

City Council Minutes

Tuesday, September 24, 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.

Approval of Minutes

Clarissa Pace moved to accept the minutes, Crieg McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the minutes passed.

Cedric Leonard moved to accept the minutes from the special called meeting, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the minutes passed.

Unfinished Business

a. Ordinance Establishing Procedures for Boring in City Limits

Mark Tiner introduced the ordinance and moved to read by title only and a description of the changes that were made, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton noted the changes that were made from the previous months discussion. Mark Tiner moved to read the ordinance by title only, Claudia Hartness seconded. A yay/nay vote was called, the aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Michael James moved to enact the emergency clause and waive the 3 required readings, Craig McRae seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the ordinance passed.

New Business

a. Presentation by McClelland Engineering

Mayor Akers explained to the council that the bids for the Main St. water line relocation were opened earlier that day with McClelland Engineering. Jason Temple informed the council that there were two bidders, both out of Arkansas, and both quoted considerably higher than what was budgeted. White River Construction was the lower bidder with 3.3 million dollars quoted for the water lines and 3.6 million quoted for the sewer line, leaving a 1.4 million dollars deficit for water and 1.5 million dollars. 4.3 million dollars was the original estimated cost for the project. The council asked Mr. Temple which line had more of a priority if they decided to split the project up and

focus on one at a time. Mr. Temple answered that moving the water lines takes more urgency than the sewer lines.

b. Resolution for A&P Appointment

Cedric Leonard introduced the resolution and moved to suspend the rules and read by title only, Clarissa Pace seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Mayor Akers explained that there is an opening on the A & P Commission. Brittany Washington is a UAM graduate and has extensive marketing experience. 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.

c. Resolution for Intermodal Appointment

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. Mayor Akers informed the council that Jeff Taylor expressed interest in being on the Intermodal board. Clarissa Pace moved to accept the resolution, Mark Tiner seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

d. Resolution Authorizing Arkansas State Police Step Grant

Craig McRae 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. Police Chief Carlos Garcia explained that this grant would cover overtime pay for more than just holidays, it lasts from October 2024 to September 2025, and the PD would get reimbursed from the state if they were awarded the grant. Mark Tiner moved to accept the resolution, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. They aye's had it and the resolution passed unanimously.

e. Resolution Declaring 1232 E Railroad St. a Nuisance

Al Peer 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 and City Attorney Whit Barton read. The owner is deceased and the property has gone to Andrea Thomas, the owner's daughter. City Inspector Brian Rodgers informed the council that the property was condemnable at first, but has been cleaned up and boarded up. It is still not a habitable resident. The owner's do not have any plans for the property, and they are asking for time to figure out what to do with the property. Al Peer moved to give the owners 6 months to get a plan together, Michael James seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution was tabled.

f. Resolution Declaring 400 E Oakland St. a Nuisance

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. They aye's had it and City Attorney Whit Barton read. Brian Rodgers informed the council that the main concern is the condition of the yard and all of the stuff that's in it. The mobile home is in

questionable condition. He was informed by a neighbor that nobody actually lives at the resident, and there are no utilities turned on. Michael James voiced that he would like to see at 756 violation before it is seen as condemned. Michael James moved to table the resolution, Cedric Leonard seconded. A yay/nay vote was called. The aye's had it and the resolution was tabled.

Mayor Comment

Mayor Akers updated the council on ongoing projects. The 10 year drainage plan is almost completed, putting them 6 years ahead of schedule. He also said that he would like to look into digital water bills. It is currently costing the city \$8,000.00 a year in postage. He would like the councils input on ways to cut costs in that area.

Meeting Adjourned

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jay Wigley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized "W".