

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, February 27th, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Akers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., City Clerk Taryn Wigley called the roll.

Attendees

Council Members Clarissa Pace, Al Peer, Cedric Leonard, Michael James, Mark Tiner, Craig McRae, Mike Wigley, and Claudia Hartness were present.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Wigley moved to approve the January minutes, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called, and the minutes passed unanimously.

Mayor Aker asked the council to amend the agenda to add a budgetary discussion to the agenda. Mark Tiner moved to amend the agenda, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the agenda was amended. Finance Director Vickie Norris added that the council voted in November of 2023 to spend \$5850.00 out of the Parks fund for a survey to help keep the Lake Trails Phase 2 moving forward. Finance would like the payment to come out of One Cent Sales Tax, so that it will follow the project on paper. There was no resolution needed, just verbal approval of the council. Michael James moved to approve the expenditure, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called, the ayes had it and the expenditure was approved.

New Business

- a. **Update on Lead & Copper Line Replacement-Andrea Chambers & Wayne Morphis**
Mayor Akers explained that the EPA passed a new regulation to replace lead and copper lines. He introduced Wayne Morphis and Andrea Chambers to give an update. Water Office Manager Andrea Chambers informed the council that Arkansas has 1.87% lead and copper lines. The 2021 Infrastructure Act set aside 15 billion dollars to replace lead and copper lines. The City is in a rush to get all lines inventoried within 8 months to meet the deadline. The City is working with a third party, at no cost to City budget, to inventory lead lines. There are grants available to replace these lines once they are found, but the main goal is to inventory what we have in order to determine how much funding the City will receive.
- b. **Presentation from Charles Maddox with Entegriy**
Mayor Akers introduced Mr. Maddox to the council, informing them that this presentation concerns 4 fields at the sports complex. He added that last year, the City spent 468,000.00 on electricity bills, and he is looking for better options that are more



cost effective. Mr. Maddox introduced himself and who he worked for. He started his presentation by proposing LED retrofit bulbs for the lighting. Entegry is able to manufacture and install almost all of these products. He also told the council that these new bulbs will save the City close to \$11,000.00 a year in lighting costs, and there are rebates available through Entegry. The cost to put new lighting on 4 fields will be \$211,000.00. Mr. Maddox added that installation can be completed on down time, weekends, or nights.

c. Resolution Authorizing Work Order for Construction Engineering on Headworks Project

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Clarissa Pace seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

d. Resolution Accepting bid for Work for Headworks Project

Mark Tiner introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Michael James moved to accept the resolution, Cedric Leonard seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

e. Resolution Authorizing Renaming of Street

Mayor Akers introduced the resolution with a speech, referring to many people as "pillars of our community", including Mrs. Beth Maxwell, who recently passed away. Not only did she motivate the Monticello football team for several years, but she was also an advocate for many other people in less fortunate situations. Mayor Akers declared that Brooks Dr. will be renamed Beth Maxwell Dr. Mike Wigley moved to accept the resolution, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

f. Resolution for Grant Application for New Roof

Mayor Akers explained that this grant would be to replace the roof for the MEDC building, which has been very problematic in the past. Vickie Norris added that the estimated cost is 89,238.00. Craig McRae introduced the resolution and moved suspend the rules and read by title only, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mark Tiner asked if there was a way to fix the roof with a way for the water to run off the building, to avoid the same issues in the future. Michael James added that it would possibly take the building off the historic registry. Mayor Akers added that it would need more research but taking the building off the historic registry to fix the roofing issue would be more cost effective. Michael James moved to accept the resolution, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.



g. Resolution Declaring 391 E Willis St. a Nuisance

Mark Tiner introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Mike Wigley seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mark Tiner asked if there has been contact with the owner. City Inspector Brian Rodgers answered that the owner has signed the letters and has boarded up the broken windows. Mark Tiner asked if it was still a nuisance in his opinion, Mr. Rodgers agreed that it is. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Claudia Hartness accepted. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned

Cedric Leonard moved to adjourn the meeting, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the meeting was adjourned.

Mike Wigley

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