

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, June 12, 2012 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Attorney Paul Love gave the Invocation, with the pledge following. City Clerk Peggy Meads called the roll with the following Aldermen answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, Mary Ann Arnett, Jim Dixon, Steve Sterling, Dale English, Don Raney, Dale Brewer and Mark Derrick. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson.

The minutes of the regular May meeting of the Council and two special meetings (May 21 and May 25) were presented for approval. Mr. Cothorn pointed out that the May 8 minutes included a reference to the “July” budget ordinance, which should be corrected to reflect the “May” budget ordinance. A motion was made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to approve the minutes, as amended. The following voted to approve: Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Derrick and Cothorn.

Clerk/Treasurer Peggy Meads presented the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 5-31-12: General Fund: \$859,046.41; Street Fund \$604,263.65; Capital Equipment Fund \$232,647.52; LOPFI Fund \$852,048.91; Parks & Recreation Capital Fund \$83,425.47. She also reported a total of \$2,751,254.36 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is up \$164,706.88 from the same time in 2011. The total of all funds is \$2,850,709.42. Mr. Cothorn made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dixon, to approve the report. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn and Arnett.

Item (f) was a resolution to establish the process for the Council’s appointment of the successor to the Clerk-Treasurer, upon the resignation of Mrs. Meads, effective August 31, 2012. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. The Council considered revisions to the resolution as read and to the accompanying schedule. After discussion, Mr. Derrick made a motion to amend the resolution, seconded by Mr. Cothorn. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett and Dixon. Mr. Raney then made a motion to approve the resolution; Mr. Brewer seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon and Sterling. **Resolution 2012-16**

Item (g) was a tax-back resolution concerning ElectroCraft of Arkansas, Inc. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Sterling to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling and English. **Resolution 2012-17**

Item (h) on the agenda was an ordinance to prohibit the deliberate disposal of grass and other yard waste in storm drains, drainage ways and gutters in the city, and imposing penalties for violation. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Derrick, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English

and Raney. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. English, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting "yes": Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney and Brewer. Mr. Gibson noted that the ordinance does not include an emergency clause; the ordinance will go into effect after thirty days. **Ordinance 2012-20**

The next agenda item was consideration of an ordinance to amend the zoning code with respect to home occupations. This ordinance had been referred by the Searcy Planning Commission. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. English, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer and Derrick. Mr. Gibson then read the ordinance by title only. After considerable discussion about applicability of the ordinance to residences situated in commercial and industrial zones, Mr. Derrick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to table the ordinance pending further review. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, Brewer, Derrick and Cothorn; Mr. English and Mr. Raney voted "no".

Item (j) on the agenda was an ordinance to rezone property situated north of the intersection of Highway 36 West and Honey Hill Road from UT (Urban Transitional) to C-4 (Commercial), at the request of Tom Kelso. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn and Arnett. Mr. Gibson then read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Derrick, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting "yes": Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett and Dixon. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Derrick, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting "yes": English, Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon and Sterling. **Ordinance 2012-21**

Item (k) on the agenda was a budget ordinance to appropriate the following:

- a. \$8,186.26 to Airport Terminal revenue account (Fund 12 4-000-01-01) and to Airport Terminal architect fees expenditure account (Fund 12 5-040-05-01) re March billing statement from architect;
- b. \$148,017.66 to 2012 Ballfield Lighting Project (Fund 10, Account 4-000-98-01) (\$83,467.66 from unappropriated reserves, \$64,550.00 from outdoor recreation grant revenue);
- c. \$1,825.00 to Sowell Street Condemnation account (5-010-05-16);
- d. Transfer appropriations of \$6,500.00 from Capital Equipment line item for one walk-behind mower (4 5-880-53-12) and \$24,000.00 from Capital Equipment line item for two mid-deck mowers (4 5-880-53-10), to Capital Equipment account for one Grasshopper mower and three attachments (total \$30,500.00; new account 4 5-880-53-13);

and to authorize payment of the following:

1. \$26,157.18 to Tyler Technologies, Inc., for Incode annual maintenance contract (5-160-05-01);
2. \$22,138.00 to United Fence & Constr. Co., Inc., for construction of electric gate and fence at Searcy airport (West Access road grant, account 5-040-56-44);
3. \$16,858.90 to Spurlock, Inc., for work on construction project, taxiway in hangar development area (federal grant, account 5-040-56-43);
4. \$28,320.30 to Moridge Manufacturing, Inc., for grasshopper mower and three attachments (debris blower, sweepster broom, and aera-vator) for Parks & Recreation Department (Fund 4, Account 5-880-53-13);
5. \$30,647.55 to Stephenson Oil Co., Inc. for fuel for all city departments.

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Derrick, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Raney, Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling and English. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Dixon, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting "yes": Brewer, Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English and Raney. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting "yes": Derrick, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney and Brewer. **Ordinance 2012- 22**

Item (1) on the agenda was a discussion concerning the financial status of the city's general fund and whether a bonus could be paid to employees at this time. Mrs. Meads provided a current cash flow summary and short-term revenue and expenditure forecast through the end of June. She explained her concerns that the city's obligation to pay expenses on the airport terminal construction project will affect cash flow, as will the payroll dates in July and August. She said the two general fund CDs would be sufficient to cover one payroll. She did not recommend paying a bonus at this time. The Council discussed this situation as well as other infrastructure needs.

Mayor Morris reported that the K-Life building had not been completely vacated, although the lease had lapsed 5-31-12. He had spoken with K-Life board member Brad White about removing the remaining property. He said it would likely cost up to \$100,000 to restore the building to useable condition, if not more. The Council asked the Mayor to determine (1) whether asbestos is present and, if so, (2) the cost of containment; and (3) the cost to destroy the building.

Mayor Morris also reported on correspondence with the Federal Aviation Administration concerning the status of mineral leases on airport property; the Arkansas Municipal League meeting in Hot Springs June 20-22; the prospective meeting of the Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department with public officials at 2PM Tuesday, June 26, at the Central Fire Station's training room; the prospective meeting of the Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department for public comments from 4-7PM Thursday, June 28. He said the City would receive a refund of \$3,500 from Smart 9-1-1.

The Mayor recognized State Representative Mark Biviano, who presented \$5,000.00 in GIF funds to Fire Chief Bill Baldrige for the purpose of acquiring smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and placing them in citizens' homes.

The Mayor announced that groundbreaking for the airport terminal building will be held Thursday, June 28, at 11:30 AM, with lunch thereafter provided by First Security Bank.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: July 10, 2012.

/s/ David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Margaret Meads
CITY CLERK

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