

**City of Spencer
Public Hearing
November 21, 2024**

Mayor Farmer opened the public hearing, second and final reading of Ordinance 2024-7, Adopt international building Code, 2018 edition; International Residential Code, 2018 edition; and International Fire Code, 2018 edition. Without any questions or concerns the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Farmer swore in re-elected officials Drew Campbell and Darrel Nance.

**City of Spencer
Regular Council Meeting
November 21, 2024**

Mayor Farmer called the regular council meeting to order. Roll call was taken with the following alderman present Jody Hensley, Darrell Nance, Drew Campbell, Jerry Blankenship, and David Chandler. Also present at the meeting was City Attorney Ed Boring, Officer Michael Hickman, Codes Official Leland Bouldin, Economic Development & Tourism Coordinator Arlyna Fischer, City Recorder Crystal Crain, Court Clerk Tabitha Robinson, Zeda Hillis representing James C. Hailey, and Mike Corley and Anthony Pelham representing Warren County Utility District. This was followed by a prayer and the pledge. Mayor Farmer asked for approval of the previous regular council meeting minutes as written. Vice Mayor Campbell made the motion to approve the minutes as written, and this was seconded by Alderman Blankenship. All were in favor and the minutes were approved. There were not any citizen comments. Mayor Farmer introduced the City's new Economic Development & Tourism Coordinator Arlyna Fischer. Mayor Farmer moved on to the agenda.

Old Business:

New Business:

ITEM #1: Second and Final Reading of Ordinance 2024-7, to adopt International Building Code, 2018 edition; International Residential Code, 2018 edition; and the International Fire Code, 2018 edition. During the last meeting it was explained the city needed to be within a seven-year time-frame of the State's adopted codes. Mayor Farmer turned the floor over to Codes Official Leland Bouldin to explain, the changes are to bring current and to simplify the fee process. Alderman Chandler made the motion to approve and this was seconded by Alderman Nance.

Roll Call was as followed:

Alderman Hensley- Yes

Alderman Nance- Yes

Vice Mayor Campbell- Yes

Alderman Blankenship- Yes

Alderman Chandler- Yes

The motion passed.

ITEM #2: First Reading of Budget Amendment #2, Increase State Police Salary Supplement and Increase General Liability Insurance. City Recorder Crystal Crain explained, the state police salary supplement for Chief Garing; is an additional supplement from the state for retention of current law enforcement officers. The increase of the general liability insurance was due to not including the items and property that will be transferred in the merger. Vice Mayor Campbell made the motion to approve and this was seconded by Alderman Nance.

Roll Call was as followed:

**Alderman Hensley- Yes
Alderman Nance- Yes
Vice Mayor Campbell- Yes
Alderman Blankenship- Yes
Alderman Chandler- Yes
The motion passed.**

ITEM#3: First Reading of Budget Amendment #3, Increase Tourism Line-Item Expenses. The original budget included the revenue from the grant but did not include the grant expenditures due to having to create new line items. The line items created were tourism expense, tourism wages, and tourism payroll taxes. Alderman Blankenship made the motion to approve and this was seconded by Alderman Nance.

Roll Call was as followed:

**Alderman Hensley- Yes
Alderman Nance- Yes
Vice Mayor Campbell- Yes
Alderman Blankenship- Yes
Alderman Chandler- Yes
The motion passed.**

ITEM #4: First Reading of Budget Amendment #4, Increase Utility line items. The line items include increases for water purchases, publishing, convenience fees, annual permits, and pump station maintenance with a decrease from fund balance. Alderman Chandler made the motion to approve and this was seconded by Vice Mayor Campbell.

Roll Call was as followed:

**Alderman Hensley- Yes
Alderman Nance- Yes
Vice Mayor Campbell- Yes
Alderman Blankenship- Yes
Alderman Chandler- Yes
The motion passed.**

ITEM #5: Resolution 2024-7, Updating Personnel Handbook. Mayor Farmer tabled item number 5. No action was taken by board.

ITEM #6: Resolution 2024-8, Appointment of Brandon Griffin as Special Substitute Municipal Judge. Mayor Farmer explained Judge Burke is in poor health and unable to return to the bench at this time. The Council will need to reappoint Judge Griffin every thirty days until Judge Burke returns to the bench. Vice Mayor Campbell made the motion to approve and this was seconded by Alderman Hensley. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

ITEM #7: Approval to pay off TML Loan. Mayor Farmer explained the loan can not be transferred to WCUD. The City and WCUD were aware of this. Mayor Farmer is seeking permission to file the proper paperwork to pay the loan in full around March 25, 2025. Alderman Chandler asked what fund will this be using utility or general. Mayor Farmer answered utility. Both parties have been discussing back and forth and are in agreement that utility funds would need to pay this off. Alderman Chandler made the motion to approve and this was seconded for by Alderman Nance.

Roll Call was as followed:

**Alderman Hensley- Yes
Alderman Nance- Yes**

Vice Mayor Campbell- Yes
Alderman Blankenship- Yes
Alderman Chandler- Yes
The motion passed.

ITEM #8: Approval of Intermediate Raw Water Pumping Station Bids. Zeda Hillis explained bid opening was held on November 19, 2024, six bids were received ranging from \$3,356,000.00 to 3,948,159.85. This bid will use all of the funds from the ARP, the funds from VBC ARP, and finally some of the TDEC ARP funds WCUD received. James C Hailey recommends, the board accept the bid not to exceed \$3,356,000.00. Alderman Chandler made the motion to approve and this was seconded by Vice Mayor Campbell.


Roll Call was as followed:


Alderman Hensley- Yes
Alderman Nance- Yes
Vice Mayor Campbell- Yes
Alderman Blankenship- Yes
Alderman Chandler- Yes
The motion passed.

ITEM #9: Approval of SRTS Sidewalk Bids. Zeda Hillis explained this grant has been ongoing for several years. The city had grant opening today, November 21, 2024, at 2 pm. We received one valid bid in the amount of \$536,390.00 from Mid-State Construction. This is above our current budget and we have reached out to TDOT for additional funds. James C Hailey recommended, no action by the board at this time.

WCUD update: Mr. Pelham explained water bills would be mailed from WCUD this billing cycle. WCUD and Spencer Utility have continued to work on water quality. Alderman Blankenship asked if WCUD would still continue bank draft for customers that have selected this option. WCUD will continue bank draft. WCUD has also started 24- and 48-hour Robo calls for customers that have not paid bills before cut off, water outages, and higher than normal water usage.

Without any other business to discuss Vice Mayor Campbell made the motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Alderman Blankenship; all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.



Mayor


Recorder