

FALMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING Minutes of Caucus Meeting February 6, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Luke Price. The pledge of Allegiance, and the invocation given by Clerk Ramona Williams.

The following Council Members answering roll call:

Joyce Carson	Present	Craig Owen	Present
Amanda Moore	Present	Sabrina Hazen	Present
Anthony Cox	Present	Steve Jenkins	Present

Also Present: Attorney Brandon Voelker

Mayor Luke Price opened the Caucus meeting with guests speaking first.

Auditor Paul Maddox gave a brief presentation of the City financial statements and an explanation on Governmental auditing practices. With several new council members he had not met, he felt it was important to give an overview of what the auditor responsibilities were, and what is generally looked at when reviewing the accounting practices. He said the audit was performed for FY year ending June 30, 2024. He said the reports were good, the accounts in solid standing, General Fund had a healthy surplus with the Utility Fund breaking even. The areas of concern were the sewer department and realizing there were already things in place to help offset the expenses. He noted the two large KIA loan amounts for the sewer plant were part of the issues. He was pleased to state there were no significant findings in his report and welcomed Council members to contact him with any questions.

Abby Henderson with Three Rivers Health District was present to request and get leadership approval to place Narcan boxes on selected streets in Falmouth. She presented two pieces of material for review showing what the boxes would look like; similar to a newspaper stand. The other brochure was statistical data regarding drugs and the epidemic of overdoes. She stated one of the boxes was being put at the fire house at Peach Grove. Marty Hart addressed his opinion that he was supportive of the effort and would like to see one placed at the Police Department. Ms. Henderson said

they are working to identify the high traffic areas where overdoses appear to be happening the most frequently. She also wanted to explain that Narcan only works on opioids. Mayor Price said he would add to the agenda for the next meeting.

Tami Vater, Tourism/Economic Director was present to discuss the upcoming barbecue event being planned and the impact it could have on the city as well as the County. She explained all the inclusive contests being held, the food, the competitions, a live band, breweries and wine tastings, and beer/spirits being sold. The discussion then went with Chief Marty Hart and ABC Administrator Ramona Williams explaining the type of licensing required along with designated area requirements. Mayor Price committed the City's support to the event and wished the committee well in its planning.

Departmental Reports:

John Lucas-Chief Lucas had submitted his report previously. There had been 4 runs for the City and wanted to let people know the structure fire was attended by several units, all worked collectively to put the fire out and Chief Lucas was appreciative of the surrounding response. Mayor Price reported that he and Chief Lucas had met with Campbell County Chief Bell regarding a 75 foot ladder truck they have for sale with a pumper attached. Chief Lucas felt the addition to this truck could replace one if not two of the existing trucks that could be surplused. Campbell Co was asking \$38,000 for the truck. The Mayor stated the money was actually in the budget to purchaser the truck. He said there was interest in the two trucks to be surplused. It would be added to the next meeting agenda for a resolution to surplus the two trucks. There was also discussion on paying a stipend to firemen for training. Chief Lucas stated it would only be 1 or 2 nights per week and not everyone would attend every training. His current budget would allow for \$20/training. Agenda item to amend fire ordinance.

Clerk Ramona Williams-she was working on preparations to advertise delinquent taxes as the County does. Had met with a health insurance representative to start searching out insurance plans that may include family plans more affordable than offered now.

Richard Courtney- maintenance had been very busy with snow removal and ice. Council members were very complimentary of the work done by the crew, many stating it was the best snow removal effort in years. They are looking into upgrading our water fill station to maybe be digital and ability to use credit cards. After the temperatures rose, the water leaks/breaks started. In one day, Richard had 6 leaks to work on; none required shutting off water or necessitating a boil water advisory.

ORIGINAL

Keene Daugherty-Dawn Huges was present to report with Mayor Price the Division of Water had been called and there had been two representatives on site that day. Both did a complete walk- through inspection of the entire plant and lab, reviewed lab procedures, testing procedures, and the chemical area. He stated a formal report would be drafted and submitted to document the visit, but they did not find any areas of concern, all requirements are being met, the water quality is good and better than some surrounding areas; further stating that all requirements are being met and the plant was in good standing.

Steve Groh-A lengthy discussion took place on several code enforcement issues. Brian Thompson, Zoning Administrator was also present and felt that Steve was more than capable of zoning enforcement with himself signing off when needed. Also discussed was the penalty language in the zoning ordinance that needed to be changed. Agenda item would be to pass a resolution sponsoring language for a text amendment to the zoning ordinance regarding penalty from a misdemeanor to a civil offense. Discussion then took place regarding the shipping containers or like containers. Steve and the committee felt the nuisance ordinance needed to be amended to address these containers adding also a specific definition as to what a "shipping container" was. Agenda item to add amending the nuisance ordinance. The discussion ended with Brian Thompson and Attorney Brandon Voelker to address what needed to be done prior to the next meeting.

Other comments came with a question regarding the ordinance passed and need for signage about engine breaks. A stop sign and Robbins and 27 was missing.

No other discussion, meeting over.

Mayor Luke Price

Ramona Williams