

CITY OF FARMINGTON

City Council Minutes of Meeting March 31, 2020 5:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Farmington met via telephone on March 23, 2020. The meeting was conducted via telephone conference call due to the COVID-19 emergency response protocols. Officials present in person were Mayor Larry D. Forsythe, City Administrator Gregory S. Beavers, and Finance Director Michelle Daniel.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Forsythe.

The roll was called with the following Councilors present: Edward Felker, John Robinson, Adam Parks, Dennis Robinson, Tom Joyce, Vanessa Pegram and Wayne Linnenbringer.

City Counselor, Scott Reid, was present via telephone.

Councilor John Robinson made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilor Pegram, and passed unanimously.

City Administrator Beavers reviewed a proposed COVID-19 utility assistance program to include a \$100.00 payment for a utility customer's electric bill, \$50.00 in payment for the water and sewer bill, suspension of all late penalties, elimination of the reconnect fee during normal working hours, and a 50% reduction in the after-hours reconnection fee. All utility accounts will be eligible for deferred payment plans of any outstanding balances. The assistance program will be administered by East Missouri Action Agency and customers eligible for Federal LIHEAP assistance will receive those funds prior to an assistance from the City. All customers requesting assistance will be required to provide a letter from their employer stating that they had been furloughed or have reduced wages due to COVID-19. Self-employed persons will be required to complete an affidavit to evidence loss of income.

Councilor J. Robinson inquired about assistance for small businesses. Scott Reid reminded Council that the recently approved CARES Act included forgivable SBA loans for businesses.

Mayor Forsythe called for motion and discussion on the assistance plan as presented. Councilor J. Robinson made a motion to approve the assistance plan, seconded by Councilor Pegram, and passed unanimously.

City Administrator Beavers reported that the CARES Act included a provision for supplemental sick leave for employees that will be effective on April 1. The City has some employees that were possibly exposed during the prior week and had self-quarantined and requested approval for the City to provide an additional 10 days of sick leave for city employees prior than the federally mandated April 1 start date.

Mayor Forsythe called for motion and discussion on the supplemental sick leave as presented. Councilor John Robinson made a motion to approve the supplemental sick leave, seconded by Councilor Pegram, and passed unanimously.

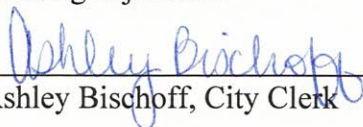
City Administrator Beavers reported that the St. Francois County 911 Center offered employment to all employees of the FPD dispatch department. The County will not permit employees to carry-over any accrued sick leave and Beavers requested approval for full payout of all accrued sick leave for the transferring employees.

Mayor Forsythe called for motion and discussion on the dispatch staff sick leave payout as presented. Councilor Joyce made a motion to approve the assistance plan, seconded by Councilor Pegram, and passed unanimously.

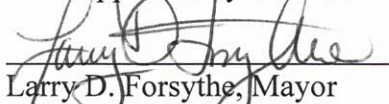
City Administrator Beavers reviewed the COVID-10 response measures adopted by the City through the current date.

Mayor Forsythe called for a motion to adjourn. Councilor Pegram made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor J. Robinson and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.


Ashley Bischoff, City Clerk

April 20, 2020
Date Approved by Council


Larry D. Forsythe, Mayor

4/9/2020
Date