SPECIAL FARMINGTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 20, 2009 - 2:30 p.m.
Farmington City Hall, 130 North Main

PRESENT: Mayor Scott Harbertson, Council Members Richard Dutson, Paula Alder, Sid Young, and Cory Ritz, City Manager Max Forbush, Police Chief Wayne Hansen, Finance Director Keith Johnson, Public Works Director Walt Hokanson, Fire Chief Larry Gregory, Parks & Recreation Director Neil Miller, Community Development Director David Petersen, and City Recorder Margy Lomax. Dave Hale arrived at 2:55 p.m.

Mayor Harbertson called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Police Chief Wayne Hansen gave an update on the construction progress of the new Police Station located at 286 South 200 East. He believes it will be ready for occupancy the first part of February. A public open house to tour the new Station is being planned for sometime in March.

Walt Hokanson, Public Works Director, reported the new shops storage facility for the Public Works Department is now completed. On another matter, he said there is a problem with existing trees throughout the City in that they overhang into the street causing problems for the City’s street sweeper and snow plowing trucks.

Dave Petersen addressed the group stating his department had divided their strategic planning goals into a five-year period and prioritized them. A copy of this list is included herein as Exhibit A and made a part of these minutes. He stated between himself and Glenn Symes they are spending approximately 45 hours on projects per week with 35 hours on day-to-day operations. Mr. Petersen stated revenue from building permits is much lower this year which has caused a reduction in all City Department budgets. He said the GIS is a tremendous addition to all City operations.

Larry Gregory, Fire Chief, spoke regarding the possible purchase of the old City Shops (which is presently owned by UDOT) being used as a fire substation and storage facility for Public Works. He has written a report and analyzing what needs to be done. He believes there would be problems in moving fire vehicles in and out of the building. He said it would be hard to remodel it to accommodate a fire substation. He also questioned if that site was the best place to locate a Fire Substation. Last year the Fire Department went on 917 calls. Of those calls, 65-70% were medical. He said to run a full-time Fire Department it would cost over $1 million a year. He said he does not want full-time firemen. He feels the part-time firemen the City now have are a huge resource, and the system in place is working very well for the present time.

The main purpose for holding the special meeting was to review and update Farmington City’s Strategic Plan prepared in February of 2006 entitled “Farmington City’s Vision (2007-2012)
Max Forbush reported the Strategic Plan came about after his attendance at an ICMA Conference where he was taught about creating visioning statements for a city of “What your City is and what you want it to become.” A committee comprised of 30-40 Farmington City residents and City officials and staff met to talk about what Farmington’s strengths and weaknesses are. A strategic visioning plan was then developed with the City’s Governing Body and executive staff. A review of the plan then took place to determine what items should be deleted or added or marked as completed.

Max Forbush led the review of the Strategic Plan. The Plan is divided into six different vision statements/goals as follows: (a) develop a quality, unique, diversified and stable tax base; (b) preserve and enhance the historic ambiance of downtown as a community “hub” or “gathering place”; (c) promote historic preservation in “old Farmington” and Citywide; (d) sustain and enhance Farmington’s quality of life, sense of community (connectivity & friendliness); (e) foster and encourage “great” City governance; and (f) provide for future City facilities, equipment, and resources. A review of the Strategic Plan led to items being deleted, added and marked as completed. Max Forbush said he would with executive staff review the suggestion and priorities, perform necessary editing adjustments and refinements and present a draft of the amendments for City Council consideration at a future date.

Mayor Harbertson expressed his gratitude and appreciation to staff and the City Council for their contributions to the City. He said he is proud to serve with them.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sid Young and seconded by Rick Dutson. With all Council Members in favor, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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Margy L. Lomax
City Recorder