

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, July 9, 2019 6:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor Kyle Osborne called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Mark Harris gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Rodger Cargile. City Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Council members answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, Mary Ann Arnett, Rodger Cargile, Dale English, Dale Brewer and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson. Chris Howell and Don Raney were not present.

Item (3) on the agenda was for a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add items: (10) resolution approving amounts of liens to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against certain properties as a result of grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances, (13-1-d) budget adjustment ordinances appropriation for cleaning, painting, and weather-proofing the library complex structures, (13-1-e) budget ordinance appropriation for engineering services for the Rolling Meadows/Cloverdale drainage project, (13-2-b) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for monthly loan payment for the construction of the Searcy Swim Center, (13-2-f) budget adjustment ordinance authorization to expend funds for cleaning, painting, and weather-proofing the library complex structures, and (13-2-g) budget adjustment ordinance authorization to expend funds for engineering services for the Rolling Meadows/Cloverdale drainage project. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Brewer to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add the items. Mayor Osborne asked if there was any discussion regarding the motion. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Cargile, English, Brewer, and Cothorn. Howell and Raney were absent.

The minutes of the regular June 11, 2019 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Cargile, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. Howell and Raney were absent.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 6-30-19: General Fund: \$1,837,112.23; Street Fund \$1,672,745.68; Capital Equipment Fund \$17,760.27; LOPFI Fund \$172,473.59; Act 833 Fund \$35,109.13; Airport Fund \$31,109.88. The total of all of the preceding funds is \$3,766,310.78. He also reported the following balances as of 6-30-19: Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$3,812,895.40; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$6,521,289.50; Information Technology Projects Fund \$17,399.63; Special Projects Fund \$2,566.71; 0.25% Fire Protection Services County Sales Tax Fund \$235,078.67; Court Automation Fund \$15,039.47. He also reported a total of \$3,256,304.99 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$62,036.45 from the same time in 2018.

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Item (6) was for the continued discussion regarding the need for repairs to the city-owned American Legion building. An estimate has been obtained for repairs to the roof of the building in the amount of \$52,000. This estimate was for a complete replacement of the roof, as it was deemed to be not repairable. Mayor Osborne stated that he would continue to seek other estimates and possible courses of action and that he was not satisfied with the estimate that has been received. Mr. Brewer asked if anything had been found out regarding contributions from the American Legion for roof repairs. Mayor Osborne noted that Mr. Gibson and Mr. Cargile were in contact with the American Legion but that at this time nothing definite has been determined. Mayor Osborne also noted that the city's risk management policy (APERMA) may also cover a portion of the damaged roof. Mayor Osborne stated that he would be gathering more information regarding the American Legion building roof and bring this back to the Council's attention at a later date.

Item (7) on the agenda was for the continued discussion regarding the intersection of Charles Street and Pleasure Avenue. The discussion centered on the request for making the intersection a four-way regulated stop instead of the current two-way stop with the stop signs being on Charles Street. Mayor Osborne noted that according to Searcy Police Department reports from the last year, there have been four accident reports and three incident reports at this intersection. He also stated that it would be his recommendation to make this intersection a four-way stop. Mayor Osborne explained that he would like to have a roll call vote of the Council regarding changing the intersection from a two-way stop to a four-way stop. A motion was made by Mr. Cargile and seconded by Mr. English to make the intersection located at Charles Street and Pleasure Avenue a four-way regulated stop. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Cargile. Howell and Raney were absent.

Item (8) was for the appointment of Tommy Centola to the Advertising and Tourism Promotion Commission (A&P), filling the unexpired term of Brandon Fox. Mr. Fox has resigned from the A&P Commission, due to the lack of time he could devote to serving on the Commission. The term is set to expire on April 30, 2023. A motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to approve the appointment of Tommy Centola to fill the unexpired term on the Advertising and Tourism Promotion Commission, with the term set to expire on April 30, 2023. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Cargile, and English. Howell and Raney were absent.

Item (9) was a resolution for the abandonment of the former Searcy Municipal Airport terminal building. The abandonment is needed for the construction of a hangar that is to be funded with the use of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant money. The new hangar is to be constructed in the area where the former terminal building is located, thereby causing the need to demolish the former terminal building. Mr. English stated that he thought there could be a better use for this location than for the construction of a new hangar and asked if the construction could be done at another location on the Airport premises. A motion was made by Mr. English to table the resolution for further discovery regarding the location for the construction of a new hangar. Mr. Brewer

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seconded the motion. Mayor Osborne asked for any discussion. Mr. Chalenburg noted that the former terminal building is in poor condition and really not suitable for any use. He also asked if it had already been decided that the location of the former terminal was where the new hangar was going to be constructed. Mayor Osborne noted that the Searcy Airport Commission had determined this as the location of the new hangar and have been approved for a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant for the construction of a new hangar at this location. Mr. Brewer stated that if there was another location that could be used to construct the new hangar, he would rather see it constructed at a different location, leaving the location of the former terminal building (which is next to the new terminal building) available for other future options. Mr. Cothorn stated that the Searcy Airport Commission is tasked with the operations of the airport and that they had determined that the location of the former terminal building was the best location for the construction of the new hangar. He also noted that he did not want to override their determination of the location. The motion was declared to have failed by Mr. Gibson with a vote of three “yes”, three “no”, and two absent. Voting “yes” to table were Arnett, English, and Brewer. Voting “no” to table were Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Cargile. Howell and Raney were absent. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to approve the resolution for the abandonment of the former Searcy Municipal Airport terminal building. Motion was declared by Mr. Gibson to have failed with a vote of four “yes”, two “no”, and two absent. Voting “yes” were Cothorn, Arnett, Cargile and Chalenburg. Voting “no” were English and Brewer. Howell and Raney were absent.

Item (10) was a resolution approving the amounts of liens to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against certain properties in the City of Searcy, Arkansas, as a result of grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Mr. Gibson stated that a public hearing had not been held as of yet. Mayor Osborne noted that a public hearing had been advertised to be held at the July 9, 2019 Council meeting regarding the amounts to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against the properties identified in the resolution and asked Mr. Gibson if it was appropriate to hold the public hearing at this time. Mr. Gibson stated that the affected property owners had been properly notified and that the advertisement of a public hearing had also been done. Mayor Osborne closed the regular Council meeting at this time to hold the public hearing. Mayor Osborne opened the public hearing regarding the amounts of liens to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against certain properties in the City of Searcy, Arkansas, as a result of grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances. He asked if any person was present that wished to speak regarding this issue. No person asked to speak to the Council. Mayor Osborne closed the public hearing and reopened the regular Council meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Cargile, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. Absent were Howell and Raney. **Resolution 2019-18**

Item (11) on the agenda was an ordinance regarding special events and the use of city properties and/or city assets for these events. Mr. Gibson explained that he had provided a preliminary draft and had asked for input from the Council but that at this time was not

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ready to present a final draft. He asked the Council to table this item until a future meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to table this item until readied by Mr., Gibson. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. Absent were Howell and Raney.

Item (12) on the agenda was an ordinance amending Ordinance 2016-10 pertaining the Pollinator Friendly Community Committee. Mr. Gibson asked the Council to table this item until a future meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mrs. Arnett to table this item until a future Council meeting. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Cargile. Howell and Raney were absent.

Item (13) 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 \$500.00 to ‘POLICE DONATIONS’ revenue account (#01 4-000-90-03) and appropriate \$500.00 to the Police Department ‘DONATIONS EXPENDED’ expenditure account (#01 5-060-05-06) for the receipt and use of a donation from Walmart;
- b. Appropriate \$13,970.14 from 2014 Eight Year Plan unappropriated reserves to ‘FAA 30500570232019 HANGAR CONSTRUCTION GRANT’ expenditure account (#14 5-040-56-10) for bid advertising and engineering services regarding the construction of a hangar at the Searcy Municipal Airport;
- c. Appropriate \$109,602.75 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the ‘COUNTRY CLUB ROAD IMPROVEMENT’ expenditure account (#14 5-900-54-01) for construction services on the Country Club Road improvement project;
- d. Appropriate \$7,000.00 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Library Department ‘BUILDING MAINTENANCE/REPAIRS’ expenditure account (#01 5-020-02-01) for cleaning, painting, and weather-proofing of the city-owned Searcy Public Library building, Pyeatt annex building, and exterior restroom structure;
- e. Appropriate \$9,566.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘ROLLING MEADOWS/CLOVERDALE DRAINAGE’

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expenditure account (#14 5-130-05-02) for Rolling Meadows/Cloverdale Addition drainage improvement project engineering services;

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

- a. \$31,808.14 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- b. \$108,217.06 to Regions Bank for payment on the loan for the construction of the Searcy Swim Center (#14 5-085-05-01);
- c. \$945.14 to the Arkansas Democrat Gazette for bid advertising for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant for the construction of a hangar at the Searcy Municipal Airport;
- d. \$13,025.00 to Miller-Newell Engineers for engineering services for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant for the construction of a hangar at the Searcy Municipal Airport;
- e. \$109,602.75 to RL Persons Construction, Inc., for construction services on the Country Club Road improvement project (#14 5-900-54-01);
- f. \$7,000.00 to Stanley Lamb Blasting & Painting for cleaning, painting, and weather-proofing services to city-owned structures at the Searcy Public Library (Library building, Pyeatt annex building, exterior restroom structure) (#01 5-020-02-01);
- g. \$9,566.00 to Morrison – Shipley Engineers Inc. for Rolling Meadows/Cloverdale Addition drainage improvement project engineering services (#14 5-130-05-02);

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

Ordinance 2019-22

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

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Minutes Approved: August 13, 2019

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/s/ Kyle Osborne
MAYOR OF SEARCY

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK

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