

**FOREMAN CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 15, 2021**

The Foreman City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 15, 2021, in the Foreman Community Center at 4:00 p.m.

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

Roger Quilty, Recorder/Treasurer was asked by Mayor Harp to call the roll. Present were Perry Young, Jacqueline Wiseman, Joyce Green, Mike McKee, and Tommy McDonald. Council person Alana Cody and city attorney Thad Bishop joined the meeting via Zoom. Deputy Recorder/Treasurer Theresa Woods and Water Superintendent Eddie Smith were present. Mayor Harp joined the meeting (via Zoom). The mayor stated that we had a quorum.

**Regular Session:**

The minutes for the regular meeting of October 18th were presented for review, revision, and approval. Mike McKee made a motion to accept them as read. Jacqueline Wiseman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The financial report was presented for review and approval. Mike McKee made a motion to accept them as presented. Jacqueline Wiseman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Citizens wishing to address the Council:**

Mike McCombs was present to speak on the purchase of the city property on S. Madden St. to put in a Bar-B-Que restaurant. He stated that he had already had the property measured off and it is a third of an acre. The restaurant would be a pier and beam building with three tables and chairs inside and an outside porch with tables and chairs.

Mayor Harp was having problems with his connection and was asked to call Mike McKee's phone and he would be put on speaker.

Tommy McDonald suggested a 10-year lease with option to buy. Mayor Harp was not opposed to that. A discussion continued between leasing or selling. City attorney Thad Bishop advised the council to seek an appraisal of the property or at least get an evaluation from a creditable source before selling. Mayor Harp stressed to the council it was illegal to sell the property without an appraisal. Perry Young made a motion to sell the property to Mike McCombs for \$5,000.00, with the City having first option to buy the property back if he decides to sell the property. The motion was seconded by Joyce Green. All of the members voted Aye, with the exception of Mike McKee who abstained.

## **Department Reports:**

### **Administration:**

Mayor Harp asked Theresa Woods to give out the information regarding the Christmas Parade. She stated she had already handed out the information. She stated there would be Breakfast with Santa, Dec 4<sup>th</sup> in the morning, trees would be on display, Prince of Peace Church would be having Open House, the Museum and the Library would be open. Santa Claus would be in the Community Center at night after the parade. Mike McKee stated that the Methodist Church would also be open.

Mayor Harp stated the last he heard, the “Code Red” papers were being signed and they were going to start doing some training. “Code Red” is a system to send out any messages to the community, i.e.: water shut off, tornados, etc. It would be set up county wide. Theresa Woods stated the City should be able to send out our own messages too.

Mayor Harp spoke on the budget for the LR County Sheriff. A discussion ensued about re-starting the City’s own police force. Mayor Harp said they would deal with this subject again next month.

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 that whatever adjuster comes up with on the insurance appraisal, a sloped roof needed to be put on rather than a flat roof. Theresa Woods stated we have a \$7,500 deductible on the insurance.

### **Animal Control**

Mayor Harp asked if there was anything on Animal Control. Eddie Smith reported he didn’t have anything.

### **Fire Department**

Theresa Woods reported she called Justin Roden about the metal piece that was falling from the side of the fire department building. He said the fire department was going to take care of it. Theresa spoke to him again on Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, and he said that it had not been done yet. He said Bryan Roden was going to get with Kolby Morgan about getting a new piece of metal because that one was not usable.

Tommy McDonald asked if he could go back to Animal Control. He asked if the Animal Control officer was able to write citations. The Mayor said he had spoken to the Ashdown Animal Control and they sent him a sample of the citation they issue. For us to issue the ticket we would have to change the name to reflect they are issued by Foreman and not Ashdown. They are all individually numbered and has the court information on them. Mayor Harp said it was a pretty good layout, but we just have to tweak it and put Foreman’s logo on it. Theresa Woods asked the Mayor who was going to start doing this. Tommy McDonald said the Animal Control Officer. After a heated discussion about it, it was decided to hire an Animal Control Officer for the City.

### **Parks Department**

Tommy McDonald reported Jimmy Anderson and himself have talked and have come to an agreement on the contract. He said because of Anderson Construction's mistake of omitting \$47,495 on the bid; the park board agreed to accept the adjustment to the contract and pay Jimmy Anderson Construction \$250,000 with the agreement the contractor would complete the building as stated in the scope of work. Tommy McDonald told Theresa Woods that no payment would be made to Jimmy Anderson Construction until job is completed.

### **Street Department**

Theresa Woods read a State Resolution for a grant from the state for roads, Foreman Overlay. Mayor Harp stated the grant was for \$300,000. The original project cost was \$574,000, but he said he reduced the scope of work and got the cost knocked down to \$300,000. Perry Young asked where they were going to start asphaltting. Mayor Harp said he thought it was up on Bell Street. Perry Young asked for more specifics. Mayor Harp said that they would start at the intersection of 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. and N. Bell St. going south down Bell St.. They will go to a certain street and stop, then they would start another phase so they are not blocking all the street at one time. Mike McKee asked if they would start at 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and go South on Bell. Mayor Harp said yes and that they are going to do seven different phases all the way through there. Perry Young asked if they were going to do all of Bell Street. Mayor Harp said that they would only be going to the other side of the bridge. Perry Young asked if that was going to eat up the \$300,000. Mayor Harp said they would also be doing 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue from Highway 108 down to 4<sup>th</sup> Street. More discussion followed. Mayor Harp asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Tommy McDonald made the motion and Jacqueline Wiseman seconded it. The motion was approved.

### **Water Department**

Mayor Harp reported Theresa Woods spoke with CenterPoint Energy Gas Company about installing gas service at the elevated tank. Eddie has met CenterPoint at the tank and showed them where the generator will be installed. Mayor Harp stated that tomorrow, Nov 16<sup>th</sup>, Eddie Smith should have the pad ready for the generator. Mayor Harp said the generator is in the shop and should just be a matter of hooking it up. With the new generator installed, Mayor Harp said that we shouldn't be losing telemetry this year.

Mayor Harp asked Eddie Smith if he had anything to add. Eddie Smith said property owner, Anthony Smith, had called city hall stating he was wanting to put in some duplexes at 700 E. 5th Ave. Eddie met Mr. Jones at the property site concerning installing culverts and water and sewer service. Mr. Jones said he was thinking of putting a mobile home on the property instead of duplexes. Eddie stated he called Glen Spears to come down to give an estimate on installing water and sewer on the property. Eddie said the sewer would have to be 10 feet deep and he couldn't take a chance on doing it with just two guys. Perry Young asked where on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Eddie Smith stated that it was right behind government housing, on the far end, in a wooded area. Eddie stated the contractor came down and gave a quote of \$3,000. Theresa Woods asked if the man was going to put in one mobile home unit or more. Eddie Smith stated that he didn't know. Perry Young said that we need to find out more information before we do anything more. Perry stated Mr. Jones needed to get the land cleaned up and in good shape and let the city know what he is going to put in there before the city digs up the street and installs water and sewer.

### **Sanitation Department**

Mayor Harp stated that things must be good in the Sanitation Department since he isn't getting any calls. Tommy McDonald said he was looking at Title 5, Maintenance of Real Property under Municipal Codes. He said it stated "Unsanitary or Unsanitary Conditions on Real Property". He then stated if you drive around town you will see some unsightly and unsanitary conditions in Foreman. He asked why we aren't doing anything about it. Mayor Harp stated when he got the copy of the ticket from the Ashdown Animal Control, he also picked up some Code Enforcement door hangers. He said we can tweak that around and see how that works. Tommy McDonald said that sounds good.

### **Unfinished Business**

Mayor Harp said last month we talked about the Case Backhoe. He stated he didn't think there was a conclusion to that and asked the Council to approve selling the backhoe as salvage. Mike McKee stated he understood Scott Tractor knew what was wrong with the backhoe and was coming back to fix it. There was a discussion about if we should try to get it repaired or just sell it as is. Perry Young asked who was going to put a price on the Case backhoe. Mayor Harp said he was going to have someone from Texarkana come out and appraise it. He stated the price on used equipment was very high right now. A discussion was held and several stated they would like to see what the appraisal was before making the decision to sell it.

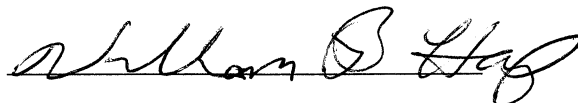
Eddie Smith then spoke up regarding the Waste Water System. He said Glenn Spears met with Eddie about two weeks ago at the wastewater plant and Mr. Spears has re-evaluated the plans for the wastewater rehab project on the sewer pond. He said Mr. Spears is altering the original design which will save the city approximately \$300,000 dollars. Eddie stated Mr. Spears will submit the revised plans to the ADEQ for approval.

### **New Business**

Mayor Harp stated that every year in the past the City Council has given the city employees \$100 Retention Incentive pay. Mayor Harp stated he needed a motion to do it again this year. Perry Young made the motion and it was seconded by Mike McKee to give Theresa Woods, Coleen Fowler, Eddie Smith, Perry Stevenson, Clayvern Sams, and Ronnie Shoals a \$100 Retention Incentive pay. Motion carried.

Eddie Smith stated the next few weeks the workers would be working on all the Christmas decorations.

Jacqueline Wiseman made the motion to adjourn the meeting until next month on December 20, 2021. Tommy McDonald seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.



William B. Harp, Mayor

Attest: Theresa Woods

Theresa Woods, Deputy Recorder/Treasurer