FOREMAN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING February 22, 2021

The Foreman City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 22, 2021, via ZOOM virtual meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Prayer was offered by Mike McKee and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harp. Recorder/Treasurer Angelina Carver called the roll. Present were Tommy McDonald, Mike McKee, Jacqueline Wiseman, Judy Adams, and Alana Cody, including Deputy Recorder/Treasurer Theresa Woods, Recorder/Treasurer Angelina Carver, and Mayor William Harp. Council member Perry Young joined the meeting a short time later. A quorum was declared.

Regular Session:

The minutes were presented for review, revise, and approval. Tommy McDonald made a motion to approve the minutes with Jacqueline Wiseman seconding the motion. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented for review and approval. There were some discussion. With no further questions, Judy Adams made a motion to approve the financial statement with Tommy McDonald seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Citizens wishing to address the Council

None

Department Reports

Administration:

Mayor Harp reported that the water is back on with a few leaks due to the severe winter storm, snow and extreme temperatures. We are currently under a precautionary boil order notice due to RDA running out of water during the extreme weather.

Mayor Harp reported that he has a rough draft of the lease for the clinic. He asked the hospital to take the signed lease and paperwork to Ashdown City Hall to his wife, Michelle, instead of mailing it to save time. Mrs. Adams said she talked to the hospital administrator and told him it was taking too long. The Mayor stated he had received a drawing of the renovations today.

Mayor Harp reported he is still waiting on paperwork from Southwest Planning and Development on the Sewer Pond Renovation project.

There was a discussion about the 2021 Proposed Budget. Judy Adams stated that she reviewed it and does not see any problems. She stated that Theresa Woods answered any questions she had. Mrs. Adams made a motion to accept the 2021 Proposed Budget by Resolution #2021-001. Alana Cody seconded the motion. Mike McKee asked if the water increase was added to the new budget. It was stated that it was included. Motion carried. Mayor Harp stated the 2020 Amended Budget will be presented at the next meeting.

Law Enforcement: The Law Enforcement report was presented for review. The deputies drove approximately 5,400 miles for the month. Deputies responded to (117) calls for service including (7) disturbance calls, (3) suspicious person calls, (1) accident, (4) medical calls, and (1) animal complaint. Deputies made (2) misdemeanor arrests, served (2) warrants, served (1) civil process, and issued (21) warnings and (7) citations. Deputies also located (4) open doors while conducting security checks and collected \$1,295.00 in fines for the city for the month of January. There was a discussion about how many times any law enforcement deputies were seen during the time the city workers were working on the water problems. Mayor Harp stated he had seen a deputy five or six times. Mr. McDonald stated he had not seen any while he was out. Mrs. Cody said she did see

them at the police station parking area. Ms. Wiseman saw them at the Prince of Peace Church and one around town.

Mrs. Adams said she saw on the news during the winter storm that the police in other cities were checking on the elderly (doing well checks). She stated that it impressed her. She also stated that she wished we had something like that during an emergency or disaster situation.

Fire Department: Mayor Harp stated that the generator they got from the Forestry Department just needed to have an electrician hook it up. The fire department is also working on getting a truck with a form spray type system. Fire hydrants were flushed throughout the city overnight. Some hydrants need some maintenance and the appropriate people have been notified as to which ones need serviced.

Parks Department: Tommy McDonald had nothing to report.

Street Department: Mayor Harp said he is waiting on Mr. Morgan with Arkansas DOT to get back with him on the street grant. He said we need to utilize the grant for the streets that are in the worse condition.

There was much discussion about trucks on the city streets even though they are marked "No Trucks". Mrs. Adams made a suggestion to have people take information to the Mayor when they see a truck on a marked street and the Mayor take the information to the Quorum Court meeting with everyone there including the Sheriff Department. Ms. Wiseman said a truck drove down her street and she called the sheriff's office.

Water Department: The Mayor told the council that during the winter storm we had potable water at the city shop for residents to use for cooking, etc., and a drop tank with water for people to flush toilets. Ms. Wiseman asked who was responsible for getting the word out about the boil order. Mayor Harp said it was put on Facebook, television stations, newspapers, and the businesses in town were notified either in person or by phone. Ms. Wiseman stated that RDA customers knew before the city customers were notified. Mayor Harp explained that the city had to wait on the Arkansas Department of Health to send the official paperwork before we could distribute to the media. Mayor Harp said we probably need to educate residents where to look for important information. The mayor went on to say the city's main concern was having fire protection for the city during the period of no water. Ms. Wiseman asked maybe having an "all call system" where we have a network of persons call people and inform them of the emergency. Mr. Young said the school has an automated "all call" system that notifies all parents in an emergency. Mayor Harp said there is to be a meeting with the RDA board and the county judge in the near future. The Mayor reported Glen Spears came out last night because the pumps were not holding pressure. Mr. Young praised Eddie Smith for working many hours to keep things going. Mayor Harp stated that they had several people helping; Perry Stevenson, Ray Shoals, Mike McKee, Tommy McDonald, Justin Roden, Bryan Roden, and Frank McDonald. He said the National Guard also brought a tank with water. Foreman was very fortunate to have several agencies working together to get everything resolved.

<u>Sanitation Department:</u> Mayor Harp reported that the garbage did not run last week due to the excessive snow. The truck is running today and will run again Wednesday.

Animal Control: Mayor Harp reported nothing much has been done due to the weather.

Unfinished Business:

- A) Mayor Harp said the city will continue to patch pot holes as the weather permits.
- B) Sewer main reseal is still outstanding. Mrs. Adams ask to have this item removed from the agenda.
- C) Mayor Harp stated that Schuman St. had a big issue with a culvert by Olen Anderson's house. He said the head walls are old and rotted. The county said they would help but we have to get a culvert. It was agreed that we need someone who is knowledgeable to look at the culvert. Mr. Young said the culvert at the intersection of 1st Street and Dollarhide Street is collapsed and the asphalt is chipping away. It also needs repaired.

New Business: None

Executive Session: None

Regular Session:

The next council meeting will be held on **Monday**, **March 15**, **2021** at 4pm.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Jacqueline Wiseman, seconded by Mike McKee. Meeting adjourned.

William B. Harp, Mayor

Attest: Theresa Woods Deputy Recorder/Treasurer