

**FOREMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 17, 2021**

The Foreman City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 17, 2021, in the Foreman Community Center at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harp. Prayer was offered by Mike McKee and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Recorder/Treasurer Angelina Carver called the roll. Present were Alana Cody, Tommy McDonald, Mike McKee, Jacqueline Wiseman, and Perry Young including Bailee Houser, Recorder/Treasurer Angelina Carver, Mayor William Harp, city attorney Thad Bishop, and Water Superintendent Eddie Smith. Deputy Recorder/Treasurer Theresa Woods joined via ZOOM. Judy Adams was absent. A quorum was declared.

Regular Session:

The minutes were presented for review, revision, and approval. Mike McKee said there were a couple of corrections to the minutes. Under Unfinished Business on page 4, he said he did not help mow the park last year. Also, on page 4 item (D), he said the Farmer's Market Grand Opening date was May 4th in Foreman. Ms. Wiseman made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections stated by Mike McKee. Mike McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented for review and approval. After some discussion, Tommy McDonald made a motion to approve the financial report with Alana Cody seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Citizens wishing to address the Council

None

Department Reports

Administration:

Mayor Harp read a letter of resignation from council person Judy Adams. Mike McKee made a motion to accept Mrs. Adams resignation. Tommy McDonald seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Harp asked if there were any nominations to replace Mrs. Adams. Mike McKee stated that he had talked to Joyce Green, and she had agreed that she would serve the rest of Mrs. Adam's term. Jacqueline Wiseman made a motion to appoint Joyce Green to serve the remainder of Mrs. Adams's term which expires December 2022. Mike McKee seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mayor Harp stated he would make arrangements to get Mrs. Green sworn in.

Mayor Harp stated that the Billboard sign is up for the LR Clinic. They have sprayed the texture on the walls inside the clinic and are planning to paint over the weekend. They are also getting the floor prepped for flooring. The banners have been placed in front of the building so the citizens know they are opening soon. Mayor Harp said the contractor asked for a door to be installed at the rear of the building. Mike McKee questioned why they are wanting a rear door now since it was not on the preliminary plan. Mayor Harp stated the fire marshal for the state said we did not need another door because it is based on occupancy. Mayor Harp stated James, hospital administrator, called him and said he thought we did need a rear door installed for safety purposes. We also need exit signs. Jimmy Jester, the contractor, is planning to install the door on the east side in the 'kitchen/snack room' area. Mayor Harp said it will cost \$4,000 to install a new door.

Mayor Harp reported last month that the city will be receiving money from the American Rescue Plan. Mayor Harp said the funds can be used to rehab water and wastewater infrastructure, which does not happen often. Glen Spears, Engineer, joined the meeting via ZOOM to present the council with cost estimates to rehabilitate the city's sewer manholes and lines. Mr. Spears said in 2015 a Smoke Test was preformed throughout the city's sewer system. He said the report showed throughout the system we had a problem with inflow and infiltration. Mr. Spears went on to say this is caused when rainwater gets into the sewer system. He said this is causing our

collection system to be overloaded. It causes manholes to overflow, and it also causes more water in the wastewater treatment plant which must be treated and discharged. Mr. Spears said he used the data from the smoke test and the items they recommended and put together a cost estimate. He said they identified (6) six lines that need to be replaced and about (20) twenty manholes that can be cleaned out and sprayed with epoxy grout to seal up the holes. Mr. Spears presented a cost estimate of \$208,000 to rehab our system. Mr. Spears said he received a letter from General Council of the Arkansas Municipal League stating the American Rescue Plan funds can be used for water and wastewater infrastructure and this could be a once in a lifetime opportunity. Mr. Spears fielded questions from the council. Mayor Harp explained we would receive ½ of the \$176,000 this year and the other half in a year. Mayor Harp asked Thad Bishop if we could use IDC funds to complete this project and repay IDC when we receive the funds next year from the American Rescue Plan. Attorney Bishop said he did not see a problem with using the IDC funds and repaying IDC when we received the American Rescue Plan funds next year. He went on to say the American Rescue Plan funds are Federal money and suggested Mayor Harp get more clarification if this would be allowed to repay IDC when the American Rescue Funds are received next year. Mayor Harp was directed by the council to call and find out if this is possible. Mayor Harp said he will contact the Municipal League. Perry Young told Mayor Harp not to procrastinate. He said this is especially important and we need to call a special meeting to take of this.

Law Enforcement: The Law Enforcement report was presented for review. The deputies drove approximately 4,500 miles for the month. Deputies responded to (102) calls for service including (4) disturbance calls, (3) suspicious person calls, and (2) medical calls. Deputies made (2) misdemeanor arrests, served (1) warrant, and issued (10) warnings and (5) citations. Deputies also located (4) open doors while conducting security checks and collected \$1,975.00 in fines for the city for the month of April.

Tommy McDonald said he spoke with the Sheriff about the problem with the ATV's, etc. driving/racing on the city streets. The sheriff said his hands are tied. He said there are laws that allow ATVs on the roads in some situations, and it is difficult to prove they are not doing what the law allows. Sheriff Walraven said the courts will drop the charges even if you try to give a citation. Tommy McDonald stated we need to have our own law enforcement again. He asked if we could redo the contract we have with the Sheriff's Department. There was more discussion on the large trucks driving on streets not designated as a truck route. Alana Cody suggested we put "USE ALTERNATE ROUTE" on the "NO TRUCK" signs. Mayor Harp stated that we should explore the costs to have our own law enforcement, and most agreed.

Fire Department: Mayor Harp said the Fire Department got the fire suppression truck from the Forestry department. The grant has not come through yet.

Parks Department: Tommy McDonald reported the concession stand/restroom building is progressing. We have had a lot of rain which has slowed the work down. Tommy reported that Michael Adcock has been working on the ballfields and has everything looking good. Tommy said Mr. Adcock has been mowing the fields and he is more careful about not blowing the grass on the infields. Tommy talked about the need to have money appropriated going forward for the park budget. He said there needs to be money budgeted for water, electric and other things such as paper towels, etc. He stated we need to set the time to lock/unlock the park. Tommy mentioned that he will need help maintaining the restrooms, etc. Tommy stated he would help bush hog if he was available.

Tommy reported that the people playing basketball are leaving trash everywhere.

Street Department: Mayor Harp discussed the need for repairs or replacement of some of the culverts on Schuman St., Dollarhide St., and 6th Ave. Discussion followed. Superintendent Eddie Smith said we have received so much rain and the city will need outside help to make some of the repairs due to inexperienced personnel in these areas and the severity of the problems. Mr. Smith said he needs to repair potholes on Rocky Comfort in front of Lesley Deloney's house.

Mayor Harp asked if anyone has looked at the streets around town and prioritized those that are in the most need of repair. Perry Young stated that Murphy and Stephens need immediate repair. Perry said the 18-wheeler is back on Murphy St again. It was agreed that Stephens and Murphy need to be top priority. Perry Young said the

contractors building the school has torn up Dollarhide St. with the equipment used in building the school. He said they will repair the street but will not overlay.

Perry Young also mentioned that the cabins west of town have trash piled up around all the cabins.

Water Department: Superintendent Eddie Smith said the Lansdell Clinic installed their sewer line on top of a water line. He stated the clinic cannot get water until the sewer line is moved.

Mr. Smith said he has been terribly busy at the sewer pond.

Mayor Harp said he ordered the generator for the high tank. It is on back order.

Sanitation Department: Mayor Harp reported the Sanitation Department is running well.

Animal Control: Mayor Harp reported (1) dog was picked up and taken to Animal Haven.

Unfinished Business:

A) Discussed the Farmers Market. The rain has slowed down the vegetable produce. Mike McKee reported there are several vendors that come to Foreman.

B)

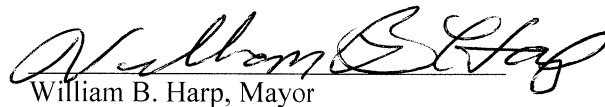
New Business: None

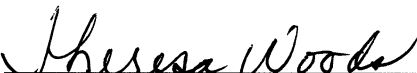
Executive Session: None

Regular Session:

The next council meeting will be held on **Monday, June 21, 2021**, at 4pm in the Foreman Community Center.

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


William B. Harp, Mayor

Attest: 
Theresa Woods, Deputy Recorder/Treasurer