

# **City of Forada**

## **Meeting Minutes**

September 13, 2021

**Call to order:** Mayor, David Reller, called to order the regular meeting of the City of Forada at 7:00 pm at City Hall.

**Roll call:** The following persons were present: Jo Kluver, David Reller, Mitch Critz, Scott Erickson, and Bob Verkinderen.

**Approval of minutes:** Motion to approve August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes made by Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott. All in favor.

**Open floor:** A resident submitted a letter of complaint and also presented information to the council regarding a resident placing branches and other yard waste across the street from her residence on city property. A picture was provided to council and the resident stated they had witnessed it. Council was already aware of the issue and has sprayed for weeds and also mowed that area previously. Council requested a letter be issued to the resident to address the issue. If resident continues to place tree branches and yard waste on city property, the council will contact city attorney to address the issue.

### **Reports Of:**

**Fire Department:** Stephen, Fire Chief Bob Steidl & Steve Kluver, presented to the council an update from the truck committee. Bob looked at the 2007 Kenworth with tanker for \$90,000.00. Fire Department was awarded a FEMA Grant for over \$400,000.00 which is super exciting! They will need to get 3 separate bids and will take over a year to get a truck. They have already been in communication with a company in Elrosa on a truck. Will notify council if need money down. They plan on selling other trucks once new truck is purchased. Still plan on fixing current tanker as planned. The fire department would like to have a street dance in June of 2022 and will start looking for a good band. At the last fire meeting all their gambling fund was reviewed and how much is paid into taxes. The fire department would like to better utilize these moneys for donations and give back to the community. They would like to rebuild Toby's Park playground and make some improvements at the ballpark. It was also discussed to start scholarships either with Dollars for Scholars or work with high school. Jo stated she can assist with creating a scholarship form for students to complete. If go with Dollars for Scholars, they have no say on who the recipient/s will be. If do independently, they review the forms and pick the recipient/s themselves and can present as well at Honors Night.

Motion to pay bills as submitted made by Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mitch. All in favor.

**First Responders:** Stephen let the council know pagers need to be replaced as they are getting old.

Motion to pay bills as submitted made by Scott, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob. All in favor.

**Clerk's Report:** Jo gave overview of submitted bills for the city. Jo went over the financial reports as submitted to council. Motion to pay bills as submitted made by Mitch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob. All in favor.

**Sewer Report:** Jo reported she submitted on a note on certain accounts that are way past due notifying them if they are not paid in full by October 8, 2021, the past due sewer charges will be assessed to their property taxes in 2022 by a resolution passed by city council. Jo will also submit another note if needed on October 1<sup>st</sup> statement and invoicing.

Motion to pay bills as submitted made by Scott, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob. All in favor.

### **Old Business:**

- 1) David updated the council on the DNR SPRA grant. Dave met with Gail at WSN and Tim Erickson with Douglas County. He was informed that the more times you keep applying for the grant the better chance you have of getting it. It also became known that Sunset Access Rd SE is owned by the DNR and not the city. In what David has received so far from WSN, Forada Beach Rd SE will need to meet state requirements – meaning it needs to 2 -

11 foot lanes and 4 feet of shoulder for a total of 26 feet. Current price for grant request is at \$420, 376.00 and that does not include the \$75,000 + WSN has added for engineering and management fees. This price doesn't even include the entire road but only half. Council agreed that the road cannot be widened to meet what WSN has written in grant due to residential lot sizes and has become not feasibly financially possible with the budget city has to work with. Bob motioned to no longer pursue grant and to notify WSN we no longer need their services, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mitch. All in favor.

- 2) American Rescue Plan Allocation (ARPA) moneys received was discussed. Bob brought up the idea if it was possible to use the ARPA to assist 2 residents with their expense to hook up to the main sewer line. All other residents' stubs were in the original design and benefited from the grant the city was awarded for the sewer project. Question is, could the ARPA funds be used to assist the 2 residents with costs of hooking up to the main line? This will create sewer revenue to the city. Jo stated that this would not be considered a "city sewer project" but an individual resident sewer project. The ARPA funds do not need to be spent immediately but have 4 years to be used.
- 3) Jo reported the workers compensation audit has been completed. The city is in good standing.

#### **New Business:**


- 1) The council reviewed the attached 2022 Tax Levy and City Budget. Motion to approve 2022 Tax Levy and City Budget made by Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott. All approved.
- 2) Jo informed council the Pope County Coop LP contract for the year will be arriving shortly. It was noted the fire department's LP contract price was \$1.499/gallon. Residential has gone up even more. Once the contract is received, Jo will need a check signed for payment with the contract.
- 3) Scott presented to the council that he and Steve Archbold attended the Hudson Township Board meeting and presented to the board a joint resolution which stated there would be a 1 mile "zone" around city limits of Forada which would not allow commercial permitting or commercial zoning. Hudson Township Board will run it passed their attorney. The board's biggest concern on the three parties – if not all agreed how would it be resolved?
- 4) Hudson Township/Forada Community Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 a.m. Jo is unable to be there and Pope/Douglas Solid Waste needs someone in attendance to take money and help unload. David stated he could help.
- 5) CD up for renewal was motioned by Jo and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mitch to have it roll over. All in favor.
- 6) Resolution #08-21 Increasing Fire Department PERA to \$1,900 effective January 1, 2022, was read aloud. Motion made by Mitch to approve Resolution #08-21, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott. All in favor.


#### **Adjournment:**

Motioned to adjourn meeting made by Bob, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott. All in favor.

David Reller adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

  
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City Clerk/Treasurer

  
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Mayor