

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, October 29, 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, Cedric Leonard, Al Peer, Michael James, Mark Tiner, Craig McRae, Mike Wigley, and Claudia Hartness were present.

Minutes

Mike Wigley moved to accept the minutes from the regular meeting and the special called meeting, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. They aye's had it and the minutes passed.

New Business

a. Resolution Continuing Annual Ad Valorem

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. Finance Manager Ashley Rodermund reminded the council that the current rates were 2.5% for real property and .4% for fire pension. Mark Tiner suggested that real property be raised to 3.5% and fire pension be raised to .75%. Mike Wigley voiced concerns that he did not want taxes to rise too quickly, but agreed to the proposed increase. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution with the proposed increase, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

b. Resolution Authorizing Bid Rejection

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mayor Akers reminded the council that Arkansas law defines price gouging as anything over 15%, which both bids were. 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.

c. Resolution Accepting Historic Post Office Roof Bid

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mayor Akers informed the council that the lowest bid was \$67, 424.00, and it was confirmed by the engineers that the proper materials would be



used. The City also received a grant that is an unknown amount depending on policy stipulations, and insurance money in the amount of \$49,936.68. The City would possibly only have to pay $\frac{1}{3}$ of the money needed after insurance and grant money was granted. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

d. Resolution Declaring 221 S Conley St. a Nuisance

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Al Peer seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it City Attorney Whit Barton read. City Inspector Brian Rodgers informed the council that the owner has torn the building down and is getting the debris hauled off. The owner was present and gave a brief update. She asked for assistance hauling off the debris if the City is able. Michael James moved to table the resolution indefinitely.

e. Resolution Declaring 602 E Pauline St. a Nuisance

Michael James introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Al Peer seconded. Brian Rodgers informed the council that this property and the next property on the agenda are owned by the same people. The properties were condemned 2 years ago under different ownership. The property was sold, and the new owner has received the mail, but has not responded to any communication. Craig McRae 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 Declaring 604 E Pauline St. a Nuisance

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. Brian Rodgers reminded the council that this property is under the same ownership and circumstance as the previous property listed. Craig McRae moved to accept the resolution, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

Mayor Comments

Mayor Akers gave the council a brief update on ongoing projects. The West Plant headworks project will start in November. The original cost was 1.1 million dollars, it was re-engineered and \$140,000 was saved. Finance Manager Ashley Rodermund set the next two months meetings. November 14th will be the first budget meeting at 5:30, November 19th is the next Council meeting. December 10th, will be a budget meeting, and December 19th will be a Council meeting.

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.

