

**Searcy City Council – Special Session**  
**October 19, 2022 11:00 a.m.**  
**Minutes**

Mayor Kyle Osborne called to order a Special Session of the Searcy City Council. Council member Don Raney gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Tonia Hale. City Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Council members answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, David Morris, Chris Howell, Rodger Cargile, Tonia Hale, Don Raney, and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson. Council member Dale Brewer was not present.

Item (3) on the agenda was for the approval and selection of a bid for the 2022 street paving program. Two bids had been received as a result of the solicitation of bids. The bids received were as follows:

- CK Asphalt, LLC, Quitman, AR - \$1,245,017.00
- Delta Asphalt, Paragould, AR - \$1,297,377.50

City Engineer Mark Lane pointed out to the Council that the listing of streets to be included in the paving program had been revised to include Black Gum Street, Skyline Drive, and Davis Drive. He also noted that \$1,500,000.00 was appropriated at the October 11, 2022 Council meeting for the paving program and related striping. These revisions to the listing would still be within the amount that was appropriated. Mr. Lane said that it would be his recommendation to accept the bid from CK Asphalt. He further noted that CK Asphalt has provided services to the City of Searcy in the past with no problems. A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to select the bid from CK Asphalt for the 2022 street paving program. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Morris, Howell, Cargile, Hale, Raney, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

Item (4) was for discussion regarding the Sanitation Department vehicles and/or equipment. Mayor Osborne explained to the Council that the trucks currently in operation that are fueled by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) continue to pose problems in trying to keep them in operating condition. The city vehicles that use CNG are the side-arm residential trucks and the overhead front-loader trucks. Mayor Osborne further explained that the motors are not necessarily giving problems, but the electronics and mechanisms such as the hydraulics and the bodies/beds are often in need of repair. The cost of repairs is significant and since the manufacturer is no longer in business it is hard to get parts. He and City Engineer Mark Lane and Sanitation Director Terry Rutherford had met with River City Hydraulics to discuss options regarding the replacement of said vehicles. River City Hydraulics presented a listing of trucks for the city’s consideration. This listing includes:

- Two (2) 2021 used side-loader trucks that would be available in 2-3 weeks. These trucks are ones that have been in a lease program and are due to be turned in soon. The selling price on these trucks are \$215,000 each with a buyback option of \$180,000 each within six months if we chose to purchase new models
- 2023 new Mack TE front loader that is already on order for the city at a cost of \$306,700. This unit should be coming in November 2022. 24-month guaranteed buyback of \$184,000

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- 2024 Mack TE front loader with a selling price of \$339,966. If ordered now it would probably be available in May of 2023. 24-month guaranteed buyback of \$203,000
- 2024 Mack LR/Heil side-loader with a selling price of \$361,896. If ordered now it would probably be available in June or July of 2023. 24-month guaranteed buyback of \$216,000

All of these trucks are diesel fueled. These trucks are also price through the Sourcewell purchasing program. The question was asked if there was any trade-in value for our current trucks. Mayor Osborne stated that he asked that question and was told they are of little value, nobody wants them. He noted that River City told him that they would not offend us by making an offer. Their recommendation to us would be to clean them up, get them operational and put them up for sale on GovDeals and see what we could get. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to purchase the two 2021 used side-loader and the 2023 Mack front loader that is already on order at the estimated cost of \$736,000. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howell, Cargile, Hale, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Morris. A motion was then made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, in light of lead time and supply chain issues, to go ahead and order the 2024 Mack TE front loader and the 2024 Mack LR/Heil side loader with anticipated delivery in 2023. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, Hale, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, and Howell.

Item (5) on the agenda was for discussion regarding the city-owned Smyrna Church. Council member Rodger Cargile explained that this building/grounds were gifted to the City of Searcy around the year 1998. The church was built in 1856 and is thought to be the oldest still standing church building in Arkansas. The church will be included in historical tours during the Holiday of Lights season this year, but it is in need of repairs. With the church being on the National Register of Historical Places and in the Arkansas Historical Preservation Program (AHPP), the repairs are very specific in what can be done. A bid from Harmony Building Solutions, LLC for making some of the needed repairs in a timely fashion to be ready for Holiday of Lights was presented to the Council. The bid was for exterior carpentry work and exterior paint, replacement of double doors to AHPP specifications, and replacement of missing interior baseboards to match the 1856 style trim boards. The bid price was for \$16,800. A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mrs. Hale to accept this bid for repairs in order to have it ready for Holiday of Lights tours. Mayor asked if there were any further discussion. Mr. Raney stated he is for doing these repairs at this time but that he thought the city should try to find a group or maybe a historical association that could get more good out of the church than what the city gets. Parks and Recreation Director Mike Parsons noted the church is rented out maybe a half dozen times a year mostly for weddings. With the building having no HVAC system, no water utilities, and no restrooms, it is not a highly sought after event venue. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Hale, Raney, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Morris, Howell, and Cargile.

Item (6) was for setting a time and date for a meeting of the Animal Control Appeal Committee. A person has asked for an appeal to be heard regarding an animal issue. Mayor Osborne explained that the committee consists of himself, Logan Cothorn, David

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Morris, Rodger Cargile, and Mike Chalenburg. Mr. Gibson noted that he felt that he, Code Enforcement, and Animal Control representatives should also be present. Mayor Osborne asked what time/date would be possible for this committee to meet. A time and date of October 27, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council chambers was agreed upon.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: November 8, 2022

/s/ KYLE OSBORNE  
MAYOR OF SEARCY

ATTEST:

/s/ JERRY MORRIS  
CITY CLERK

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