

**FOREMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 19, 2021**

The Foreman City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 19, 2021, via ZOOM virtual meeting at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harp. Recorder/Treasurer Angelina Carver called the roll. Present were Tommy McDonald, Mike McKee, Perry Young, Jacqueline Wiseman and Alana Cody, including Deputy Recorder/Treasurer Theresa Woods, Recorder/Treasurer Angelina Carver, Water Superintendent Eddie Smith, Mayor William Harp, and Attorney Thad Bishop. Council member Judy Adams was absent. A quorum was declared.

Regular Session:

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

The financial report was presented for review and approval. There were some discussion. With no further questions, Mike McKee made a motion to approve the financial statement with Perry Young seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Jacqueline Wiseman brought up that the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance had been overlooked. Prayer was offered by Mike McKee and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Citizens wishing to address the Council

None

Department Reports

Administration:

Mayor Harp reported that he had talked to the contractor about the new clinic. The original bid presented to complete the new clinic was \$221,505. He felt that was too high and the contractor and himself went back over the bid and was able to bring the total renovation down to \$190,665; a difference of \$30,840. There was a lot of discussion on the renovations and length of time it was taking to get the clinic operational. The Mayor stated this will be a turnkey job by the contractor, Jimmy Jester. Thad Bishop said he is a licensed commercial contractor and he has confidence in his ability to complete the project successfully. Mr. Bishop said he had talked with Clint Nelson in Horatio. Mr. Nelson said he could not do the project any cheaper. Perry Young made a motion to accept Jimmy Jester's bid. Mike McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Young asked when the renovations would start. Mayor Harp and Mr. Bishop said it should start in February. The lease states that the renovations should be completed in 120 days unless there is a delay. The contract does allow for 180 days should there be a delay. The Hospital Administrator is overseeing this project.

Theresa Woods stated that we needed to have a special meeting to review and vote and approve the proposed 2021 Budget.

Law Enforcement: The Law Enforcement report was not received in time to be included in the council members packets. There was discussion about need to patrol around the city and the parks. The council told Mayor Harp that no one from that department has attended the council meetings in several months. Mayor Harp said he sends the invitation each month for our ZOOM meetings to Sheriff Walraven and Deputy Chief Kevin Sanders. The council discussed the possibility of the city starting our own City Marshal department again. Mayor Harp stated we would have to purchase new vehicle(s) and pay dispatch fees which are quite costly. Perry Young and Tommy McDonald stated they are going to look into it and do a study about the cost and feasibility of reopening the city's marshal department. Mayor Harp said he would check with the Municipal League to see if we could use IDC funds to help with the costs of starting the Marshal's office.

Fire Department: Mayor Harp stated that the Fire Department got a generator from the Forestry Department and they painted it. They need to get a concrete pad for the generator to be placed on. The generator is large enough to power the entire building for the fire department and police station in the event of power loss or disaster.

Parks Department: Tommy McDonald stated besides needing more patrolling from the deputies throughout the parks; he reported the city needs some fence work done on the north and east side of the recreation park. He said Michael Adcock keeps the ball fields in tip-top shape.

Street Department: Alana Cody stated that the street/culvert by her house is caving in. The asphalt is caving off due to the heavy rains and some trucks are using the street even though it is marked "NO TRUCKS ALLOWED". It was stated that it may need a retaining wall with concrete to prevent more breaking and caving of asphalt. Mr. Young and Mr. McDonald will research and make a recommendation. Eddie Smith reported that there are holes in the streets that still need to be patched especially behind Main St. He also stated we need better weather to do it so it will hold. Mr. Smith said a culvert on Schuman Street and one on 1st Avenue need replaced.

Water Department: Superintendent Eddie Smith stated nothing new in regard to the Water department. He stated we have not had any major problems.

Sanitation Department: Mayor Harp reported that Frank McDonald built a basket for the city's tractor. He is also building a catch-all bucket for use at the sewer pond. Eddie Smith stated that one pump is down and has been sent to Pumps & Power in El Dorado for repairs. It will take about a week to get it repaired and back in operation. Mr. Smith reported that the sewer main reseal has not been done.

Animal Control: Mayor Harp reported that the city has picked up 9 dogs and sent to Ashdown so far this month.

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.

New Business:

- A) Mayor Harp stated he was contacted by the Arkansas Department of Transportation (DOT) to discuss the grant previous mayor, Judy Adams had applied for when she was Mayor to overlay Foreman city streets. The grant is approved for \$300,000. The estimate for the repairs is \$540,000. Mayor Harp said we need to re-evaluate the streets that were selected and see where the most damaged streets are located. The streets included in the grant are N. Bell Street/8th Avenue intersection to S. Bell Street/Rocky Comfort intersection, 5th Avenue/N Madden Street intersection to 5th Avenue/3rd Street intersection, and 1st Avenue to 1st Avenue/2nd Street intersection. A decision on which street or streets to be overlaid by the grant will be discussed with Arkansas DOT officials.

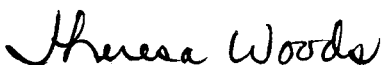
Executive Session: None

Regular Session:

The next council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 16, 2021** at 4pm.

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


William B. Harp, Mayor

Attest: 
Theresa Woods, Deputy Recorder/Treasurer