

**Searcy City Council – Regular Session**  
**Tuesday, April 14, 2015 7:00 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Searcy Fire Chief Bill Baldrige gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by City Attorney Buck Gibson. City Clerk Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Aldermen answering “present”: Mary Ann Arnett, J. R. Howard, Steve Sterling, Dale English, Don Raney, Dale Brewer and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson. Alderman Logan Cothorn was not present.

Item (3) on the agenda was for a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add items: (10) approval and selection of bid for the replacement of the roof on the Searcy Police Department building, (18-1-c) budget ordinance appropriation for an additional \$500.00 received for the ‘Donate a Tree Today’ program, (18-1-m) budget ordinance appropriation of funds received for the Fire Training Facility land sale to the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (for the connector route right-of-way), and (18-2-h) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds received from the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department for the Fire Training Facility right-of-way land sale. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Brewer 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, Brewer, and Chalenburg.

The minutes of the regular March 12, 2015 meeting of the Council and the minutes of the special meetings that were held on March 19, 2015 and April 2, 2015 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the three (3) sets of minutes. The following voted to approve: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Arnett.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 3-31-15: General Fund: \$1,608,730.81; Street Fund \$825,215.09; Capital Equipment Fund \$22,295.30; LOPFI Fund \$133,271.08; Act 833 Fund \$114,948.89; Airport Projects Fund \$1,176.58; Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$8,087,854.88; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$2,795,152.18. He also reported a total of \$1,584,335.17 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$12,862.22 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 \$2,705,637.75.

Mayor Morris asked that, with no objections, the Council proceed to item (16) on the agenda. Item (16) on the agenda was a resolution for the approval for the issuance of refunding revenue bonds by the City of Searcy, Harding University and Harding Place Public Educational and Residential Housing Facilities Board. Attorneys from the Law Firm of Friday, Eldredge, and Clark, LLP, as Bond Counsel, and representatives of

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Stephens Inc. and Crews and Associates, Inc., as Underwriters for the Bonds, had made the trip from Little Rock in order to answer any questions that may arise regarding the issuance of the bonds. Mayor Morris asked the Council to consider addressing this item at this time in order to allow these representatives to make the return trip to Little Rock at an earlier time. No objections were voiced.

Item (16) was a resolution to approve the issuance of refunding revenue bonds by the City of Searcy, Harding University and Harding Place Public Educational and Residential Housing Facilities Board. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. English to approve the issuance of refunding revenue bonds by the City of Searcy, Harding University and Harding Place Public Educational and Residential Housing Facilities Board. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Arnett, and Howard. Mr. Chalenburg abstained from voting. **Resolution 2015-14**

Item (6) on the agenda was for the re-appointment of Mr. Gerald Joyner to a three (3) year term on the Searcy Planning Commission, with the term expiring on February 8, 2018. Item (7) on the agenda was for the re-appointment of Mr. Jim Baugh Jones to a three (3) year term on the Searcy Planning Commission, with the term expiring on February 8, 2018. Item (8) on the agenda was for the re-appointment of Mr. Mike Hutsell to a three (3) year term on the Searcy Planning Commission, with the term expiring on February 8, 2018. Mr. Raney made a motion, noting all three (3) re-appointments were for the Searcy Planning Commission as well as for the same term period, for the re-appointment of Mr. Gerald Joyner, Mr. Jim Baugh Jones, and Mr. Mike Hutsell to the Searcy Planning Commission for a three year term expiring on February 8, 2018. Mr. Chalenburg seconded the motion. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

Item (9) was for the approval to advertise for the solicitation of bids for the purchase of trash containers that are compatible with the operation of the new side-arm Sanitation trucks. Motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Howard, to approve the solicitation of bids for the purchase of trash containers that are compatible with the operation of the new side-arm Sanitation trucks. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (10) on the agenda was for the approval and selection of a bid for the replacement of the roof on the Searcy Police Department building, with the funding for this project coming from the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund. Three bids had been received for the roof replacement:

- Jonesboro Roofing Company, Jonesboro, AR - \$180,600.00
- Quality Roofing of Southeast Missouri, Inc., Senath, MO - \$151,895.00
- Ketcher and Company, Inc., North Little Rock, AR - \$161,000.00

A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Brewer to accept and select the bid of \$151,895.00 from Quality Roofing of Southeast Missouri, for the replacement of the roof on the Searcy Police Department building. Motion passed with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney.

Item (11) on the agenda was for the further discussion regarding the preliminary plans for the new swimming pool as had been presented by ETC Engineering, Inc. Mayor Morris noted that the preliminary plans for the new swimming pool had been presented to the Council at the pre-council agenda that was held on April 9, 2015. He also noted that some changes to the plans had been suggested and that those changes would be incorporated into the plans. A public input come-and-go meeting was scheduled for April 28, 2015 at the Carmichael Community Center from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Revised plans for the new swimming pool will be displayed for public viewing and forms for comments/suggestions will be available.

Item (12) was a request from the Community Action Program of Central Arkansas (CAPCA) Headstart Center for an extension of the lease of the city-owned building located on North Moss Street. Mayor Morris noted that he had been instructed by the Council to contact the administration of the CAPCA program to discuss the amending of the lease, with the new terms of the lease being on a month to month basis. Mayor Morris informed the Council that he had been in contact with the CAPCA administration and had told them that the City of Searcy was looking at the possibility of using this city-owned property for other purposes in the near future, therefore causing the need for an amended lease agreement. Mayor Morris also stated that he had informed the CAPCA administration that the City wanted the program to remain because of the importance of their program. City Attorney Buck Gibson stated that there was a correlation, involving the same piece of city-owned property, between item (12) on the agenda (the request from CAPCA for an extension of the lease of the city-owned building located on North Moss Street) and item (14) on the agenda (a request by the Searcy Public Library Advisory Board for the use of certain city property located on North Moss Street for the construction of a new library facility). With the instruction from the Council concerning the amendment of the lease to CAPCA and the request by the Searcy Public Library Advisory Board for the use of certain city property for the construction of a new library facility, Mr. Gibson had prepared a resolution that addresses both item (12) and item (14).

Item (14) on the agenda was resolution authorizing the termination of the CAPCA lease agreement and for declaring the intent of the City of Searcy to use certain real property for the benefit of the White County Library System. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Howard to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer. **Resolution 2015-15**

Item (13) on the agenda was a contract between the City of Searcy and the Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation (SREDC) to provide the Holiday of Lights. Mayor Morris stated that he and City Attorney Buck Gibson have been in contact with the SREDC concerning the drafting of this contract but at this time has not been finalized. Mr. Gibson stated that there were some issues that needed to be resolved and that a contract could possibly be ready for the May 2015 regular Council meeting.

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Item (15) was a resolution for the authorization to execute and perform certain agreements with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) for Contracts of Obligation for the Transfer Station and the Compost Center. This resolution was necessary because of an incorrect clean-up/closure security amount for the Transfer Station had been supplied by the ADEQ and included in the previous resolution (Resolution 2015-06) that was passed by the Council on March 12, 2015. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Brewer to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. **Resolution 2015-16**

Item (17) on the agenda was an ordinance for changing the zoning classification of real property located at 507 Dr. Jimmy Carr Drive from C-2 (Neighborhood Commercial) to C-4 (Community Commercial) as recommended by the Searcy Planning Commission. 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”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Arnett. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Arnett, and Howard. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. **Ordinance 2015-13**

Item (18) 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 \$150,000.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘HOLIDAY OF LIGHTS/SEARCY BEAUTIFICATION’ expenditure account (14 5-500-05-06) for authorized expenditures from the 2014 Eight Year Plan Reserve and Opportunity Fund;
- b. Appropriate \$110.20 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘SIDE-ARM SANITATION TRUCKS’ expenditure account (14 5-090-53-01) for advertisement for bids;
- c. Appropriate \$1,000.00 to General Fund ‘OTHER DONATIONS’ revenue account (01 4-000-90-12) and appropriate \$1,000.00 to ‘TREE BOARD’ expenditure account for four donations received for the Searcy Tree Board’s Donate A Tree Today program;
- d. Appropriate \$107.30 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated

- reserves to 'STREET SWEEPER' expenditure account (14 5-900-53-01) for advertisement for bids;
- e. Appropriate \$1,917.40 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE STUDY' expenditure account (14 5-130-06-01) for professional services provided by Morrison-Shipley Engineers, Inc. regarding the drainage master plan;
  - f. Appropriate \$7,279.80 from the Special 1% Connector Route Fund unappropriated reserves to 'MAIN STREET DEENER CREEK BRIDGE' expenditure account (13 5-900-54-01) for design and engineering fee;
  - g. Appropriate \$2,500.00 from the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'FIRE STATION 2 RELOCATION' expenditure account (14 5-070-54-01) for retainer and design fee for Fire Station 2 relocation;
  - h. Appropriate \$2,500.00 from the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION' expenditure account (14 5-160-54-01) for retainer and design fee for the Information Technology Building construction;
  - i. Appropriate \$1,783.00 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to Mayor Department "REPAIRS AMERICAN LEGION HUT" expenditure account (01 5-010-05-21) for matching funds for Main Street Searcy to receive a grant for repairs to the American Legion Hut;
  - j. Appropriate \$7,500.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan unappropriated reserves to 'COUNTRY CLUB ROAD IMPROVEMENTS' expenditure account (14 5-900-54-01) for topographical survey work;
  - k. Transfer \$3,000.00 from Sanitation Department 'SUPPLIES' expenditure account (01 5-090-02-05) to Sanitation Department 'SERVICE/REPAIRS' expenditure account (01 5-090-03-01) for a tarp system for the roll-off truck that is used for transporting 40-yard bins;
  - l. Transfer \$3,000.00 from Sanitation Department 'SUPPLIES/TUB GRINDER' expenditure account (01 5-090-02-16) to Sanitation

Department 'SERVICE/REPAIRS' expenditure account (01 5-090-03-01) for a tarp system for the roll-off truck that is used for transporting 40-yard bins;

- m. Appropriate \$20,550.00 to the General Fund 'SALES OF PROPERTY' revenue account (01 4-000-60-03) and appropriate \$20,550.00 to the Fire Department 'GROUNDS MAINTENANCE' expenditure account (01 5-070-02-06) for receipt and use of proceeds that were received from the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department for the sale of land at the Fire Training Facility that was needed for the connector route (AHTD Job #050251);

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

- a. \$18,254.57 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- b. \$150,000.00 to the Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation for expenditures authorized for Holiday of Lights/Searcy Beautification;
- c. \$1,917.40 to Morrison-ShIPLEY Engineers, Inc. for professional services regarding the drainage master plan;
- d. \$7,279.80 to Morrison-ShIPLEY Engineers, Inc. for design and engineering fee for the Main Street Deener Creek Bridge;
- e. \$2,500.00 to Hoffmann Architectural, Inc. for retainer and design fee for the relocation of Fire Station 2;
- f. \$2,500.00 to Hoffmann Architectural, Inc. for retainer and design fee for the Information Technology Building construction;
- g. \$7,500.00 to ETC Engineers and Architects, Inc. for topographical survey work on Country Club Road;
- h. \$20,550.00 for the relocation of the fence, installation of a hydrant and water line, and concrete pad construction at the Fire Training Facility using funds received from sale of land;

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": Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by

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Mr. Howard, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer.

**Ordinance 2015-14**

The Mayor announced:

- 14 applications have been submitted for the vacant Searcy Chief of Police position
- A new agreement concerning an additional School Resource Officer has been negotiated with the Searcy Public Schools

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: May 12, 2015

/s/ David Morris  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris  
CITY CLERK

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