

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, December 10, 2013 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Alderman J R Howard gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Alderman Steve Sterling. City Clerk Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Aldermen answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, Mary Ann Arnett, J R Howard, Steve Sterling, Dale English, Don Raney, Dale Brewer, and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson.

Mayor Morris asked the Council to entertain a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add item #6, the presentation of the quarterly economic development report by Mr. Buck Layne, President of the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to include the added item #6. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular November 12, 2013 meeting of the Council and the special November 19, 2013 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. English to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 11-30-13: General Fund: \$1,557,010.30; Street Fund: \$1,436,807.73; Capital Equipment Fund: \$194,980.82; LOPFI Fund: \$234,015.98; Parks & Recreation Capital Fund: \$0.00; Act 833 Fund: \$9,915.88; Airport Projects Fund: \$1,160.05; Special Highway Tax Fund: \$8,054,434.88. He also reported a total of \$6,125,377.18 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is up \$214,343.99 from the same time in 2012. The total of all funds (excluding special highway tax fund) is \$3,433,890.76.

Item (6) on the agenda was the presentation of the quarterly Economic Development Report by Mr. Buck Layne, President of the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Item (7) on the agenda was for the recommendation to appoint Mr. Ronnie McFarland to a five (5) year term as a board member of the Searcy Board of Public Utilities, with the term expiring on December 31, 2018. A motion was made by Mr. Howard and seconded by Mr. English to appoint Mr. Ronnie McFarland to a five year term on the Searcy Board of Public Utilities, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2018. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard.

Item (8) on the agenda was for the re-appointment of Mr. Steve Saunders to a three (3) year term on the Searcy Tree Board with the term expiring on December 31, 2016. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to re-appoint Mr. Steve Saunders to a three year term on the Searcy Tree Board, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2016. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

Item (9) on the agenda was for the re-appointment of Mr. Richard Stafford to a three (3) year term on the Searcy Tree Board with the term expiring on December 31, 2016. Motion was made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Howard, to re-appoint Mr. Richard Stafford to a three year term on the Searcy Tree Board, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2016. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (10) on the agenda was for the appointment of Mr. Tom Webb to a three (3) year term on the Searcy Tree Board with the term expiring on December 31, 2016. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to appoint Mr. Tom Webb to a three year term on the Searcy Tree Board, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2016. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney.

Item (11) on the agenda was for the appointment of Ms. Lillie Cook to fill the unexpired position vacated by Mr. Mike Cleveland on the Searcy Tree Board, with the term expiring on December 31, 2015. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to appoint Ms. Lillie Cook to fill the unexpired position on the Searcy Tree Board vacated by Mr. Mike Cleveland, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2015. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer.

Item (12) on the agenda was for the recommended appointment of Mr. Jim House to fill the unexpired position vacated by Mr. Ronnie McFarland on the City of Searcy Planning Commission, with the term expiring on February 08, 2016. Motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to appoint Mr. Jim House to fill the unexpired position on the City of Searcy Planning Commission vacated by Mr. Ronnie McFarland, with the term set to expire on February 08, 2016. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg.

Item (13) on the agenda was a budget ordinance to:

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

- a. Appropriate \$32,857.62 to Street Fund ‘MUNICIPAL 4-LANE HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION DISTRIBUTION’ revenue account (02 4-000-10-05) for the receipt of 4-Lane Projects Turnback revenue for

November 2013;

- b. Appropriate \$19,213.90 to Capital Equipment Fund '2013 1-TON RECYCLE TRUCK' expenditure account (04 5-890-53-14);
- c. Transfer \$8,700.00 from 01 5-050-01-01 'SALARIES' to 01 5-190-05-12 'TRANSFER TO ACT 833 FUND' to allow for the payment of January 2014 fire truck payment;

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

- a. \$31,109.76 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments and other miscellaneous expenditures;

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Howard, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting "yes": Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting "yes": Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. **Ordinance 2013-37**

The Mayor announced that it has been recognized that there is a need for a way to get information out to the general public regarding the projections for use of the revenue that would be generated by the proposed temporary additional one percent sales and use tax. This information would include descriptions of the current and future needs, justification of why there is a need, estimation/projection of fulfilling the need, and a timeframe for the fulfillment of the need. A Committee of the Whole meeting was called for Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. to examine/refine the document for the dissemination of the information regarding the use of the revenue generated by the proposed temporary sales and use tax.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: 1/14/2014

/s/ David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK
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