FOREMAN CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING July 29, 2020

The Foreman City Council held a Special Called meeting on Wednesday at July 29, 2020 at 4:00pm, in the Foreman Community Center.

Mayor Harp called the meeting to order, Councilman Mike McKee opened the meeting with a prayer and the pledge was recited. Theresa Woods called the roll: Present were Alana Cody, Jacqueline Wiseman, Judy Adams, Tommy McDonald, Perry Young and Mike McKee. Others present were Thad Bishop, Attorney and Theresa Woods. A quorum was declared.

The Mayor stated that one of the purposes for the meeting was to select one of the two entities for a new Health Clinic for Foreman. The City received a proposal from Tawnya Lansdell, Nurse Practitioner, and Little River Health Systems. The Mayor asked for a motion. Mrs. Adams asked to speak. She opened her remarks by first expressing appreciation to both entities for their efforts and their interest in their proposals for establishing a Health Clinic in Foreman. She stated as a council member and past mayor how very pleased she was for all the Foreman citizens to at last have health care brought to Foreman. Mrs. Adams stated she had reviewed both proposals extensively. After much study and deliberation, she said she would like to make a motion to accept the proposal presented by Little River Health System for establishing a new health clinic in Foreman. Perry Young provided a second to the motion. The Mayor called for a vote on the motion. All council members voted in favor of the motion. The Mayor declared the motion passed.

Mr. Bishop then stated the council's next step was to pass a resolution which would authorize the Mayor to enter into negotiations with the Hospital C.E.O. for establishing the Clinic. He also stated the Mayor/Council would need to hire an attorney to oversee the negotiations and hire an architect as well as a contractor for remodeling the building for a clinic. A new attorney was needed since Mr. Bishop had a conflict of interest due to recently being named chairman of the Little River Health System's Board of Directors. Councilman Young made the motion to approve the resolution authorizing or allowing Mayor Harp to enter into the negotiations with a new lawyer, the L.R.H.S. C.E.O., an architect and contractor for the new clinic. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Mr. Bishop stated he would assist the Mayor with finding and selecting a new attorney to oversee the project. A brief discussion followed.

The Mayor then declared the second purpose for the meeting was to approve the wording for requesting reallocation of the present ½ cent sales tax approved previously by the voters for Industrial Development. The new wording for reallocation of these funds would be placed on the ballot in the November election for approval by the population of Foreman allowing the city to use the funds for general improvement areas such as streets, parks, sewer improvements, etc.. The wording of Ordinance 340 was presented for review and approval for the ballot. Councilman Mike McKee questioned the proposed specific list on the Ordinance. He stated he thought the list was too inclusive and did not include any mention of Industrial Development for which the monies were first approved for. Mrs. Adams stated she felt the list was too specific and the council would be left in the same situation again in the future if other needs came up that was not mentioned in the Ordinance. A lengthy discussion ensued. Another question came up of what account would these funds be placed in: Conclusion was to establish a new account specifically for these funds. Most council members were adamant that as soon as possible the funds were needed to repave the streets of Foreman. There was a question of obtaining grant funds. The Mayor stated the State does have a grant process for repaving streets which the city of Foreman was on the list this year for receiving, but due to COVID-19 the program was stopped until later, but this grant only paved one street every three

years. Foreman was in need of much more. Some council members were concerned that Industrial Development would not continue to be funded. Discussion continued. After discussion, Mr. Bishop stated he would revise the wording on the Ordinance and would present to the council for approval within the time frame as stated. It was confirmed that the Ordinance wording and the ballot wording for the use of the funds must be the same for approved usage of the funds by the state for the city

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

William B. Harp, Mayor

Attest:

Theresa Woods, Deputy Recorder/Treasurer