

**FOREMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
July 15, 2019**

The Foreman City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 15, 2019, in the Foreman Community Center at 4:00 p.m.

Mike McKee opened the meeting with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Mayor, Bill Harp, called the meeting to order and the roll was called. Council members Judy Adams, Alana Cody, Helen Dixon, and Mike McKee were present. Perry Young came in after roll call. Tommy McDonald was not present. A quorum was declared. Theresa Woods, Deputy Recorder/Treasurer and County Sheriff Bobby Walraven were also present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Judy Adams made the motion to accept the minutes and Mike McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Financial report for the month of June was presented. After a brief review and discussion, Mike McKee made a motion to approve and accept the report. Alana Cody seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Citizens wishing to address the Council

None

Department Reports

Administration: Mayor Harp told the council the gravel and asphalt has been delivered. He also purchased a packer and he has patched a few holes.

Mayor Harp said he would like to hire Leonard Frady, part-time temporary, to drive the sanitation truck at \$10 per hour. Mr. Frady has a CDL which is required for driving the sanitation truck. The Mayor said Eddie needed to address some sewer issues that needs work when it gets dry and also he needs to get water and sewer line installed on 4th Ave. for a new resident. Eddie said the city also needed to run a sewer line from the intersection of Bell St. and 7th St. east to Madden St.

Law Enforcement: The monthly patrol report from the Sheriff's Dept. for June was presented. The deputies drove approximately 3,457 miles and responded to (95) calls for service including (13) disturbance calls, (8) medical calls, (58) animal complaint, (2) accidents, and (1) theft calls. Deputies made (2) misdemeanor arrests, (5) felony arrest, served (2) warrants, and issued (21) warnings and (18) citations. Deputies also located (2) open doors while conducting security checks. Fines collected in the amount of \$1,132.34 for the month.

Sheriff Walraven was present and the council had several questions about the service provided by the Sheriff's department. The Sheriff said they are splitting up the shifts so no one person is in Foreman all night to help keep the deputies more alert.

The council asked about the 'No Truck' signs since nothing has been done. Sheriff Walraven said the prosecutor told them they had to catch the driver in the truck before they could write a ticket. The sheriff said if a council member was willing to sign the ticket and testify in court they could write a ticket. Alana Cody asked if the deputies could patrol on 1st St. around 3am in the morning when the truck driver is leaving out, the deputies could catch the driver in the truck. The Sheriff stated they could try.

Perry Young said Pilgrim's has stopped going down Dollarhide St. but Livestock Nutrition (LNC) is now driving down Dollarhide delivering feed. Mayor Harp said he has not talked to LNC yet.

Mike McKee asked if the officers were dedicated only to patrolling Foreman or do they go outside the city on other calls. Sheriff Walraven said they do stay in Foreman except in emergency situations they have to respond. The sheriff said during school time a deputy does cover the school zones. He said the deputies spend a lot of their time on this end of the county.

The issue of the 4 wheelers and side by sides riding on the city streets was discussed. The sheriff said the state law states they can travel city streets to go from trail to trail. The issue is not so much they are riding on the streets, but the unsafe manner in which they are operating the ATV's. Sheriff Walraven said the city could do an ordinance to ban ATV's from riding on the city streets.

There was a lengthy question and answer session about the upcoming sales tax election for the new jail. Sheriff Walraven said they have scheduled a town hall meeting on August 8th at 6:30pm in the Foreman Community Center. He asked that we make every effort to get the citizens informed of the meeting so the public can be educated on issues involved with this bond issue.

Fire Department: Mike McKee said it was his understanding the fire chief has not been able to get the Safety Material Sheets (SMS) from Ash Grove after the rail car explosion that occurred in June. The fire department's turn out gear, hoses, and etc. were exposed to unknown chemicals and are quarantined until it is determined if they are safe to be used or decontaminated. The council feels Ash Grove should be liable for the equipment that was contaminated while they were on site. After a lengthy discussion it was the consensus of the council that Mayor Harp contacts a lawyer to protect the fire department due to the nature of the explosion and possible long term effects it could have on the fire department personnel that responded. The council asked the Mayor to talk to the plant manager and discuss these issues including possible reimbursement for the equipment if necessary as well as possible human contamination, and information as requested.

Mayor Harp informed the council that Little River Ambulance Service donated an out-of-service ambulance to the fire department to be used as a 'rehab vehicle' for such things as heat exhaustion when responding to a fire call, etc. He stated there are a few repairs that need to be made to the vehicle and decals removed before put into service.

Parks Department: Nothing to report.

Street Department:

Mayor Harp said the Kubota mower is back in the shop again.

Water Department: Mayor Harp reported we have received a \$200,000 grant from Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) for the Wastewater Treatment Renovation Grant. Mayor Harp explained that Spears Engineering is applying for additional funding with USDA. The Mayor said we also need to get the city's (LMI) back up to qualify for additional funding.

Sanitation Department: Mayor Harp said the sanitation department is running better. The council questioned how many hours a week are dedicated to picking up the trash. Mayor Harp explained that residential is on Wednesday's and commercial dumpsters are picked up two (2) times a week with the exception of EZ Mart and the Wooden Spoon. They have 8 yard dumpsters and still have to be picked up three (3) times a week. Judy Adams said it appears our expenses are going up and the income is not. She said all overtime needs to be kept to a minimum. Mayor Harp said sanitation has not been getting overtime.

Unfinished Business:

Tabled discussion of purchasing a new pickup for the water department.

Mayor Harp said the gravel and asphalt is working good so far.

The roof is still leaking at city hall. Mayor Harp reported he has called ABC Roofing again and they are supposed to come back and apply more sealant.

Mayor Harp stated he has not contacted RDA about a meeting. Judy Adams requested the mayor to set up a meeting with RDA to discuss non-compliance issues.

Mayor Harp reported that he will get the city workers to trim back the trees on 5th Ave. and Madden St.

New Business:

Mayor Harp discussed the situation with the Senior Citizens center. Sheila who is running the center has fired the local center manager and the cook. She told the Mayor they would be bringing the meals from Ashdown to feed the Foreman residents. They have not installed the fire suppression system or the vent hood. Ash Grove had donated the money for the fire suppression system and is asking where the money is at and wants to get it back if they are not going to install the fire suppression system.

Alford Williams who oversees Shady Creek apartments reported to city hall that the wood fence between Shady Creek apartments and the City Park has fallen. He wanted to know if the city owned the fence. Perry Young stated that the fence belonged to Shady Creek apartments and was put up when the apartments were built.

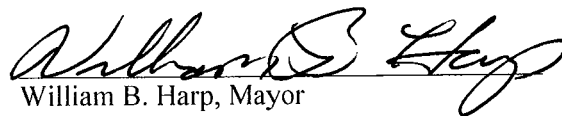
Executive Session: None

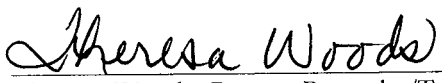
Regular Session

Announcements

The Mayor announced the next council meeting for August, will be held on Monday, August 19, 2019.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Helen Dixon, seconded by Judy Adams. Meeting adjourned.


William B. Harp, Mayor

Attest: 
Theresa Woods, Deputy Recorder/Treasurer