

**Searcy City Council – Special Session**  
**February 11, 2016 6:00 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

Mayor David Morris called to order a Special Session of the Searcy City Council. Dr. David Burks gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Stuart Dalrymple. City Clerk Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Aldermen answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, Mary Ann Arnett, J R 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 the discussion and consideration of funding for the Downtown Beautification project. Mayor Morris noted that from previous discussions, the additional beautification work for Spring Street between Arch Avenue and Market Avenue as identified in proposed cost reduction option C is the preferable option to be undertaken in the Downtown Beautification project. Mr. Richard Stafford, of Whitlow Engineering Services, Inc. explained that option C has a total project cost of \$237,216.06. He noted that option C adds back in the four islands with landscaping and irrigation and paver crosswalks on this section of Spring Street. The funding for this project (\$150,000.00 from the City of Searcy Eight Year Plan Fund, \$25,000.00 from GIF grant, approximately \$3,000.00 in general donations, approximately \$16,000.00 in donations from the Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation) is approximately \$43,125.50 short on funding. The Searcy Regional Economic Development Corporation (SREDC) had agreed to fund half (\$21,562.75) of this additional needed funding with the City of Searcy providing the other half (\$21,562.75) of the additional needed funding. Mayor Morris noted that item (4) on the agenda included the funding needed to implement option C for this project. Mayor Morris asked the Council if there were any questions or discussion for the funding of option C for the Downtown Beautification project. There were no questions or discussions brought forth.

Item (4) 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 \$172,561.65 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘TRANSFER TO SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND’ expenditure account (#14 5-190-05-07) for funding of the Downtown Beautification Project;
- b. Appropriate \$172,561.65 to Special Projects Fund ‘TRANSFER FROM 2014 EIGHT YEAR PLAN FUND’ revenue account (#16 4-000-10-01) and appropriate \$172,561.65 to Special Projects Fund ‘DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT’ expenditure account (#16 5-190-05-01)

for the Downtown Beautification Project;

- c. Appropriate \$37,587.75 to General Fund ‘DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION DONATIONS’ revenue account (#01 4-000-90-25) and \$37,587.75 to Mayor’s Department ‘DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT’ expenditure account (#01 5-010-54-08) for the receipt and use of donations received for the Downtown Beautification Project;

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

- a. \$237,216.06 for the Downtown Beautification Project;

A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Howard, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. **Ordinance 2016-07**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: March 8, 2016

/s/ David Morris  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris  
CITY CLERK

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