

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, December 13, 2016 6:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Karl McLarty, Pastor of the Cloverdale Church of Christ gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Buck Layne, President of the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce. 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, Dale Brewer and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson. Alderman Don Raney was not present.

Item (3) on the agenda was for a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add items: (17-1-h) budget ordinance appropriation for opening and sustaining an account balance for the new swimming facility bank account, (17-1-i) budget ordinance appropriation for the receipt of new swimming facility loan proceeds and payment of current construction services invoice, (17-1-j) budget ordinance appropriation for additional flowers for the Downtown Beautification Project, (17-1-k) budget ordinance appropriation for the purchase of refurbished hand-held radar units, and (17-2-f) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for additional flowers for the Downtown Beautification Project. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Howard to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add the items. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular November 8, 2016 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Sterling to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Howard, Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 11-30-16: General Fund: \$1,155,415.62; Street Fund \$1,052,553.78; Capital Equipment Fund \$22,482.41; LOPFI Fund \$169,384.20; Act 833 Fund \$25,828.48; Airport Fund \$100,001.37; Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$4,257,824.22; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$5,588,183.02; Information Technology Projects Fund \$43,785.10; Special Projects Fund \$2,503.48. He also reported a total of \$5,595,364.75 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$60,034.05 from the same time in 2015. The total of all funds (excluding the Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund, the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund, the Information Technology Projects Fund, and the Special Projects Fund) is \$2,525,665.86.

Item (6) 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 Buck Layne of the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce.

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Item (7) on the agenda was for the reappointment of Steve Lightle to the Searcy Board of Public Utilities to a 5-year term, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2021. A motion was made by Mr. English, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to reappoint Steve Lightle to the Searcy Board of Public Utilities to a 5-year term, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2021. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard.

Item (8) on the agenda was for the reappointment of Windle Henry and Nancy Showalter to the Searcy Airport Commission to 5-year terms, with the terms set to expire on December 31, 2021. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to reappoint Windle Henry and Nancy Showalter to the Searcy Airport Commission to 5-year terms, with the terms set to expire on December 31, 2021. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

Item (9) was for the appointment of J R Thomas to the Searcy Airport Commission for a 5-year term, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2021. A motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to appoint J R Thomas to the Searcy Airport Commission for a 5-year term, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2021. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (10) on the agenda was for the reappointment of Richard Stafford, Tom Webb, and Steve Saunders to the Searcy Tree Board for 3-year terms, with the terms set to expire on December 31, 2019. A motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to reappoint Richard Stafford, Tom Webb, and Steve Saunders to the Searcy Tree Board for 3-year terms, with the terms set to expire on December 31, 2019. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Brewer.

Item (11) on the agenda was for the reappointment of Dianne Hutsell to the Searcy Library Board to a 6-year term, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to reappoint Dianne Hutsell to the Searcy Library Board to a 6-year term, with the term set to expire on December 31, 2022. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Brewer, and Chalenburg.

Item (12) was for the authorization to implement the 2% employee Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) beginning with the pay period that begins on December 25, 2016. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to authorize the implementation of the 2% employee Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) beginning with the pay period that begins on December 25, 2016. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

Item (13) on the agenda was the presentation of the bids that were received for the construction of the new Fire Station 2 by Architect Barry Hoffmann. Mayor Morris

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noted that the bid opening had been conducted on this very day (December 13, 2016) and that action regarding the approval/selection of a bid was not on the agenda for this meeting. This information was being supplied at this time in order for the Council to have time to study the bids for a decision at a future meeting.

Item (14) was for the approval and selection of a bid for the Williams Addition/Chrisp Avenue drainage project. Bids were received regarding different options for this project. The different options were as follows:

- Open drainage on the south side of Chrisp Avenue to the pond as well as open drainage on the north side of Chrisp Avenue to Gin Creek
- Enclosed drainage on the south side of Chrisp Avenue to the pond and open drainage on the north side of Chrisp Avenue to Gin Creek
- Enclosed completely on both the south side of Chrisp Avenue to the pond and the north side of Chrisp Avenue to Gin Creek

Discussion was had involving possible ways to save on the cost of the project. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to table the approval of a bid for the Williams Addition/Chrisp Avenue drainage project pending further study and discussion. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

Item (15) was a resolution for the authorization to enter and perform under the terms of a professional services agreement for the design of the proposed new library facility, with Sapp Design Associates Architects. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the resolution for the authorization to enter and perform under the terms of a professional services agreement for the design of the proposed new library facility, with Sapp Design Associates Architects. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. **Resolution 2016-34**

Item (16) on the agenda was an ordinance authorizing repair services to a piece of city-owned equipment by an employee of the City of Searcy. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. 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”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Brewer. **Ordinance 2016-35**

Item (17) 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 \$5,332.18 from 2014 Eight Year Plan unappropriated reserves

- to 'FIRE STATION 2 RELOCATION' expenditure account (#14 5-070-54-01) for architectural services on Fire Station 2 relocation;
- b. Appropriate \$1,715.29 from 2014 Eight Year Plan unappropriated reserves to 'WILLIAMS ADDITION DRAINAGE' expenditure account (#14 5-130-05-01) for Williams Addition (Chrisp Avenue) drainage engineering services;
 - c. Appropriate \$4,000.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan unappropriated reserves to 'COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE STUDY' expenditure account (#14 5-130-06-01) for comprehensive drainage engineering services;
 - d. Appropriate \$110,000.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'TRANSFER TO LOPFI FUND' expenditure account (#14 5-190-05-04);
 - e. Appropriate \$4,675.00 to General Fund 'SKATE RINK GATE' revenue account (#01 4-000-31-34) and appropriate \$4,675.00 to Parks and Recreation Department 'CENTER PROGRAMS' expenditure account (#01 5-081-05-02) for receipt of skating rink fees and payment of staffing;
 - f. Appropriate \$375.92 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to 'RIALTO THEATER' expenditure account (#01 5-010-54-07);
 - g. Appropriate \$2,000.00 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to Mayor's Department 'BUILDING MAINTENANCE/REPAIRS' expenditure account (#01 5-010-02-01);
 - h. Appropriate \$100.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'ROF-TRANSFER TO 2016 SWIM FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND' expenditure account (#14 5-500-05-12) and appropriate \$100.00 to 2016 Swimming Facility Improvement Fund 'TRANSFER FROM 2014 EIGHT YEAR PLAN FUND' revenue account (#17 4-000-80-01) for opening and sustaining an account balance in the new swimming pool facility financing bank account;
 - i. Appropriate \$1,059,140.00 to 2016 Swimming Facility Improvement Fund 'CONSTRUCTION LOAN PROCEEDS' revenue account (#17 4-000-91-01) and appropriate \$1,059,140.00 to 2016 Swimming Facility

Improvement Fund 'POOL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION' expenditure account (#17 5-085-54-01) for the first draw on the construction financing loan and payment of invoice on the construction services;

- j. Appropriate \$4,225.00 to General Fund 'DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION DONATIONS' revenue account (#01 4-000-90-25) and appropriate \$4,225.00 to Parks and Recreation Department 'DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION AND PARKING LOT MAINTENANCE' expenditure account (#01 5-080-02-15) for additional flowers for the Downtown Beautification Project;
- k. Appropriate \$975.88 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Police Department 'EQUIPMENT' expenditure account (#01 5-060-03-03) for the purchase of refurbished hand held radar units, these funds came from the sale of a retired 2003 Ford Crown Victoria Police vehicle;

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

- a. \$17,572.22 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- b. \$5,332.18 to Hoffmann Architectural Inc. for architectural services on Fire Station 2 relocation (#14 5-070-54-01);
- c. \$1,715.29 to Morrison – Shipley Engineers Inc. for Williams Addition (Chrisp Avenue) drainage engineering services (#14 5-130-05-01);
- d. \$4,000.00 to Thomas F. Black, P.E. (Flood Plain Services) for comprehensive drainage engineering services (#14 5-130-06-01);
- e. \$1,059,140.00 to Hydco, Inc. for construction on swimming pool complex (#17 5-085-54-01);
- f. \$4,225.00 to Vest Exteriors Inc. for additional flowers for the Downtown Beautification Project (#01 5-080-02-15);

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

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made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. **Ordinance 2016-36**

The Mayor announced:

- Closing on the financing agreement on the loan for the construction of the new swimming pool complex will be at 10:00 a.m. on December 15, 2016 at City Hall
- City offices will be closed for the Christmas Holidays on December 23-26, 2016
- Campaign Contribution and Expenditure Report is due at the County Clerk’s office no later than December 31, 2016
- City offices will be closed for the New Year’s Holiday on Monday, January 2, 2017
- The Swearing-in Ceremony for members of the Searcy City Council will be on January 5, 2017 at 5:45 p.m., prior to the beginning of the pre-council agenda meeting
- The City of Searcy has been recommended to be awarded matching Parks and Tourism grant funds in the amount of \$61,375.00 for 2017

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: January 10, 2017

/s/ David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK

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