

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Alderman Dale Brewer 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.

The minutes of the regular February 10, 2015 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Arnett and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 2-28-15: General Fund: \$1,512,570.27; Street Fund \$765,915.10; Capital Equipment Fund \$22,286.75; LOPFI Fund \$124,702.33; Act 833 Fund \$123,654.42; Airport Projects Fund \$1,175.68; Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$8,084,071.98; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$2,278,601.11. He also reported a total of \$1,095,377.42 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$43,433.68 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 \$2,550,304.55.

Item (5) on the agenda was the quarterly Economic Development Report from the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation, presented by Mr. Buck Layne of the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Item (6) was a report from Alderman Mike Chalenburg on the funding status of the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund. Mr. Chalenburg had made the report to the Council at the pre-council agenda meeting that was held on March 10, 2015.

Item (7) was for the possible selection of project(s)/request(s) for funding that had been presented to the Council at the March 10, 2015 pre-council agenda meeting for consideration for funding in the 2014 Eight Year Plan Reserve and Opportunity Fund. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to call a Committee of the Whole meeting for the purpose of further discussion regarding the possible selection of project(s)/request(s) for funding in the 2014 Eight Year Plan Reserve and Opportunity Fund, with a special called Council meeting following immediately if any action(s) are to be taken. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

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Item (8) on the agenda was for the authorization of the award of a contract in the amount of a negotiated bid of \$98,706.50 to Wyatt Contracting of Pineville, Arkansas for the erosion control portion of the currently in progress 90/10 Arkansas Department of Aeronautics (ADA) erosion control/utilities grant project. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Sterling to accept and award the contract to Wyatt Contracting for the erosion control portion of the ADA grant project. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard.

Item (9) was for the selection of three (3) firms and the ranking of these three firms to enter into negotiations for a contract for the study and design of a master plan for Riverside Park. This study and design is funded by a General Improvement Fund (GIF) grant. A total of eleven (11) Statements of Qualifications were received in the advertised Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and copies of these statements were distributed to each Council member. Statements of Qualification were received from:

- Calhoun Steilling/Dahloff Thomas Design Studio/Pickering Firm
- Civil Engineering Associates
- Crafton Tull
- ETC Engineering
- Fennel/Purifoy Architects
- Marlar Engineering
- Planning Design Group/Morrison-Shipley Engineers
- Ritchie Smith/McClelland Engineers/John Harrison Jones Architects
- Terracon
- Whitlow Engineering Services
- Wittenberg Delony & Davidson Architects

The three firms that were chosen, and the order in which to begin negotiation with was:

1. Whitlow Engineering Services
2. Planning Design Group/Morrison-Shipley Engineers
3. Crafton Tull

A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg for the selection of Whitlow Engineering Services, Planning Design Group/Morrison-Shipley Engineers, and Crafton Tull as the preferred firms and to begin negotiations with Whitlow Engineering Services for the contract for the Riverside Park master plan study. If a satisfactory negotiation of a contract is not achieved with Whitlow Engineering Services, the negotiation would proceed with Planning Design Group/Morrison-Shipley Engineers and then, if necessary, to Crafton Tull. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

Item (10) on the agenda was for the approval/selection of bid(s) that were received for repairs to the currently city-owned street sweeper. Two (2) bids were received for the repairs needed for the street sweeper. These bids were as follows:

1. Scruggs Equipment, Memphis, TN - \$59,685.32
2. Lacial Equipment, Jackson Center, OH - \$55,857.53

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City Engineer Mark Lane explained that the bid from Scruggs Equipment was for original equipment (OEM) and that this firm would come and inspect the installation of the repair equipment when completed. He also stated that the bid from Lacal Equipment was for after-market equipment and did not include the inspection support. Mr. Lane stated that his recommendation is to accept the higher bid of Scruggs Equipment because of the fact that original equipment would be identical to what was originally on the sweeper when purchased, the support that is provided, the proximity of the firm in case service is needed, and also that this is the firm from which the sweeper was originally purchased from. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to accept the bid from Scruggs Equipment in the amount of \$59,685.32 for the repair of the city-owned street sweeper. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (11) was for the approval to proceed with the design and plans for certain projects called for in the 2014 Eight Year Plan. These projects were as follows:

- Youth football concessions
- Information Technology building
- Fire Station 2 replacement

A motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to proceed with the design and planning for the three afore mentioned projects called for in the 2014 Eight Year Plan. Motion passed with the following voting "yes": Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney.

Item (12) on the agenda was for the approval of a request from Searcy Fire Department Chief Bill Baldrige to use the proceeds that will be received from the sale of land located at the Searcy Fire Training Property to the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) for the installation of a fire hydrant and water line, construction of a concrete pad, and relocation of the existing fence. This parcel of land is needed by the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department for the North Bypass project (AHTD Job #050251) and the authorization for the transfer of interest in this property to the AHTD was made by Resolution 2015-02. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the request for use of the land sale proceeds for the stated reasons. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer.

Item (13) was for the authorization to open a new bank account dedicated to the transactions that will be required for the establishment of a city-owned fiber optic network. Funding for this account will consist of the proceeds of the promissory note authorized in Ordinance 2015-09, the monies allocated to the fiber optic network in the 2014 Eight Year Plan, and the franchise tax revenue received from White County Video, Inc. for the duration of the promissory note. Transactions to be paid from this account will be the costs related to the construction of the city-owned fiber optic network, note payments on the promissory note, and leasing fees that will have to be paid to White County Video, Inc. for the use of their fiber optic network lines until the completion of the city-owned fiber optic network. A motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Raney, for the authorization to open this bank account. Motion carried with the

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following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg.

Item (14) was a resolution for the authorization to execute and perform certain agreements, namely two (2) agreements with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality for Contracts of Obligation for the Searcy Compost Center and the Searcy Transfer Station. This resolution also repeals Resolution 2015-03, which had a scrivener’s error that had the permit numbers listed incorrectly, that was adopted by the Searcy City Council at the regular February 10, 2015 meeting. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to approve the authorization to execute and perform certain agreements, namely two (2) agreements with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality for Contracts of Obligation for the Searcy Compost Center and the Searcy Transfer Station. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. **Resolution 2015-06**

Item (15) was a resolution for the authorization to execute and perform an agreement with Main Street Searcy for the betterment of the downtown merchants and the City of Searcy as a whole. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg and seconded by Mr. Sterling to pass the resolution for the authorization to execute and perform an agreement with Main Street Searcy for the betterment of the downtown merchants and the City of Searcy as a whole. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. **Resolution 2015-07**

Item (16) was a resolution for the authorization to enter into an agreement with Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for professional services concerning an Arkansas Department of Aeronautics grant project for fill and installation of drainage improvements in the hangar development area at the Searcy Municipal Airport. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to approve the authorization to enter into an agreement with Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for professional services concerning an Arkansas Department of Aeronautics grant project for fill and installation of drainage improvements in the hangar development area at the Searcy Municipal Airport. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. **Resolution 2015-08**

Item (17) was a resolution for the authorization to enter into an agreement with Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for professional services concerning a Federal Aviation Administration grant project (AIP# 3-05-0057-022-2015) for repairs to wide cracks in the runway at the Searcy Municipal Airport. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the authorization to enter into an agreement with Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for professional services concerning an Federal Aviation Administration grant project (AIP# 3-05-0057-022-2015) for repairs to wide cracks in the runway at the Searcy Municipal Airport. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. **Resolution 2015-09**

Item (18) was a resolution for the authorization to apply for a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration for the repairs to cracks in the runway at the Searcy Municipal Airport. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to approve the authorization to apply for a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration for the repairs to cracks in the runway at the Searcy Municipal Airport. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. **Resolution 2015-10**

Item (19) on the agenda was an ordinance for the re-zone of real property located at the intersection of Nassau Lane and Moore Street from C-3 (Neighborhood Commercial), UT (Urban Transitional), and PD (Planned Development) to a revised PD (Planned Development), as recommended by the Searcy Planning Commission. 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”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Howard, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Howard, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. **Ordinance 2015-08**

Item (20) on the agenda was an ordinance for the authorization for the issuance of promissory note for the establishment of a city-owned fiber optic network. 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”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. 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”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. **Ordinance 2015-09**

Item (21) on the agenda was a budget ordinance to make year-end adjustments for calendar year 2014. 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”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Raney, to adopt the

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emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. **Ordinance 2015-10**

Item (22) 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 \$1,000.00 to the General Fund ‘OTHER MISCELLANEOUS’ revenue account (#01 4-000-80-04), and appropriate \$1,000.00 to Fire Department ‘EQUIPMENT’ expenditure account (01 5-070-05-01) for receipt and use of rebate on purchase of water heaters for the Fire Department;
- b. Appropriate \$100.00 to the General Fund ‘SALES OF PROPERTY’ revenue account (01 4-000-60-03) for receipt of funds from the Arkansas State Highway Commission for the transfer of interest in certain property (portion of Compost Center) needed for the construction of the connector route, Job No. 050251;
- 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;
- d. Appropriate \$237,110.58 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘POLICE VEHICLES’ expenditure account (14 5-060-53-01) for acquisition of vehicles for the Police Department;
- e. Appropriate \$40,455.10 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘TRANSFER TO GENERAL-STAFFING NEEDS’ expenditure account (14 5-190-05-05) and appropriate \$40,455.10 to General Fund ‘TRANSFER FROM 8-YEAR FUND-STAFFING NEEDS’ revenue account (01 4-000-10-16) for salaries and associated costs for one additional Police Patrolman;
- f. Appropriate from General Fund unappropriated reserves for salaries and associated costs for one additional Police Patrolman:

- \$33,466.88 to Police Department ‘SALARIES’ expenditure account (01 5-060-01-01)
- \$2,560.22 to Police Department ‘SS/MEDICARE MATCH’ expenditure account (01 5-060-01-02)
- \$4,428.00 to Police Department ‘HEALTH BENEFIT’ expenditure account (01 5-060-01-03)

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

- a. \$25,945.00 to SHI, for the City of Searcy annual Microsoft licensing agreement invoice (this is a budgeted item in IT ‘SOFTWARE SUPPORT’ expenditure account 01 5-160-05-01);
- b. \$19,195.27 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- c. \$100,000.00 to City of Searcy LOPFI Fund from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund for LOPFI obligation for the month of March 2015;
- d. \$237,110.58 for the acquisition of new Police vehicles;
- e. \$40,455.10 to City of Searcy General Fund from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund for costs associated with one additional Police Patrolman;

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, 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, Raney, and Brewer. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Raney, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. **Ordinance 2015-11**

The Mayor announced:

- A pot-hole reporting hotline has been established – call 501 268-2483 to report pot-holes in city roadways
- The application period for the Airport Manager and the Human Resource Director is now closed – there were 19 applications for the Airport Manager position and 26 applications for the Human Resource Director position

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: April 14, 2015

/s/ David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK

Seal