

MINUTES
Foxfire Village Council
Regular Business Meeting
May 14, 2024 ~ 4:30 PM
Village Hall Meeting Room

1. Call to Order: Mayor Gregorich called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM
2. Members Present: Mayor Pro Temp Janet Nauman, Councilmembers Mary Gilroy, Don Nelson, and Warren Morgan
3. Others Present: Chief Amezquita, and Several members of the public.

Mayor Gregorich announced a change to the general procedures of the meeting. Instead of a moment of silence, there will now be an opening prayer. Councilmember Mary Gilroy led those in attendance in the prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of the May 14, 2024, Regular Business Meeting Agenda

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman removed *Blackrock Landscaping Presentation* from the agenda.

Councilmember Nelson made a motion to adopt the May 14, 2024 Agenda as amended, seconded by Councilmember Morgan and carried unanimously.

5. Consent Agenda

All items listed below are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and without discussion.

- Approval of Minutes
 - April 9, 2024 Regular Business Meeting
 - April 25, 2024 Work Session
 - April 25, 2024 CLOSED Meeting

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman made a motion to approve the consent agenda as written, seconded by Councilmember Morgan and carried unanimously.

6. Public Comment Period

Mayor Gregorich reminded those in attendance that public comment periods are not meant for back-and-forth conversations. There were no public comments.

7. Zoning Administrator's Report

Lisa Kivett provided the following report on zoning activities from April 10th through May 14th.
Currently a total of thirty-eight (38) homes are under construction or in the beginning stages of lot clearing.

One (1) Single Family Residence Application:
165 Hartsell Lane (ETJ)

Two (2) Certificate of Zoning Compliance were issued:
180 Vista Ridge W.
198 Woodland Circle

Other Permits Issued:
Three (3) Fence
Three (3) Accessory Building
One (1) Deck
One (1) Pool
Two (2) Swimming Pools
One (1) Structure Modification
One (1) Temporary Structure
One (1) Temporary Sign

8. Council Member Reports:

A. Finance – Mary Gilroy

- Financial Report

Councilmember Gilroy reported the CPA will have the April financials available in the morning. Gilroy presented the full closing cash balances as of March 31, 2024: The general fund balance is \$3,092,609 of which \$1,435,638 is reserved, and the water fund balance is \$1,198,326 of which \$247,398 is reserved. April balances will be available for the budget work session.

- 2024/2025 Budget

Councilmember Gilroy prepared and presented the council with a rough draft of anticipated sales tax revenue, motor vehicle, and utility tax revenue. The County is estimating a 5% increase in sales tax because of the US Open. The estimated revenue is \$1,484,398, which Gilroy believes will be higher. She is scheduled to meet with Chris Blue from the Moore County Tax department to go through sales tax revenue. Gilroy detailed estimated department expenses and noted the \$125,000 set aside for pool repairs may or may not be used based on the results of the pool assessment.

Gilroy added that a decision will need to be made about the fire department. Either we go with the county and adjust the mil rate or consider using the extra \$100,000 from the general fund which will take us through FY 24/25. This would allow time to investigate the best route for the Village. Mayor Gregorich added the fire department funding comes directly from our mil rate of .29 cents per \$100. The fire department wants 10.1 cents of that \$100, roughly over one third of our budget and if nothing changes, we will have to raise our tax rate. Gregorich said this is being driven by the Fire Commission and there is no negotiating. Brief discussion continued.

Gilroy asked to schedule a public hearing to adopt the budget, council briefly discussed. The public hearing to adopt the 24/24 FY Budget is scheduled for June 11, 2024. A Citizen Participation meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2024, at 6:30 PM. Council discussed the possibility of needing an additional special work session to finalize the budget numbers and doing a budget amendment for the pool if needed. Gilroy will email council members a spreadsheet with the updated numbers including salaries.

B. Public Safety – Don Nelson

Chief Amezcuita presented the following report for the month of April:

- Currently doing on-boarding with the new police officer candidate. Once the final document is received from the SBI, we can move forward with hiring him in approximately 30 days.
- Still working on the Dodge Charger issue. Chief Amezcuita continues trying to make contact with the Service Manager.
- Officer Chris Judge is no longer employed as of May 5th. Currently, only Chief Amezcuita and Corporal Kivett are working.
- Corporal Kivett will move to a full-time position effective May 27th.
- A Q&A Meet and Greet is scheduled for May 23rd at 6:00 PM. This meeting is an opportunity for residents to ask questions or voice concerns and to receive helpful safety information from the police department.

Councilmember Nelson spoke with a parts department employee and mechanic at the Dodge dealership. He was told the repairs they had done were needed regardless of if it fixed the problem or not. It will cost an additional \$2,500-\$2,800 to get the car running. A discussion followed regarding fixing the car and keeping it as a surplus vehicle or selling it. It was the consensus of the council to have the vehicle repaired.

C. Water Department – Warren Morgan

Councilmember Morgan reported that drilling of the new well has begun and Jessie is working on a couple smaller projects.

D. Mayors Report – Janice Gregorich

- SB 166

Mayor Gregorich reported that Senate Bill 166 has a lot to do with building codes and within it has a paragraph stating they wish to remove the ETJ in Moore County. The county mayors, certain councilmembers and ETJ residents have worked diligently over the past two weeks. Letters have been written to Congressmen, Representatives, and the State Senator asking why Moore County was singled out as being unduly restrictive in the ETJ. They claim to have received complaints, however we have never received any. Gregorich has heard nothing but positive comments from the ETJ residents. They

are happy with the management of the ETJ and being awarded protection from the County zoning. A meeting was held with Senator McInnis and Representatives Jackson and Moss in hopes to gain more specific information from them. They have now changed the language to make this a "Study Bill" which means they are going to study taking the ETJ away from Moore County. Several Mayors pushed back saying this should be Statewide and not County by County. This was attempted last year but encompassed the entire State, that Bill failed.

- SMPO-MOU

Mayor Gregorich said a Resolution is required for Foxfire Village to be removed from the SMPO. A drafted resolution will be presented for its adoption at the upcoming work session. Once we are no longer in the SMPO, we will be represented by the County but will still have the opportunity to go to meetings as spectators.

9. New Business
None

10. Old Business
None

11. Public Comment Period - Comments on items listed on this agenda.

Mayor Gregorich introduced Melanie Alexander who was hired as an Administrative Assistant. Melanie has been working with water billing and payment collections among other administrative duties. Interviews for the Bookkeeper position have been positive with some very good candidates.

12. Motion to Adjourn

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Morgan and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 PM.



Lisa A. Kivett, MMC, NCCMC, CZO
Village Administrator/Clerk



Janice Gregorich
Mayor