Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Searcy Chief of Police Eric Webb gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Andy Woody of the Searcy Fire Department. City Clerk Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Aldermen answering “present”: Logan Cothern, Mary Ann Arnett, J. R. Howard, Steve Sterling, Dale English, Don Raney, Dale Brewer and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson.

The minutes of the regular December 13, 2016 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Cothern to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothern.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 12-31-16: General Fund: $982,650.84; Street Fund $1,115,760.13; Capital Equipment Fund $22,491.62; LOPFI Fund $29,985.90; Act 833 Fund $25,837.28; Airport Fund $105,452.42; Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund $4,259,953.13; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund $5,864,290.62; Information Technology Projects Fund $33,391.62; Special Projects Fund $2,505.53. He also reported a total of $6,110,098.12 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down $102,732.83 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 $2,282,178.19.

Item (5) on the agenda was for the review and approval of current City Governing Body Procedures for 2017. Mayor Morris noted that the only changes made during 2016 was a change in the starting times for the Pre-Council agenda meeting and the regular monthly Council meeting. Both starting times were changed to 6:00 p.m. per ordinance 2016-13. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to approve the procedures for the City Governing Body for 2017. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, and Arnett.

Item (6) was for the reappointment of Steve Jordan, Bill Patton, and Susannah Streit to the Searcy Planning Commission to 3-year terms, with the terms set to expire on February 8, 2020. Motion was made by Cothern, seconded by Mr. Howard, to reappoint Steve Jordan, Bill Patton, and Susannah Streit to the Searcy Planning Commission for 3-year terms, with the terms set to expire on February 8, 2020. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, Arnett, and Howard. Mr. Raney abstained from voting.
Item (7) on the agenda was a presentation of a proposal for the 2017 operating budget for the City of Searcy and suggested times and dates for workshop meetings for consideration of the departmental proposals. A calendar with the designated dates of the 17\textsuperscript{th}, 19\textsuperscript{th}, 24\textsuperscript{th}, and 26\textsuperscript{th}, with the possibility of also the 27\textsuperscript{th} of January, were requested to be set aside for the meetings in anticipation of adopting the budget for operations by January 31, 2017.

Item (8) was a resolution authorizing the abandonment of a fully utilized asset, specifically a 2004 Dodge truck used in the Police Department as an Animal Control vehicle (VIN # 1D7HA18D54S517338). Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Howard and seconded by Mr. English to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. \textbf{Resolution 2017-01}

Item (9) on the agenda was for the selection and approval of a bid for the construction on the Williams Addition/Chrisp Avenue drainage project. After the re-bidding for the project, as directed by the Council on September 13, 2016, bids for the varying options for completion of the project were received from 2 companies. The companies that submitted bids were Redstone Construction (base bid of $491,349.00) and Burkhalter Technologies (base bid of $572,219.00). A motion to select and approve the base bid in the amount of $491,349.00 from Redstone Construction was made by Mr. Cothern and seconded by Mrs. Arnett. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. \textbf{Resolution 2017-02}

Item (10) was a resolution for the approval of certain contracts and the authorization to execute and perform certain agreements with Redstone Construction for the Williams Addition/Chrisp Avenue drainage project. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to approve the resolution for the approval of certain contracts and the authorization to execute and perform certain agreements with Redstone Construction for the Williams Addition/Chrisp Avenue drainage project. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. \textbf{Resolution 2017-02}

Item (11) on the agenda was for the selection and approval of a bid for the construction of the new Fire Station 2. A total of 10 companies submitted bids for the construction of the new Fire Station 2. The companies submitting bids along with the base bid amount were as follows:

1. Cline Construction Group, Inc. - $1,535,552.00
2. Dayco Construction Inc. - $1,550,000.00
3. Noacon, Inc. - $1,587,377.00
4. Delk Construction Company - $1,599,188.00
5. Flynco, Inc. - $1,618,417.00
6. Bell Construction Company, Inc. - $1,664,388.00
7. AMR Construction LLC - $1,712,000.00
8. Olympus Construction, Inc. - $1,723,000.00
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9. Western Millwright Services, Inc. - $1,795,000.00  
10. Connell Construction - $1,825,682.00  

A motion to select and approve the base bid in the amount of $1,535,552.00 from Cline Construction Group, Inc. was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Sterling. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothern, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer.

Item (12) was a resolution for the approval of certain contracts and the authorization to execute and perform certain agreements with Cline Construction Group, Inc. for the construction of the new Fire Station 2. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Cothern to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothern, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. Resolution 2017-03

Item (13) on the agenda was an ordinance to amend the City of Searcy employee handbook. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Cothern to table the ordinance for further discussion and consideration. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothern.

Item (14) on the agenda was a budget ordinance to:

**Section 1.** The following sums are appropriated in the absence of a budget for the City of Searcy, Arkansas:

a. Appropriate $100,000.00 to ‘TRANSFER TO LOPFI FUND’ expenditure account (#14 5-190-05-04) in the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund and appropriate $100,000.00 to ‘TRANSFER FROM 2014 EIGHT YEAR PLAN FUND’ revenue account (#05 4-000-80-12) in the LOPFI Fund;

b. Appropriate $5,456.00 to 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund ‘INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION’ (#14 5-160-54-01) expenditure account for construction services on the Information Technology building;

c. Appropriate $21,300.00 to 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund ‘MAIN/HIGGINSON STREET CONNECTOR ROAD’ expenditure account (#14 5-900-54-02) for engineering services on the construction of the road to connect Main Street and Higginson Street;

d. Appropriate $264,045.00 to 2016 Swimming Facility Improvement Fund ‘CONSTRUCTION LOAN PROCEEDS’ revenue account (#17 4-000-91-01) and appropriate $264,045.00 to 2016 Swimming Facility Improvement
Fund ‘POOL FACILITY CONSTRUCTION’ expenditure account (#17 5-085-54-01) for the second draw on the construction financing loan and payment of invoices ($254,545.00 to Hydco Inc. on the construction services and $9,500.00 to Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP for professional services rendered in connection with promissory note for swimming pool complex construction);

e. Appropriate $3,318.64 to 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund ‘SWIM POOL COMPLEX LOAN PAYMENT’ expenditure account (#14 5-085-05-01) for payment of interest expense on the Swimming Pool Complex construction loan;

f. Appropriate $7,737.17 to 2014 Eight Year Plan ‘COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE STUDY’ expenditure account (#14 5-130-06-01) for comprehensive drainage engineering services;

g. Appropriate $399.73 to 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund ‘INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION’ expenditure account (#14 5-160-54-01) for professional services on the new Information Technology building provided by Hoffmann Architectural, Inc.;

h. Appropriate $17,753.20 to 2014 Eight Year Plan ‘FIRE STATION 2 RELOCATION’ expenditure account (#14 5-070-54-01) for architectural services on Fire Station 2 relocation;

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

a. $5,428.52 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;

b. $45,539.25 to Admit Computer Services, Inc. for Police Software Annual Maintenance Agreement for 2017 (#01 5-160-05-01);

c. $5,456.00 to Delk Construction Company for construction services invoice on the Information Technology building (#14 5-160-54-01);

d. $21,300.00 to Pickering Firm, Inc. for engineering services on the construction of the road to connect Main Street and Higginson Street (#14 5-900-54-02);
e. $254,545.00 to Hydco Inc. for construction services on the swimming pool complex (#17 5-085-54-01);
f. $9,500.00 to Friday, Eldredge & Clark, LLP for professional services rendered in connection with promissory note for swimming pool complex construction (#17 5-085-54-01);
g. $3,318.64 to Regions Bank for payment of interest expense on the Swimming Pool Complex construction loan (#14 5-085-05-01);
h. $7,737.17 to Thomas F. Black, P.E. (Flood Plain Services) for comprehensive drainage engineering services (#14 5-130-06-01);
i. $399.73 to Hoffmann Architectural, Inc. for professional services for the Information Technology building project (#14 5-160-54-01);
j. $17,753.20 to Hoffmann Architectural Inc. for architectural services on Fire Station 2 relocation (#14 5-070-54-01);
k. $53,332.34 to U.S. Bank for the first installment of three toward 2017 APERMA Program invoice (total due - $159,997.00);
l. $43,558.25 to the Municipal League Workers’ Compensation Trust for the first installment of four for the year 2017 (total due - $174,233.00);

A motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. English, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, and Arnett. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mr. Cothern, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, Arnett, and Howard. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Cothern, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothern, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. **Ordinance 2017-01**

The Mayor announced:

- City offices will be closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday on Monday, January 16, 2017. A ceremony will happen at 7:00 p.m. at the Carmichael Community Center
- An Animal Control Appeals Committee hearing will be held on Monday, January 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall
- Statements of Financial Interest are to completed and returned before January 31, 2017
Minutes Approved: February 14, 2017

/s/  David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/  Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK
Seal