

**FOREMAN CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
December 27, 2021**

The Foreman City Council met in a Zoom meeting for the regular session on Monday, December 27, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

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

Roger Quilty, Recorder/Treasurer was asked by Mayor Harp to call the roll. Present were Alana Cody, Jacqueline Wiseman, Joyce Green and Tommy McDonald. Perry Young and Mike McKee was not present. Deputy Recorder/Treasurer Theresa Woods, Water Superintendent Eddie Smith, and Mayor Harp were also present. Roger Quilty stated we had a quorum.

**Regular Session:**

The minutes for the regular meeting of November 15, 2021 was presented for review, revision and approval. Jacqueline Wiseman made a motion to accept them as read. Alana Cody seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented for review and approval. Alana Cody asked about notation on the General Fund Supplies Account. Theresa Woods stated a lot of the Christmas lights had to be replaced this year and Supplies was higher than usual. Alana Cody made a motion to accept them as presented. Jacqueline Wiseman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Citizens wishing to address the Council:** None

**Department Reports:**

**Administration:**

Mayor Harp stated the County is working on training for the Code Red System but wasn't sure how far they were. Mike McKee has attended the meetings and has more information. Mayor Harp asked to table further discussion until Mike McKee is present to speak of what he has learned.

The Mayor stated he needed to contact the County Judge and speak with him about the Sheriff contract. Alana Cody asked what the options were. Mayor Harp said we can pay the Sheriff Department or cancel the contract with them. Tommy McDonald asked if they were going up on us. Mayor Harp asked Theresa Woods how much they were going up. She stated the County wanted to have a meeting to discuss an increase. Mayor Harp said he knew they did not want the city to pay 100% of the deputies salaries assigned to cover Foreman but they do want to get the numbers a little closer to what the county is paying the deputies. Mayor stated until he can meet with them, he didn't know how much. Alana Cody asked when they wanted to have the meeting.

The Mayor said they wanted to have it two months ago, but due to his recent surgery he has not been able to leave the house. This item was tabled until the Mayor can meet with the County officials.

The Mayor stated the roof on the City Hall was leaking again and we are out of contract with the company that fixed it last time. The Mayor suggested a sloped roof be put on rather than a flat roof. It was also stated the insurance company was only going to give us \$500 and we have a \$1,000 deductible. Mayor Harp stated he didn't know where we were going to get the money for it, unless we could get a grant for it. Mayor Harp went on to say our LMI is still too low to get some grants from Southwest Planning and Development. Until we get the LMI changed around we wouldn't get any grants from them. Tommy McDonald asked how we could get the LMI changed. The Mayor said we had to go door-to-door. He said we were going to do it a couple of years ago, but it didn't get done. Jacqueline Wiseman had about five (5) people lined up to do it, but it never got done. She stated she never received the paperwork needed to get it done. Mayor Harp said it hard to get people to go door-to-door.

Mayor Harp stated RDA (Rural Development Authoring) is going up 3% across the board for all its water customers. He said Spears Engineering did a rate study for the city last year and had put an additional 3% increase in for a future increase from RDA. Mayor Harp said he would like to not increase he water rates at this time. Mayor Harp said if later this year we feel we need to increase we can look at it then. Mayor Harp stated we will have to raise the sewer rates when we begin the Wastewater Rehab project next year. He recommended we leave the rates as they are and raise the sewer rates when we have to.

Deputy Recorder/Treasurer Theresa Woods reported to the council that Brent Bennett with Badger Meters met with Mayor Harp, Eddie Smith, Glen Spears, and herself earlier this year with information concerning the transmitters connected to the water meters. He stated the transmitters were the old cellular technology and were being phased out. She said the sunset date was originally December 2021 but it has been extended to December 2022. Theresa told the council the city will be looking at purchasing and installing around 521 transmitters. Badger Meters has offered the city a discounted price of \$65 per transmitter and we have to submit our order by January 14, 2022. Theresa said we will not pay for the transmitters until they come in around June or July. After a brief discussion, the motion was made by Tommy McDonald authorizing the purchase of transmitters and pay Badger Meters when they come in. The motion was seconded by Jacqueline Wiseman. Motion carried.

The proposed budget was presented for review, revision and approval. Theresa Woods stated she had to change the Water budget to include \$33,865 to Badger Meters for the purchase of the transmitters. She stated she did not increase the Sheriff Department salaries since no agreement has been made. Theresa said the Water budget allowed an increase for Coleen Fowler from \$17,160 annually to \$18,720 annually effective on the January 13 payroll cycle. She said an increase was included for Perry Stevenson from \$12.05 to \$13 per hour and Ronnie R. Shoals increasing his hourly wage from \$11 to \$12 both effective on the January 13 payroll cycle.

Tommy McDonald asked if anything was put in the budget for the park. Theresa Woods stated there was not. Alana Cody motioned that the budget be approved with exception of adding \$33,865 to the Water Budget for the Badger Meters transmitters. Jacqueline Wiseman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Mayor stated he was going to try to get a load of asphalt in January to get some of the potholes filled. Theresa Woods stated she had just got an invoice for \$4,447.04 from R.K. Hall for the materials the County used to repair 4<sup>th</sup> St. Tommy McDonald asked if the County did the labor for free and the Mayor said they did it for the cost of the materials. Alana Cody stated the repair of the culvert on Dollarhide St. is good, but with large trucks going over it, it has started to have a dip in it. She asked if they could put more gravel over it because it is starting to become a hole. The Mayor stated once it is packed down they could get in there and put asphalt over it.

### **Law Enforcement**

Mayor Harp asked if the Sheriff Deputies were contacting the people with open doors during their security checks. Joyce Green stated “No, they did not”.

### **Animal Control**

Mayor Harp asked Water Superintendent Eddie Smith if there was anything to report. He said there wasn't. Theresa Woods stated they needed to hire an Animal Control person that can write tickets and actually do Animal Control. Theresa Woods stated Sheriff Deputy Marcus Pullen called her and told her at the house before getting to the cabins on W. Second Avenue, was a pit bulldog that attacked a dog at one of the cabins. Theresa said Deputy Pullen called to report we have pit bulls living in the city limits of Foreman. Tommy McDonald stated he was riding his bike through that area and he had dogs chasing him. He also asked if it would be a conflict of interest for him to also be the Animal Control Officer. Mayor Harp stated it would not. Mayor Harp stated he had a sample of tickets that could be amended to be from the City of Foreman.

### **Fire Department**

Theresa Woods stated that Fire Chief Justin Roden has ordered the piece of metal needed to fix the fire department building.

### **Parks Department**

Tommy McDonald reported the concession stand/restroom building is 90-95% complete. The grinder pump is not hooked up yet. Tommy said he has run the electrical wire from the building to the grinder pump and to the north and south ballfields. He stated he would have to dig another trench to run the electrical wire to the east field. Tommy stated he was going to have Bret hook up all the wires. He said Bret had installed an electric eye on the lights on the walking trail, so they come on at night. He said it really looks nice all lit up at night. He also stated Mrs. Tankersley, Foreman School Superintendent, was going to sell us paper towel dispensers, soap dispensers, bathroom stall walls, etc. The water is hooked up, but the sewer is not. It's almost done. Tommy stated he needs to plant some grass. He said before baseball season starts he

would like to get together with Sarah Elkins of Ash Grove and the Sunderland Foundation to thank them for donating the money to construct the building.

### **Street Department**

Water Superintendent Eddie Smith was asked if he had anything for the Street Department. He said no, he did not.

### **Water Department**

Water Superintendent Eddie Smith was asked if he had anything for the Water Department. He said no, he was just waiting for Henard Utilities to come down and get the meters situated.

### **Sanitation Department**

Mayor Harp stated the Sanitation Department was going good. Eddie Smith stated he was waiting on the people to come work on the trash truck. The Mayor said they would be here the next day.

### **Unfinished Business**

Mayor Harp said he called the guy about coming to give an estimate on what to sell the Case Backhoe for. He said the guy may not know who he is. Mayor Harp stated he would call the guy at John Deere and get him out here to get the appraisal. Mayor Harp said he would call Mr. Nutt with Nutt Auction Company. Mayor Harp said he knew Mr. Nutt would be bidding on it.

### **New Business**

The Mayor read two proclamations: Jan 18, 2022 – National Day of Healing  
Jan 23-29, 2022 – School Choice Week

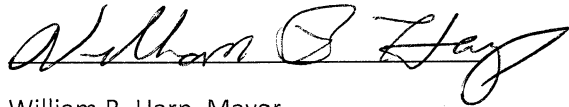
Tommy McDonald stated the cabins down on W. Second Avenue are really getting to be nastier and nastier. He asked if there was anything could be done about it. How are we going to talk to those people about cleaning it up? The Mayor stated we can get the Violation Cards made up for the City of Foreman, fill it out and hang it on the doorknobs. Tommy McDonald said he thought we needed to go back and amend the ordinance, since we don't have a Code Enforcement Officer, to give the Mayor authority to write the ticket or the Mayor could enforce the law. Mayor Harp said he would talk to the City Attorney, Thad Bishop, when he got back from vacation to see what the legalities are. Mayor Harp said, if it is legal, we will make it part of the door hanger and hang it on their door and if they don't do anything we can then impose a fine.

Theresa Woods stated she had asked Judge Mike Cranford to contact and schedule the Community Service people to come and work on the Roadside Park cleaning up the flower beds and fence row. She stated they cleaned up the flower beds and fence row and it looked much better, but they did not get finished. There is still more to be done out there. Theresa Woods stated we needed to get a letter to Bill Stuart to give him fair warning we are getting ready to take down the fence. Mayor Harp stated Bill Stuart has known for over a year and a half and he

has done nothing. Alana Cody suggested we send him a letter telling him what is about to happen.

Theresa reported the spotlight is not working at the roadside park and it was really dark at night. The Mayor asked if the street lights were not working out there. Theresa Woods stated there is one, but it is over on the side. The Mayor Harp suggested putting a light under each awning in the picnic areas.

Jacqueline Wiseman made the motion to adjourn the meeting until next month on **Tuesday, January 18, 2022**. Alana Cody seconded the motion. Motion carried.



William B. Harp, Mayor

Attest:



Roger Quilty, Recorder/Treasurer