

**Searcy City Council – Regular Session**  
**Tuesday, January 11, 2022 6:00 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

Mayor Kyle Osborne called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Ron Smith 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, David Morris, Chris Howell, Rodger Cargile, Don Raney, and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson. Council members Tonia Hale and Dale Brewer were not present.

Item (3) on the agenda was to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add items: (8) discussion regarding Berryhill Park tennis courts improvement, (15-1-e) budget ordinance appropriation for Fuller Lane improvement project engineering services, and (15-2-e) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for Fuller Lane improvement project engineering services. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Morris to add the items. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Morris, Howell, Cargile, Raney, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular December 14, 2021 meeting of the Council and the special December 3, 2021 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Morris to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Howell, Cargile, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Morris.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 12-31-2021: General Fund: \$3,702,523.68; Street Fund \$2,772,767.61; Capital Equipment Fund \$17,878.73; LOPFI Fund \$127,476.32; Act 833 Fund \$94,361.39; Airport Fund \$164,932.32. The total of all of the preceding funds is \$6,879,940.05. He also reported the following balances as of 12-31-2021: Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$583,741.76; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$12,560,807.57; 0.25% Fire Protection Services County Sales Tax Fund \$535,741.76; Court Automation Fund \$52,421.41; American Rescue Plan Act Fund \$2,129,822.92. He also reported a total of \$8,140,112.92 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is up \$974,077.29 from the same time in 2020.

Item (6) on the agenda was to be a presentation from Crafton Tull for a visioning workshop to help in determining the next steps for planning in the City of Searcy. Crafton Tull was unable to be present.

Item (7) was for discussion regarding a city planner position for the City of Searcy. Mayor Osborne noted that he is in the process of obtaining information such as salary and job description regarding a possible city planner position for the City of Searcy. Mr. Morris noted that currently Mr. Jim VonTungeln is currently serving in a part time capacity for the city. He thought that Mr. VonTungeln would be a good source for information. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Cargile to

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authorize the creation of a City Planner position for the City of Searcy. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, and Howell. City Clerk Morris noted that Mr. VonTungeln’s compensation will be included in the 2022 budget in order for him to stay on in an advisory capacity for as long as needed.

Item (8) on the agenda was for discussion regarding improvements to the Berryhill Park tennis courts. Mayor Osborne informed the Council that the Searcy Advertising and Tourism Promotion Commission (A&P) had voted to provide a percentage of the cost of improvements to the Berryhill Park tennis courts. Mr. Howell noted that the estimated cost of the proposed improvements would be approximately \$1,344,000. He said the A&P Commission would provide 75% (up to \$1,100,000) of the cost of the improvements if the city would fund the remainder. Mr. Gibson stated that the project would be required to be bid out in order to ascertain the cost of the project. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Morris to proceed with the project and to commit up to \$366,459 to go along with the commitment of the Advertising and Tourism Promotion Commission to improve the tennis courts at Berryhill Park. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, Howell, and Cargile.

Item (9) was a request from the Code Enforcement Department to set a public hearing regarding the declaration of a nuisance property for property located at 207 East Center Avenue. A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to set a date and time of February 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular monthly City Council meeting. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, Howell, Cargile, and Raney.

Item (10) on the agenda was for the review and approval of the City of Searcy Governing Body procedures for 2022. There are no changes to the procedures for 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to approve the City of Searcy Governing Body procedures for 2022. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Morris, Howell, Cargile, Raney, and Chalenburg.

Item (11) was a resolution to authorize the execution and performance under the terms of a certain grant agreement, Office of Justice Programs 2021 BJA FY 21 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to approve the resolution to authorize the execution and performance under the terms of a certain grant agreement, Office of Justice Programs 2021 BJA FY 21 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Morris, Howell, Cargile, Raney, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

**Resolution 2022-01**

Item (12) was a resolution for authorization to enter into a contract with Delivery Concepts, Inc. for the purchase of two meal delivery trucks for the White County Aging Program. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Morris and

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seconded by Mr. Cothorn to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howell, Cargile, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Morris.

**Resolution 2022-02**

Item (13) was a resolution approving certain contracts, authorization to execute and perform certain agreements, specifically an agreement with Emergency Vehicle Specialists, Inc. for the acquisition of a fire truck. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Morris to approve the certain contracts, authorization to execute and perform certain agreements, specifically an agreement with Emergency Vehicle Specialists, Inc. for the acquisition of a fire truck. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, and Howell. **Resolution 2022-03**

Item (14) was a resolution for the authorization to execute and perform a certain agreement with Pugh Communications, LLC for website updates, social media management, and media relations. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, Howell, and Cargile. **Resolution 2022-04**

Item (15) 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 \$50,000.00 to ‘TRANSFER TO LOPFI FUND’ expenditure account (14 5-190-05-04) in the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund and appropriate \$75,000.00 to ‘TRANSFER FROM 2014 EIGHT YEAR PLAN FUND’ revenue account (05 4-000-80-12) in the LOPFI Fund;
- b. Appropriate \$253,354.34 from Special 1% Connector Route Tax Fund unappropriated reserves to the ‘NORTH MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS’ expenditure account (#13 5-900-54-03) for construction services on the North Main Street improvement project;
- c. Appropriate \$17,739.75 to the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund ‘LIBRARY RENOVATION REIMBURSEMENT’ revenue account (#14 4-000-70-03) and appropriate \$17,739.75 to the ‘LIBRARY RENOVATION’ expenditure account (#14 5-020-54-02) for architectural services on the new Library Building renovation project;
- d. Appropriate \$986.25 to the General Fund to the ‘REPAIRS AMERICAN LEGION HUT’ expenditure account (#01 5-010-05-21) for architectural services on the American Legion building renovation project;

- e. Appropriate \$15,960.00 to the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'FULLER LANE IMPROVEMENT' expenditure account (#14 5-900-54-08) for engineering services on the improvement project;

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

- a. Transfer \$50,000.00 from the City of Searcy 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund to the City of Searcy LOPFI Fund for payment of LOPFI Retirement obligation (#14 5-190-05-04);
- b. \$253,354.34 to Township Builders, Inc. for construction services on the North Main Street improvement project (#13 5-900-54-03);
- c. \$17,739.75 to Hoffmann Architectural for architectural services on the new Library building renovation project (#01 5-020-54-02);
- d. \$986.25 to Hoffmann Architectural for architectural services on the American Legion building renovation project (#01 5-010-05-21);
- e. \$15,960.00 to Pickering Firm, Inc. for engineering services on the Fuller Lane improvement project (#14 5-900-54-08);

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Morris, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, Howell, Cargile, and Raney. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting "yes": Cothorn, Morris, Howell, Cargile, Raney, and Chalenburg. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Raney, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting "yes": Morris, Howell, Cargile, Raney, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. **Ordinance 2022-01**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: February 8, 2022

/s/ Kyle Osborne  
MAYOR OF SEARCY

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris  
CITY CLERK  
Seal