

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, June 10, 2014 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Alderman Mike Chalenburg gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by City Attorney Buck Gibson. City Clerk Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Aldermen answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, Mary Ann Arnett, JR Howard, Steve Sterling, Dale English, Don Raney, Dale Brewer and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson.

Item (3) on the agenda was for a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add items: (7) resolution for declaration of a nuisance property located at 709 West Park Avenue; (9 section 1-g, h, i, j, k, l) appropriations for the short-term financing on the excavator and tractor purchases; and (9 section 2-b, c) expenditure authorization for the excavator and tractor purchases. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Howard to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add the said items. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular May 13, 2014 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer’s Report which lists the following balances as of 5-31-14: General Fund: \$1,251,805.69; Street Fund \$1,676,490.32; Capital Equipment Fund \$8,258.98; LOPFI Fund \$153,043.38; Act 833 Fund \$9,860.98; Airport Projects Fund \$1,166.76; Special Highway Tax Fund \$8,057,630.70. He also reported a total of \$2,623,805.78 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$78,092.60 from the same time in 2013. The total of all funds (excluding special highway tax fund) is \$3,100,626.11.

Item (6) on the agenda was the quarterly Economic Development Report from the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation, presented by Mr. Buck Layne of the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Item (7) was a resolution declaring certain real property located at 709 West Park Avenue a nuisance property. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Howard to approve the resolution declaring property located at 709 West Park Avenue a nuisance property. Motion carried by a vote of seven (7) “yes”, zero (0) “no”, and one (1) abstention, with the following voting “yes”: Sterling,

English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Howard. Mrs. Arnett abstained from voting. **Resolution 2014-10**

Item (8) was a resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute and perform certain agreements, specifically the agreements between the City of Searcy and:

- Metro Little Rock Alliance; and
- Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation; and
- Humane Society of Searcy

Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to pass the resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute and perform certain agreements. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. **Resolution 2014-11**

Item (9) on the agenda was a budget ordinance to:

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

- a. Appropriate \$40,000.00 from unappropriated General Fund reserves to LOPFI Fund ‘TRANSFER FROM GENERAL’ revenue account (#05 4-000-80-02), and appropriate \$40,000.00 to General Fund ‘TRANSFER TO LOPFI’ expenditure account (#01 5-190-05-14);
- b. Appropriate \$26,400.00 from unappropriated General Fund reserves to Act 833 Fund ‘TRANSFER FROM GENERAL’ revenue account (#11 4-000-10-01), and appropriate \$26,400.00 to General Fund ‘TRANSFER TO ACT 833 FUND’ expenditure account (#01 5-190-05-12) to make monthly payments on fire truck through September 2014;
- c. Appropriate \$500.00 from unappropriated General Fund reserves to Mayor’s department ‘METRO LITTLE ROCK ALLIANCE’ expenditure account (01 5-010-05-15);
- d. Transfer \$6,960.00 from Airport ‘SALARIES’ expenditure account (01 5-040-01-01) to Municipal Court ‘SALARIES’ expenditure account (01 5-050-01-01);
- e. Transfer \$532.44 from Airport ‘SOCIAL SECURITY/MEDICARE MATCH’ expenditure account (01 5-040-01-02) to Municipal Court

‘SOCIAL SECURITY/MEDICARE MATCH’ expenditure account (01 5-050-01-02);

- f. Transfer \$1,026.60 from Airport ‘APERS RETIREMENT’ expenditure account (01 5-040-01-05) to Municipal Court ‘APERS RETIREMENT’ expenditure account (01 5-050-01-05);
- g. Appropriate \$171,500.00 to General Fund ‘LOAN PROCEEDS’ revenue account (01 4-000-91-01) for receipt of short term financing loan from Regions Bank, for purchase of John Deere Excavator;
- h. Appropriate \$171,500.00 to Sanitation department ‘JOHN DEERE EXCAVATOR’ expenditure account (01 5-090-53-15) for payment to Stribling Equipment, for purchase of John Deere Excavator;
- i. Appropriate \$17,999.28 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to Sanitation department ‘2014 EXCAVATOR LOAN’ expenditure account (01 5-090-53-16) for loan payments on John Deere Excavator for calendar year 2014 (6 monthly payments of \$2,999.88);
- j. Appropriate \$58,920.00 to General Fund ‘LOAN PROCEEDS’ revenue account (01 4-000-91-01) for receipt of short term financing loan from Regions Bank, for purchase of Kubota Tractor/loader with batwing cutter;
- k. Appropriate \$58,920.00 to Parks and Recreation department ‘KUBOTA TRACTOR/CUTTER’ expenditure account (01 5-080-53-08) for payment to Henard Utility Products, Inc., for purchase of Kubota Tractor/loader with batwing cutter;
- l. Appropriate \$6,183.78 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to Parks and Recreation department ‘2014 TRACTOR LOAN’ expenditure account (01 5-080-53-09) for loan payments on Kubota Tractor/loader with batwing cutter for calendar year 2014 (6 monthly payments of \$1,030.63);

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

- a. \$51,693.74 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;

- b. \$58,920.00 to Henard Utility Products, Inc. for the purchase of Kubota tractor with loader and 15-foot batwing mower/cutter;
- c. \$171,500.00 to Stribling Equipment, LLC for the purchase of John Deere excavator;

A motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Raney, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer. **Ordinance 2014-14**

The Mayor announced the need to call for a Committee of the Whole meeting for the continued discussion pertaining to the Request for Qualifications (RFQ’s) that have been received by the City of Searcy for administration/assistance on future projects. This discussion will focus on:

1. The identification of projects that will require professional services administration
2. The selection process of one or more firm(s) for the provision of professional services
3. The qualifications of the various firms that have submitted Request for Qualifications (RFQ)

The Mayor suggested that the Council should not wait until the July regular agenda meeting due to the importance of these matters. He suggested considering scheduling the Committee of the Whole meeting for the days of June 16 or 17, 2014 (the Arkansas Municipal League Summer Conference will be held on June 18-20) or during the week of June 23-27, 2014. Due to certain members of the Council being out of town or otherwise unavailable for these dates, it was decided to consider another time. The Mayor then pointed out that the regularly scheduled date for the July 2014 pre-council agenda meeting would fall on July 3, 2014 (the day before the July 4 holiday). He suggested that the agenda meeting be moved forward to Monday, June 30, 2014 and to also schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting immediately afterward on that date for discussion of the RFQ’s. This was approved by the Council.

City Engineer Mark Lane presented to the Council a timeline, for reference, regarding the various projects requiring professional services administration to be undertaken using the revenue that will be generated by the eight-year one percent sales and use tax that was voted on and approved in February of 2014. This reference timeline was presented as an

aid for the professional services selection process and, also, to emphasize the importance of moving forward with the selection process.

Mayor Morris then asked the Council, barring any objection, to allow Dr. J. R. Crabtree to speak to the Council regarding concerns of perceived excessive noise that is produced during certain events that are held at the White County Fairgrounds. Mayor Morris explained that there was some confusion and miscommunication with Dr. Crabtree as to the appropriate time for the allowance to speak before the Council. There was no objection from the Council. Dr. Crabtree presented his concerns of perceived excessive noise produced by these events and, also, his concerns regarding the current City of Searcy ordinance that regulates excessive noise levels. Dr. Crabtree was thanked for his concern and interest in this matter by the Council. No action was taken at this time.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: July 8, 2014

/s/ David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK

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