

**Searcy City Council – Regular Session**  
**Tuesday, May 13, 2014 7:00 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Alderman Mike Chalenburg gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Alderman J R Howard. City Clerk Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Aldermen answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, Mary Ann Arnett, JR 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 consider a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add the resolutions for items (10), the authorization to enter into and perform under a professional services agreement for updating the flood-plain study for Deener Creek and Key Branch, and (11), the approval to apply for grant funding for two specified projects at the Searcy Municipal Airport from the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics. These two items were advanced to the regular Council meeting from the agenda meeting that was held on May 8, 2014. The accompanying resolutions were not ready at that time but were to be readied for the regular Council meeting of May 13, 2014. Motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add the resolutions for items (10) and (11). Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular April 8, 2014 meeting of the Council and April 15, 2014 special meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Howard 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 4-30-14: General Fund: \$1,417,862.53; Street Fund \$1,591,532.97; Capital Equipment Fund \$8,255.59; LOPFI Fund \$46,857.00; Act 833 Fund \$18,644.70; Airport Projects Fund \$1,165.71; Special Highway Tax Fund \$8,057,100.92. He also reported a total of \$2,095,744.06 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$36,253.70 from the same time in 2013. The total of all funds (excluding special highway tax fund) is \$3,084,318.50.

Item (6) on the agenda was for the appointment of Ms. Jamie Mobley to fill an unexpired 3-year term position on the Searcy Board of Adjustment. This open position is due to the resignation of Mr. Blake Holzhauser from the Searcy Board of Adjustment and the term for this position is set to expire on October 31, 2015. A motion was made by Mrs. Arnett and seconded by Mr. Brewer to appoint Ms. Jamie Mobley to the unexpired 3-year term position on the Searcy Board of Adjustment, with the term set to expire on October 31,

2015. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard.

Item (7) was for the review and approval of bids for the purchase of certain city equipment, identified as a tractor with loader and 15-foot bat-wing mower and an excavator with a rake/grapple style attachment. The bid tabulation sheets for both items of equipment had been presented to the Council, which showed five (5) bids received for each piece of equipment. Mayor Morris noted, and was confirmed by City Engineer Mark Lane, that the bids that were received for each piece of equipment met the specifications required for each piece of equipment. The five bids for the tractor/loader with mower were as follows:

1. Venture Equipment: New Holland T4. 105 with 655TL Loader and Woods BW180X mower - \$65,344.00
2. Venture Equipment: New Holland T4. 105 with 655TL Loader and Woods BW180XHD mower - \$69,859.00
3. Greenway Equipment: John Deere 6105D with JD H260 Loader and JD CX15 Flexwing mower - \$72,316.28
4. Greenway Equipment: John Deere 5100E with JD H260 Loader and JD HX15 Flexwing mower - \$66,242.48
5. Henard Utility: Kubota M9960 with LA1353 Loader and Landpride RC 3615 Cutter - \$57,900.00

Mayor Morris explained that, per discussion with the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, the mower will need to have sales tax included in the purchase price. He recommended to the Council that the low bid from Henard Utility be accepted for the purchase of the tractor/loader with mower. Mayor Morris noted that Henard did not break out the cost of the mower from the total cost of the tractor/loader with mower, but that Henard would be requested to separate the cost of the mower in order to include the applicable sales tax charge. Motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to accept the bid from Henard Utility for the purchase of the tractor/loader with mower. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

The five bids that were received for the excavator with rake/grapple attachment were as follows:

1. J. A. Riggs: Caterpillar 320E with Cat grapple - \$185,216.64
2. J. A. Riggs: Caterpillar 320E with Rockland EX Rake - \$188,850.62
3. Stribling Equipment: John Deere 210 G LC with Solesbee SGR-3 Rake - \$171,500.00
4. H&E Equipment: Komatsu PC210LC-10 with Solesbee SGR-3 Rake - \$180,286.00
5. Hugg & Hall: Volvo EC220 with Solesbee SGR-3 Rake - \$176,541.00

Mayor Morris recommended to the Council that the low bid from Stribling Equipment be accepted for the purchase of the excavator with rake/grapple attachment. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to accept the bid from Stribling Equipment for the purchase of the excavator with rake/grapple attachment. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (8) on the agenda was for the review and approval of bids for the short-term (five years) financing rate for the equipment purchases (tractor/loader with mower and excavator with rake/grapple attachment) that were approved in the previous agenda item (7). The eight bids for the short-term (five years) financing rate for the equipment purchases were as follows: [note: the stated finance rate is applicable to both the tractor/loader with mower and the excavator with rake/grapple attachment]

1. Bancorp South (five years): 2.19%
2. Southern Bank (five years): 3.75%
3. Bank of Augusta (five years): 3.75%
4. Simmons Bank (five years): 2.17%
5. Simmons Bank (three years): 1.94%
6. Regions Bank (five years): 1.89%
7. Komatsu (five years): 3.99%
8. First Security Bank (five years): 2.25%

Mayor Morris recommended to the Council that the low bid from Regions Bank for the finance rate for the purchase of stated equipment (tractor and excavator) be accepted. City Attorney Gibson advised that separate motions and roll call votes be taken for the finance rate bids for each piece of equipment. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Howard to accept the low bid of a 1.89% finance rate from Regions Bank for the purchase of the excavator with rake/grapple attachment. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney.

Mayor Morris then made the recommendation that the Council accept the low bid of a 1.89% finance rate from Regions Bank for the purchase of the tractor/loader with mower. Motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to accept the low bid of a 1.89% finance rate from Regions Bank for the purchase of the tractor/loader with mower. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer.

Item (9) on the agenda was for the discussion of a process to be used in the selection of the architectural/engineering firm or firms for city projects. City Engineer Mark Lane supplied the Council members with two forms that could be used to help in the selection process: 1) Evaluation criteria for procurement of engineers and architects and 2) Reference check for architectural/engineering firms. A total of twenty-seven (27) responses were received by the City of Searcy from the advertisement for Request for

Qualifications (RFQ) for a city project or projects. The question was raised as to how many firms it should be narrowed down to. Mr. Raney suggested that since the Council has requested to be given until the June 5, 2014 agenda meeting in order to review all of the RFQ's, a definitive number may not need to be decided upon at this time. He stated that as the RFQ's are reviewed, it may become apparent as to which firm or firms present the most desirable qualifications. At that point it could then be decided as to the number of firms to be considered for interviewing.

Item (10) was a resolution to give authorization to enter into and perform under a professional services agreement to update the flood-plain study for Deener Creek and Key Branch. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Mayor Morris pointed out that the appropriation for the expenditures for this update to the flood-plain study have already been included in the City of Searcy 2014 budget in the Engineering department. A motion was made by Mr. Howard and seconded by Mr. Raney to approve the resolution giving the authorization to enter into and perform under a professional services agreement to update the flood-plain study for Deener Creek and Key Branch. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. **Resolution 2014-05**

Item (11) was a resolution authorizing the application for grant funding for specified projects at the Searcy Municipal Airport from the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics (ADA), as recommended by the Searcy Airport Commission. There are two (2) projects recommended that have ADA grant funding available: 1) erosion control at the airport and the installation of utilities for the south hangar development area (90% - 10% state/local) and 2) filling in of a low area and drainage work in the south hangar development area (80% - 20% state/local). Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. **Resolution 2014-06**

Item (12) was a resolution authorizing the application for grant funding for a specified project at the Searcy Municipal Airport from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as recommended by the Searcy Airport Commission. This project includes the construction of a hangar area access road, runway apron drainage improvements, and repair to a crack in the north end of the runway (90% - 10% federal/local). Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Howard to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. **Resolution 2014-07**

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Raney asked to be excused from the meeting due to a commitment that he needed to tend to.

Item (13) was a resolution establishing a policy defining fixed assets and procedures for completing a capital asset schedule. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. **Resolution 2014-08**

Item (14) was a resolution amending the City of Searcy future land use plan pertaining to property located on East Lincoln Avenue as recommended by the Searcy Planning Commission. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. **Resolution 2014-09**

Item (15) on the agenda was an ordinance changing the zoning classification (re-zone) of property located at 407 East Lincoln Avenue from I-1 (Industrial) to C-4 (Community Commercial) as recommended by the Searcy Planning Commission. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Howard, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. English, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Brewer. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Brewer, and Chalenburg. **Ordinance 2014-10**

Item (16) 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 \$60,000.00 from unappropriated General fund reserves to LOPFI fund ‘TRANSFER FROM GENERAL’ revenue account (#05 4-000-80-02), and appropriate \$60,000.00 to General fund ‘TRANSFER TO LOPFI’ expenditure account (#01 5-190-05-14): [to satisfy LOPFI obligation payable in June 2014];

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

- a. \$26,011.70 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- b. \$28,670.82 to Henard Utility Products for parts for the ‘Beast’ grinder at the Compost Center;

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

**Ordinance 2014-11**

The Mayor announced:

- The 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Convention of the Arkansas Municipal League will be held June 18-20, 2014 in Little Rock, Arkansas

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: June 10, 2014

/s/ David Morris  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris  
CITY CLERK

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