

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, February 10, 2015 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Mark Ferren, Children’s Pastor of the Searcy First Assembly of God Church gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Boy Scout Troop #96. 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, and Mike Chalenburg. Not present was Alderman Dale Brewer. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson.

Item (4) on the agenda was for a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add items: (13) a resolution granting a franchise for the operation of an ambulance service, and (14) an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances concerning ambulance services. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add the new items. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular January 13, 2015 meeting of the Council and the called special Council meetings of January 27, 2015 and January 29, 2015 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, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 1-31-15: General Fund: \$1,443,449.48; Street Fund \$710,951.89; Capital Equipment Fund \$22,277.29; LOPFI Fund \$14,923.81; Act 833 Fund \$132,345.91; Airport Projects Fund \$1,174.71; Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$8,079,885.93; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$2,147,244.21. He also reported a total of \$524,396.07 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$14,764.53 from the same time in 2014. The total of all funds (excluding the Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund and the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund) is \$2,325,123.09.

Item (7) on the agenda was for the authorization for Morrison-Shipley Engineers, Inc. to begin plans for the replacement of the bridge over Deener Creek on North Main Street. It was noted by City Engineer Mark Lane that the bridge had been struck in a vehicle accident and work was going to be required. He also noted that the bridge replacement project could be funded either through the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund or, since Main Street improvements were called for in the Special 1% Connector Route Tax Fund, through the Special 1% Connector Route Tax Fund. At this time authorization for beginning the planning of replacement of the bridge is what is being sought. Motion was made by Mr. English and seconded by Mr. Sterling to authorize Morrison-Shipley Engineers, Inc. to begin plans for the replacement of the bridge over Deener Creek on

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

Item (8) was for the authorization to solicit bids for repairing the currently city-owned street sweeper. It was noted that, although the purchase of a new street sweeper was included in the 2014 Eight Year Plan, the cost of a new street sweeper was more than was allocated. With this in mind it was recommended by the City Engineer and the Street Department that the current street sweeper could be repaired at a substantial cost savings. City Engineer stated that the body and sweeper equipment were wore out but that the chassis and drivetrain only had approximately 35,000 miles on it and were in good shape. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to proceed with the solicitation of bids for repairing the currently owned street sweeper. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

Item (9) on the agenda was a request by the Code Enforcement department to increase the work schedule of the Plan Review Inspector from three (3) days per week to five (5) days per week due to the additional duties required for Energy Code inspection, which would be performed by the person in this position. It was noted that the increase in the work schedule was included in the 2015 budget. Motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the request by the Code Enforcement department to increase the work schedule of the Plan Review Inspector from three (3) days per week to five (5) days per week due to the additional duties required for Energy Code inspection. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (10) was for the authorization to allow ETC Engineering to begin the designing of an indoor swimming pool facility. ETC Engineering was the firm that was selected to design and administer the construction of a new swimming pool facility as included in the 2014 Eight Year Plan (Resolution 2014-15). A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to authorize ETC Engineering to begin the designing of an indoor swimming pool facility. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney.

Item (11) was a resolution to authorize the execution and performance of an agreement between the City of Searcy and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality regarding the Contracts of Obligation (COB) for clean-up/closure security for the Transfer Station and the Compost Center. The purpose of this resolution was for the combining of the three (3) previous COB’s for the Compost Center (in the amounts of \$25,000.00, \$26,000.00, and \$54,000.00 for a total of \$105,000.00 – Permit No. 0031-STSW) and the separate COB in the amount of \$36,000.00 for the Transfer Station (Permit No. 0009-SWYW), resulting in two (2) Contracts of Obligation. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to approve the resolution to authorize the execution and performance of an agreement between the City of Searcy and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality regarding the Contracts of Obligation for clean-up/closure security for the

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Transfer Station and the Compost Center. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Chalenburg.

Resolution 2015-03

Item (12) was a resolution authorizing the execution and performance of an agreement between the City of Searcy and the Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation for access and cooperation for conducting a development study of Riverside Park. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. **Resolution 2015-04**

Even though item (13) on the agenda was a resolution for granting a franchise for the operation of an ambulance service within the city limits of the City of Searcy, it was suggested by City Attorney Buck Gibson that it would be appropriate to consider item (14) on the agenda first. Item (14) was an ordinance that amends Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances concerning ambulance services.

Item (14) on the agenda was an ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances concerning ambulance services. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. 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”: Sterling, English, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. English, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. **Ordinance 2015-06**

Item (13) was a resolution granting a franchise for the operation of an ambulance service within the city limits of the City of Searcy to Northstar EMS, Inc. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Sterling to approve the resolution granting a franchise for the operation of an ambulance service within the city limits of the City of Searcy to Northstar EMS, Inc. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. **Resolution 2015-05**

Item (15) 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 \$29,732.80 from 2014 Eight Year Plan fund unappropriated reserves to ‘COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE STUDY’ expenditure account (14 5-130-06-01) for professional services rendered by Morrison

- Shipley Engineers Inc. regarding Searcy Drainage Master Plan;
- b. Appropriate \$50,000.00 to General Fund 'GIF-RIVERSIDE PARK PLAN & DESIGN' revenue account (01 4-000-97-02) for the receipt of grant distribution from White River Planning and Development District and appropriate \$50,000.00 to Parks and Recreation department 'GIF-RIVERSIDE PARK PLAN & DESIGN' expenditure account (01 5-080-56-09) for expenditure of said funds;
- c. Appropriate \$100,000.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'TRANSFER TO LOPFI FUND' expenditure account (14 5-190-05-04) and appropriate \$100,000.00 to 'TRANSFER FROM 2014 EIGHT YEAR PLAN FUND' revenue account (05 4-000-80-12) in the LOPFI Fund;

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

- a. \$12,794.76 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- b. \$29,732.80 to Morrison – Shipley Engineers Inc. for drainage master plan professional services (14 5-130-06-01);
- c. \$13,153.41 to Hoffmann Architectural Inc. for architectural services regarding Library HVAC project (14 5-020-02-01);
- d. \$13,364.11 to Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for engineering services portion of invoice #3 of Airport FAA 90/10 grant for access road, subsurface drains, and runway crack repair (14 5-040-56-02);
- e. \$147,396.83 to Red Stone Construction, Inc. for construction portion of invoice #3 of Airport FAA 90/10 grant for access road, subsurface drains, and runway crack repair (14 5-040-56-02);
- f. \$50,000.00 for expenditures on the Riverside Park Plan and Design project (01 5-080-56-06);
- g. \$23,745.00 for expenditures of funds received from GIF Grant on the new City Hall roof (01 5-010-56-06);

- h. \$8,561.00 for expenditures of funds received from GIF Grant for Lightle Center building repairs/improvements (01 5-010-56-05);

A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. English, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Chalenburg. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Howard, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.
Ordinance 2015-07

The Mayor announced:

- The City Hall roofing project that is funded by a General Improvement Fund grant is underway and that there should be enough funding to also replace the shutters on the building’s windows
- A reception honoring State Senate President Pro Tem Jonathan Dismang and House Speaker Jeremy Gilliam was held on February 10, 2015 at the Association of Arkansas Counties

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: March 12, 2015

/s/ David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK

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