

Mayor Ernie Penn

City Attorney Jay Moore

City Clerk Kelly Penn

City Council Member Sherry Mathews Ward 1 Position 1

Council Member Keith Lipford Ward 2 Position 1

Council Member Brenda Cunningham Ward 3 Position 1

Council Member Diane Bryant Ward 4 Position 1

Council Member Hunter Carnahan

Ward 1 Position 2

Council Member Linda Bell Ward 2 Position 2

Council Member Bobby Morgan Ward 3 Position 2

Council Member Kara Gardenhire Ward 4 Position 2

A meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on May 12th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Farmington City Hall, located at 354 West Main Street, Farmington Arkansas. Mayor Penn called the meeting to order.

PRESENT: Council Members, Keith Lipford, Brenda Cunningham, Sherry Mathews, Hunter Carnahan, Linda Bell, Bobby Morgan, Kara Gardenhire, Mayor Ernie Penn, City Attorney Jay Moore, City Clerk Kelly Penn, City Business Manager Melissa McCarville, Press and Audience Members. City Council Member Diane Bryant attended via Zoom due to Covid.

Pledge of Allegiance

Comments from Citizens

Approval of the April 14th, 2025, City Council Meeting Minutes

On the motion of Council Member Carnahan and a second by Council Member Morgan and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the minutes were approved as presented by a vote of 8-0.

Financial Reports

Mayor Penn presented the financial reports to the City Council. Monthly city sales tax increased .001%, compared to 2024. Monthly state/county sales tax increased 2.75% compared to 2024.

Entertain a motion to read all Ordinances and Resolutions by title only.

On the motion of Council Member Morgan and a second by Council Member Carnahan and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion to read all Ordinances and Resolutions by title only was approved 8-0.

Proclamations, Special Announcements, Committee/Commission Appointments

Fire Chief Hellard announced the Farmington Fire Department reduced the city's its Fire Suppression score, commonly referred to as the ISO rating, from a 3 to a 2.

Committee Reports - No committee reports were submitted.

Items to be removed from the City of Farmington - Farmington Police Department -2 Items

On the motion of Council Member Bell and a second by Council Member Carnahan and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion to remove a 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN #1C2E06CR195800 from police department inventory and placed out for bids was approved 8-0.

On the motion of Council Member Carnahan and a second by Council Member Morgan and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion to remove a 2018 Dodge Charger VIN # 2C3CDXAT2JH291282 from police department inventory and placed out for bids was approved 8-0.

Old Business

Second Reading - Ordinance No. 2025-01 An Ordinance rezoning property at 357 South Hunter Street,9,15,19 and 25 W. Dakota Trail, from R-1 and R-2 (residential) to MF-2 (multi-family), as requested by Cox Development.

Jay Young from Development Consultants, representing Cox gave the City Council a brief overview of the request. A motion was made by Council Member Carnahan and seconded by Council Member Cunningham to suspend the rules requiring the motion be read in full on three separate dates be suspended and that Ordinance 2025-01 be read one time by title only. After a roll call vote the motion was approved 8-0. Mayor Penn asked shall the ordinance pass? After a roll call vote, the votes were as follows: Council Member Lipford - abstained, Council Member Morgan voted no, the remaining council members present voted yes. The vote was 6-1-1. A motion was made to pass Ordinance 2025-01 with an emergency clause by Council Member Bell and seconded by Council Member Cunningham. After a roll call vote, the votes were as follows: Council Member Lipford - abstained, Council Member Morgan voted no, the remaining council members present voted yes. The vote was 6-1-1.

New Business

Appeal of the Planning Commission to deny Large Scale Development- Brand New Church Parking Lot. This item was pulled from the agenda at the request of Brand New Church.

Ordinance No. 2025-02 An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2023-09 regarding the 2021 Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, providing for an emergency clause, and for other purposes.

A motion was made by Council Member Bell and seconded by Council Member Carnahan to suspend the rules requiring the motion to be read in full on three separate dates be suspended and that Ordinance 2025-02 be read one time by title only. After a roll call vote, the motion was approved 8-0. Mayor Penn asked, shall the ordinance pass? After a roll call vote, the motion was approved 8-0. A motion was made to pass Ordinance 2025-02 with an emergency clause by Council Member Bell and seconded by Council Member Carnahan, after a roll call vote, the motion was approved 8-0.

Resolution No. 2025-08 A Resolution by the city of Farmington to create a social media policy.

On the motion of Council Member Cunningham and a second by Council Member Carnahan and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, Resolution No. 2025-08 was approved a vote of 8-0.

Resolution No. 2025-09 A Resolution waiving requirement of competitive bidding for the purchase of one (1) Chevrolet K2500 Crew Cab Custom 4X4 Red Duramax 6.6L Diesel V8 for the Farmington Fire Department

On the motion of Council Member Carnahan and a second by Council Member Morgan and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, Resolution No. 2025-09 was approved and passed with an emergency clause by a vote of 8-0.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:37pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held Monday, June 9th, 2025, in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 354 West Main Street, Farmington, Arkansas.

Ernie Penn, Mayor

Kelly Penn, City Clerk