

Farmington City Council
Meeting Minutes-November 19, 2024
Prepared by Nancy Reed, City Clerk

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on November 19, 2024 at the Farmington City Building 322 E. Fort Street. Mayor Stufflebeam led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The following Aldermen answered present to roll call: Gilles, Smith, Fleming and Rose. Atty. O'Shaughnessy was on Teams. Sgt. Steck was present. Adm. Bohanan, Ald. Boggs and Ald. Crusen were absent.

Mayor Stufflebeam opened the Public Hearing on the 24-25 Annual Budget Ordinance as of May 01, 2024 at 6:01 p.m. Mayor Stufflebeam reported that the budget for the City of Farmington with a balance of \$3,062,450 in and out, is a guideline that can be amended which may occur with the building demolition. There were no questions so Mayor Stufflebeam closed the Public Hearing 24-25 with a motion from Ald. Gilles and a second motion from Ald. Rose. The motion carried with all ayes. The regular council meeting resumed at 6:03 p.m.

MINUTES:

Ald. Gilles moved to approve the Council Minutes for Nov. 04, 2024. Ald. Rose seconded the motion carried with all ayes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

An email came in the office from the Farmington School District from Superintendent, Zac Chatterton. On Nov. 13, 2024 an emergency lockdown button was activated. Resource Officer Rice was on campus and immediately went to the Jr. High. Chief Darsham responded quickly, both officers ensured it was a false alarm. The officers handled the situation with professionalism and were a calming presence to the facility, staff and students. Farmington School District #265 are extremely proud of the Farmington Police Department and the City for providing such great service. Mayor Stufflebeam commented that it is always good when we hear good things.

OAK RIDGE CEMETERY MINUTES:

Mr. Herb Stufflebeam discussed the cemetery minutes. Mr. Stufflebeam commented that the new flag pole is up, it is placed East of the Vernon St. entrance. The completed projects were listed in the minutes. Members of a funeral home from Jacksonville were here last week and they praised how nice the cemetery looked. Mr. Stufflebeam commented that the Sangamon County Historical Society will recognize the 13 conductors with grave markers of the Underground Railroad. This event will be held at the Moose Lodge on May 20, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. Ald. Smith asked if the Mausoleum ceiling had been painted. Mr. Stufflebeam commented it had not, so she generously offered her services. Mayor Stufflebeam thanked Mr. Stufflebeam for his report on the Oak Ridge Cemetery.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ald. Rose moved to approve the purchase of new flooring to the remainder of the South hall with the price of \$6,922.29. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Public Works employee Tony will be installing the new flooring.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ald. Gilles moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-19: Annual Budget of the City of Farmington for the fiscal year May 01, 2024 ending May 01, 2025 by title only. Ald. Fleming seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Mayor Stufflebeam read Ordinance 2024-19 by title only. Ald. Gilles moved to wave the second reading of Ordinance 2024-19. Ald. Fleming seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Ald. Gilles moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-19 Annual Budget of the City of Farmington for the fiscal year May 01, 2024 ending May 01, 2025. Ald. Fleming seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

Mayor Stufflebeam commented that the figures for the expansion of Wilson Street were more than expected. Mayor Stufflebeam had a meeting with Mr. Keith Plavec. The figures were very high, near \$560,000. Discussion was held with the City Council and as now the expansion of Wilson Street has been dropped at this time.

Ald. Rose moved to donate \$250 for M & K Parties, Santa Bounce House fundraiser for the Food Pantry on Dec.15, 2024 and free use of the Farmington Community Center. Ald. Gilles seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Rose, yes; Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; and Ald. Fleming, yes.

Discussion was held on a possible location of a new stop sign on E. Vernon and Short Street to slow down traffic. Sgt. Steck will put the speed trailer up on E. Vernon and report back to the City Council.

Ald. Smith moved to read Ordinance 2024-16: Approving and Authorizing the Executive of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement by and between the City of Farmington and David Sanders and Steve Thurman d.b.a. Diva Florist by title only. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; Ald. Rose, yes; and Ald. Gilles, yes. Mayor Stufflebeam read Ordinance 2024-16 by title only. Ald. Gilles moved to wave the second reading of Ordinance 2024-16. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Ald. Gilles moved to approve Ordinance 2024-16: Approving and Authorizing the Executive of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement by and between the City of Farmington and David Sanders and Steve Thurman d.b.a. Diva Florist with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

Ald. Gilles moved to read Ordinance 2024-17: Approving and Authorizing the Execution of the First Amendment to the TIF Redevelopment by and between the City of Farmington and Dana Cardenas by title only. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Mayor Stufflebeam read Ordinance 2024-17 by title only. Ald. Gilles moved to waive the second reading of Ordinance 2024-17. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Ald. Gilles moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-17: Approving and Authoring the Executive of the First Amendment to the TIF

Redevelopment by and between the City of Farmington and Dana Cardenas. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

Ald. Gilles moved to read Ordinance 2024-18: Approving and Authorizing the Executive of the TIF Redevelopment Agreement by and between the City of Farmington and Walters Ag Service, Inc. and Julia Walters Edwards by title only. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Mayor Stufflebeam read Ordinance 2024-18 by title only. Ald. Gilles moved to waive the second reading of Ordinance 2024-18. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes. Ald. Gilles moved to adopt Ordinance 2024-18: Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a TIF Redevelopment Agreement by and between the City of Farmington and Walters Ag Service, Inc. and Julia Walters Edwards. Ald. Rose seconded the motion with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

Ald. Gilles moved to approve the purchase of 2 junior backboards for Bidy Ball for the Community Center with the price of \$1,670.50. Ald. Rose seconded the motion carried with a roll call vote: Ald. Gilles, yes; Ald. Smith, yes; Ald. Fleming, yes; and Ald. Rose, yes.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Finance: Ald. Crusen was absent.

Public Safety: Ald. Boggs was absent.

Sewer: Ald. Fleming had nothing to report. Reminded everyone to come to the Farmington Farmers football game this coming Saturday!

Streets/Sidewalks/Garbage: Ald. Gilles would like to see a grant written for some new street signs for the City of Farmington.

Parks /Recreation: Ald. Smith had nothing to report. Mayor Stufflebeam commented that the two loads of diamond dirt for the ball field at Jacobs Park had been delivered.

Public Grounds/Buildings: Ald. Rose had nothing to report.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Restaurant manager Tina spoke on behalf of Dana Cardenas. She commented that another building has been purchased uptown to bring in a Chinese restaurant along with their other building for a Mexican restaurant. They were extremely grateful to the TIF, so they could move forward on both projects as soon as possible. Ms. Watson commented on a message on Facebook about the sewer/garbage postcard bills. Mayor Stufflebeam commented that the postcards will continue, there are several methods of payment available to choose to pay the City. Mayor Stufflebeam also reminded residents of the rules and regulations of owning chickens in town. Ald. Fleming would like to see the mattresses and dumpster emptied at the building at N. Main St. and E. Fulton Street. Ald. Gilles moved to adjourn and Ald. Fleming seconded the motion carried with all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.