \$500. Chris Helle from Fulton County ESDA, Chief Watters from the Farmington Fire Department and Chief Darsham had a meeting to go over their Emergency Plan. SRO Rice and Sgt. Steck helped with the school lockdown drill. Ald. Boggs moved to approve the Police Department Report. Ald. Gilles seconded the motion carried with all ayes.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no Old Business on tonight's agenda.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

The CEDC would like the following recommendations to the City Council: In TIF Robert Campbell, Front Door and Deck Replacement, \$2,475; Matt Rose, Window Replacement, \$1,000; Kim Viano Window Replacement, \$1,275. Out of TIF Greg Holloway, Driveway/Sidewalk Replacement, \$2,500. Ald. Boggs moved to approve the CEDC recommendations to the City Council. Ald. Gilles seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; Ald. Crusen, yes; Ald. Gilles, yes; and Ald. Smith, yes. Ald. Smith had a few questions which were answered by Mayor Stufflebeam.

Ald. Boggs moved to read Ordinance 2024-14 Raising Elected Officials Salary by title only. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; Ald. Crusen, yes; Ald. Gilles, yes; and Ald. Smith, yes. Mayor Stufflebeam read Ordinance 2024-14 Raising Elected Officials Salary by title only. Ald. Gilles moved to waive the second reading of Ordinance 2024-14. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; and Ald. Crusen, yes. Ald. Gilles moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-14 Raising Elected Officials Salary. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; and Ald. Crusen, yes.

Mayor Stufflebeam was approached by Mr. Kenny Balagna with the City to take ownership of Lot #1 in Wasson Ridge. This big lot begins right on Main Street and the Railroad right of way and is mostly timber. Mr. Balagna would graciously maintain the property as long as he is able. Ald. Rose moved to approve the City's ownership of Lot #1 in Wasson Ridge from Mr. Balagna. Ald. Boggs seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Rose, yes; Ald. Crusen, yes; Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; and Ald. Boggs, yes.

Mayor Stufflebeam received a letter from Mr. Dan Kiesewetter who is accepting donations for Spoon River CEO Program to benefit Fulton County School High Students. They are looking for support of \$1,000 from the City of Farmington. Ald. Gilles moved to approve a donation of \$1,000 for the next three years to the Spoon River CEO Program. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; and Ald. Crusen, yes.

Discussion was held on the Food Truck Permits for future food vendors coming to Farmington. Discussion was also held on possible background checks and insurance checks plus health department permits with possible fingerprinting. A fee for the food vendors permit was not decided on at this time. This will be discussed again at the next council meeting.

Chief Darsham would like to hire another full time Police Officer for the City to replace Officer DeWester. Chief Darsham has already interviewed and would like to move forward with a new hire. Ald. Boggs moved to hire a new full time police employee for the City of Farmington. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Boggs, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; Ald. Crusen, yes; Ald. Gilles, yes; and Ald. Smith, yes.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance:** Ald. Crusen had nothing to report.

**Public Safety:** Ald. Boggs had nothing to report but did mention a grant was received for the Farmington Police Dept. for tasers that was written by Officer Cody Rice.

**Sewer:** Ald. Fleming was absent.

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

**Parks/ Recreation:** Ald. Smith had nothing to report.

**Public Grounds/Buildings:** Ald. Rose had nothing to report. Mayor Stufflebeam received a bid for 99 E. Vernon Street of \$3,950 from Todd Abraham to build a duplex. Money will go to the Community Center.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

Mr. Jim Van Houten asked about a restroom for Dimmitt Park. Mayor Stufflebeam said it is being planned for next spring. Mr. Van Houten also commented on some overgrown grass down on W. Fulton Street. Alison Watson wanted to say thank you for the new street light down on W. Fort Street. Ald. Boggs moved to adjourn tonight's meeting. Ald. Gilles seconded the motion with an adjournment time of 6:23 p.m. Mayor Stufflebeam thanked everyone for coming to tonight's City Council meeting.