

City Council Meeting  
July 15, 2013  
Special Session

**Searcy City Council – Special Session  
July 15, 2013 5:00 p.m.  
Minutes**

Mayor David Morris called to order a Special Session of the Searcy City Council. Alderman Mike Chalenburg gave the Invocation, with the pledge following led by Alderman Jim Dixon. City Clerk Jerry Morris 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 Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson.

Item (3) was for the approval/acceptance of a cost quote regarding the acquisition of a fuel management system for the City of Searcy. Three (3) quotes for a comparable fuel management system have been obtained. The three (3) quotes, including sales tax, are as follows:

- American Petroleum - \$13,698.13
- Southern Company - \$14,891.63
- TLP Enterprises - \$14,186.92

Mayor Morris informed the council that the operators for TLP Enterprises do not have the proper certification credentials. Therefore it was the recommendation of both Mayor Morris and City Engineer Mark Lane that the quote from TLP Enterprises be excluded from consideration. American Petroleum presented the low quote on price for the fuel management system, but some concerns were raised in that some questions that were asked of all of the companies submitting quotes, American Petroleum could not immediately answer or would answer in one manner and subsequently contact the city to say that answer was incorrect. Southern Company also employs two (2) technicians that reside in the City of Searcy, which, if needed, could enhance product/customer service. Alderman Raney expressed the need for the city to be able to get timely and accurate answers to any questions that may arise and the availability of local technicians as desirable characteristics that should be considered in the approval/acceptance of a quote. City Attorney Buck Gibson informed the Council that these were valid reasons for which a decision could be made not to accept the lower quote. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to approve/accept the quote from Southern Company. Motion carried unanimously with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

Item (4) on the agenda was an ordinance approving a one-time bonus for city employees in the amounts of \$400.00/\$200.00 respectively for full-time/part-time employees as of July 15, 2013. The ordinance was also to amend the budget for

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the City of Searcy to reflect expenditures attributable to the relevant expenditure accounts.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2013-03, THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF SEARCY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2013; AUTHORIZING CERTAIN EXPENDITURES; WAIVING THE REQUIREMENT OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN EXPENDITURES; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Searcy, Arkansas, desires to recognize the contributions made by all employees of the City of Searcy; and**

**WHEREAS, economic factors outside the control of the City of Searcy have resulted in higher prices for goods and services available to the City of Searcy to provide for the level of services it currently provides within the City of Searcy; and**

**WHEREAS, funds are not available to afford an increase in the regular pay of either full time workers or part time workers on a continuing basis; and**

**WHEREAS, the Searcy City Council desires to expend funds for a one-time bonus in the amount of \$400.00 for all full time employees (defined as those employees either: (a) defined as full-time employees by operation of law and specifically including the Mayor, City Attorney and City Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Searcy, Arkansas; or (b) working thirty (30) hours or more per week) of the City of Searcy, Arkansas, as of July 15, 2013 (the "Eligible Full Time Employees"); and**

**WHEREAS, the Searcy City Council desires to expend funds for a one-time bonus in the amount of \$200.00 for all part time employees (defined as working twenty-nine (29) hours or less per week) of the City of Searcy, Arkansas, as of JULY 15, 2013 (the "Eligible Part Time Employees").**

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Searcy, Arkansas, meeting in special session, to-wit::**

**Section 1. The budget for the City of Searcy, Arkansas, is amended in the following manner:**

(i) **\$103,685.42 is appropriated from unappropriated reserves to be attributed between the City of Searcy to afford Eligible Full Time Employees a one-time bonus in the amount of \$400.00 and Eligible Part Time Employees in the amount of \$200.00, with said funds to be attributed to the relevant expense accounts for salary, social security withholding, medicare and APERS within each department.**

(ii) **\$3,920.96 is appropriated from unappropriated street fund reserves to be attributed between accounts within the Street Department of the City of Searcy to afford Eligible Full Time Employees employed by the Street Department a one-time bonus in the amount of \$400.00, and Eligible Part Time Employees employed by the Street Department a one-time bonus in the amount of \$200.00 with said funds to be attributed to the relevant expense accounts for salary, social security withholding, medicare and APERS within the Street Department.**

(iii) **The bonus is to be paid by the City of Searcy to the Eligible Employees as soon as practicable but in no event after July 31, 2013.**

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. English, 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, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting "yes": Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Dixon. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Dixon, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting "yes": English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, and Sterling.  
**Ordinance 2013-22**

Item (5) on the agenda was a budget adjustment ordinance to make the appropriation for the acquisition of a fuel management system and the appropriation for the slab (foundation) for the E-Waste Building (which is reimbursable through a grant from the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality).

**Section 1.** The budget for the City of Searcy, Arkansas, is amended in the following manner:

- a. Appropriate up to \$14,891.63 from unappropriated Capital Equipment Fund reserves to ‘Fuel Management System’ expenditure account (04 5-800-53-05);
- b. Appropriate \$10,000.00 to ‘Slab for E-Waste Building’ revenue account (01 4-000-98-96) and appropriate \$10,000.00 to Slab for E-Waste Building expenditure account (01 5-090-56-21);

**Section 2.** The Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to expend the following sums:

- a. Up to \$14,891.63 for the fuel management system;
- b. Up to \$10,000.00 for construction of foundation slab for the E-Waste building (reimbursable through ADEQ grant at 100%);

An oversight had failed to include the authorization to expend the sum of up to \$10,000.00 for the construction of the foundation slab for the E-Waste Building (Section 2-b). A motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mr. English to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, and English. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mrs. Arnett to amend the ordinance to add the authorization to expend the sum of up to \$10,000.00 for the construction of the foundation slab for the E-Waste Building (Section 2-b). Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, and Raney. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Dixon, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, and Raney. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Dixon, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer. **Ordinance 2013-23**

Mayor Morris announced that the City of Searcy as well as White County is currently under a burn ban.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: August 13, 2013

/s/ David Morris  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris  
CITY CLERK

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