



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 Bobby Morgan
Ward 2 Position 2

Council Member Linda Bell
Ward 3 Position 2

Council Member Kara Gardenhire
Ward 4 Position 2

A meeting of the Farmington City Council was held on August 10, 2026, 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 Diane Bryant, Keith Lipford, Brenda Cunningham, Sherry Mathews, Hunter Carnahan, Linda Bell, Bobby Morgan, Mayor Ernie Penn, City Attorney Jay Moore, Clerk Kelly Penn, City Business Manager Melissa McCarville, Press and Audience Members. Council Member Kara Gardenhire was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Farmington Senior Center Community Block Grant Public Hearing – The hearing was called to order at 6:00 by Mayor Penn.

Chelsey Weaver with the Northwest Arkansas Economic Development Committee informed the council that they have completed the roof replacement, restroom upgrades, new HVAC units, new loading ramp, and electric ADA compliant doors. They still have a few projects to complete but should have the grant closed out by year end. The Public Hearing closed at 6:05.

Comments from Citizens – None

Approval of the July 13, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes

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, the minutes were approved as presented by a vote of 7-0.

Financial Reports

Mayor Penn presented the financial reports to the City Council. Monthly city sales increased 7.71 % compared to 2025. Monthly state/county sales tax increased .009% compared to 2025.

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

On the motion of Council Member Bryant 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 were approved by a vote of 7-0.

Proclamations, Special Announcements, Committee/Commission Appointments

City Clerk Penn – The election filing period for the November General Election has closed. The city will declare a vacancy at the January 2027 meeting to fill the Ward 2 Position 2 seat. The council will take applications, and the Mayor and Council Members will select a candidate to fill the open spot.

Committee Reports – No committee reports were submitted.

Items to be removed from the City of Farmington – Farmington Fire Department – Chief Hellard

Farmington Fire Department - Removal of 1991 GMC Brush Truck SL 3500, VIN 1GTHK34N4ME529562

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 1991 GMC Brush Truck SL 3500, VIN 1GTHK34N4ME529562 and return to the Prairie Grove Rural Fire Association was approved 7-0.

Farmington Fire Department - Removal of 1995 Freightliner 18-Wheeler, VIN 1FUYDSEB4SP593829

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 1995 Freightliner 18-Wheeler, VIN 1FUYDSEB4SP593829 and return to the Prairie Grove Rural Fire Association was approved 7-0.

Old Business – None

New Business

Resolution No. 2026-12 A resolution in support of an application for the ReviveAR Naloxone Community Project Funding Grant.

On the motion of Council Member Bell and a second by Council Member Bryant and by the consent of all Council Members present after a roll call vote, the motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-12 was approved 7-0. City Attorney Moore read Resolution 2026-12 by title only.

Resolution No. 2026-13 A resolution by the City of Farmington to certify to the Tax Collector of Washington County the costs of clearing property owned by Steve Nations, located at 120 Alberta Street, Farmington Arkansas.

City Attorney Moore addressed the resolution; the cost of the clearing will be applied to Mr. Nations 2027 Property Tax rather than a traditional lien against the property. Mayor Penn asked for public comment:

Property Owner Steve Nations, 120 Alberta Street – Mr. Nations stated that when his property was cleaned, they took a wheelbarrow and tools that he used for work. They smashed a bunch of tools in the mud, they did not do a good job.

Lisa Bible, 128 Alberta Lane – She stated that the property has been a constant eye sore for years, they have a serious pest control problem. If she tried to sell her property she would not be able to get a fair market price because of Mr. Nations house. Its hoarding and a health problem and it will happen again and she has had it.

Police Chief Wilbanks – He stated he was there and personally witnessed the Public Works Director Tanner Denham, take great care of the property that was left and stacked up multiple tools that were left. They did not remove anything that Mr. Nations worked with.

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 approve Resolution No. 2026-13 was approved 7-0. City Attorney Moore read Resolution 2026-13 by title only.

Discussion of Ordinance No. 2023-14, Payment In Lieu of Green Space – Sponsored by Council Member Keith Lipford

After much discussion from Council Members and Planning Commissioners that attended the meeting, the council would like to look at increasing the fees for cash in lieu and asked for more information from the City Attorney and city staff about what other cities are doing to discuss at another meeting or joint work session.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business coming before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:48pm by a motion from Council Member Carnahan and a second by Council Member Morgan until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held Monday, September 14th, 2026, in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 354 West Main Street, Farmington, Arkansas.

Approved: Ernie Penn, Mayor



Attest: Kelly Penn, City Clerk

