

Searcy City Council – Special Session
February 21, 2023 12:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor Mat Faulkner called to order a Special Session of the Searcy City Council. City Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Council members answering “present”: David Morris, Chris Howell, Rodger Cargile, Tonia Hale, Don Raney, Dale Brewer and Mike Chalenburg. Council member Brett Kirkman was not present. Also present was City Attorney Will Moore.

Item (3) on the agenda was for the discussion regarding a Police Department vehicle replacement plan. A lease to own program providing for the acquisition of thirty (30) total Dodge Charger vehicles with upfits was presented to the Council. The details of this program were for three different lease terms, 3 years, 4 years, and 5 years, with ownership at the end of each term. The details of each showed the annual payment, finance rate, total payment over the life of the term, and the amount of lease fees involved with each term. Also provided to the Council was the cost of buying the vehicles outright. As has been the case for the last few years, vehicle availability is and will be a large concern. Mayor Faulkner explained that the prices presented are only good for 120 days. Currently the City of Searcy has been appropriating money from the 2014 Eight Year Tax Plan Fund to provide for purchasing 5 vehicles per year, although the amount appropriated has been insufficient to totally fund 5 completed vehicles for the last couple of years. Council member Chalenburg noted that even though funding for the 5 vehicles has been provided for in the Eight Year Plan, it is insufficient in replacing the fleet in totality. Major Brian Wyatt stated that there are approximately 45 vehicles that are needed to be in service at all times. This does not include having any spare vehicles to be in service when vehicles are being worked on or out of commission. Mr. Chalenburg also noted that the first purchases under the Eight Year Plan are now 8 year old vehicles and are reaching the end of their expected life cycles. Mayor Faulkner also noted that there is also interest in the possibility of increasing the number of outright purchases to 10 vehicles. The purchase of 10 vehicles would be in the ballpark of the cost of annual payments for the five-year lease term. He also noted that a proactive increase in the number of vehicles purchased per year would result in a better rotation of aged out vehicles whereas at the end of a lease period all 30 of the vehicles would be the same age. Mr. Raney stated that he thought the cost of the leasing program(s) was too expensive and did not like that 30 vehicles would all be approaching the expected life cycle at the same time. His suggestion was that he would like to see the city increase the number of outright purchases to 10 vehicles per year for the next few years to create a proactive replacement program. Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris noted that currently \$146,347.50 has been appropriated for the purchase of Police vehicles for 2023. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to authorize the Searcy Police Department to place on order 10 vehicles with the additional appropriation needed for the purchase to be included in the March 2023 Council meeting. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Morris, Howell, Cargile, Hale, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg.

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Item (4) was for the discussion, review, and selection of a bid for the replacement of the roof at the Carmichael Community Center. Three (3) bids had been received. The bids were submitted as both a base bid with a 10 year warranted roof and an alternate bid with a 30 year warranted roof. These bids were gathered as part of the TIPS/TAPS purchasing program. They are as follows:

- Quality Roofing Contractors, Senath, MO – Base bid \$134,420.00 and Alternate bid \$241,110.00
- Ketcher & Company, Inc., North Little Rock, AR – Base bid \$137,860.00 and Alternate bid \$261,900.00
- Jonesboro Roofing Co. Inc., Jonesboro, AR – Base bid \$137,190.00 and Alternate bid \$265,925.00

A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Raney to select the bid of Quality Roofing Contractors for the alternate bid of \$241,110.00, with the begin date of replacement not later than May 1, 2023 and to be completed by June 1, 2023. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howell, Cargile, Hale, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Morris.

Item (5) on the agenda was a budget adjustment ordinance to:

Section 1. The budget for the City of Searcy, Arkansas, is amended in the following manner:

- a. Appropriate \$241,110.00 the General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Carmichael Community Center ‘ROOF REPAIR’ expenditure account (#01 5-081-02-11) for the repair/replacement of the Carmichael Community Center roof;

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

- a. \$241,110.00 to Quality Roofing Contractors for the repair/replacement of the Carmichael Community Center roof;

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, Hale, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Kirkman, Morris, and Howell. Mr. Moore 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”: Hale, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Morris, Howell, and Cargile. Mr. Moore then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mrs. Hale, seconded by Mr. Raney, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Morris, Howell, Cargile, and Hale.

Ordinance 2023-11

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

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Minutes Approved: March 14, 2023

/s/ Mat Faulkner
MAYOR OF SEARCY

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK

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