

**Searcy City Council – Special Session**  
**July 24, 2023 12:00 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

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

Item (3) on the agenda was for the approval of additional funds for the purchase of a horizontal grinder for the Searcy Compost Center and to waive bidding for the purchase. \$765,000.00 had previously been appropriated (on July 11, 2023) for a purchase of a different grinder, but the grinder was sold before the purchase could be finalized. Another grinder was located but the cost was \$870,349.28 which requires an additional appropriation of \$105,349.28. A motion was made by Mr. Howell and seconded by Mr. Morris to approve the purchase, waive the bidding requirement, and approval for the additional funding. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Morris, Howell, Hale, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Kirkman.

Item (4) was for the approval for the purchase of property located at 1800 Veterans Boulevard using American Rescue Plan Act funds. This property will be used for the relocation of the Parks and Recreation Department maintenance facilities. The purchase contract was negotiated for a purchase price of \$475,000 and Mayor Faulkner noted that once the closing documents are finalized the full cost including any closing costs will be presented to the Council for an appropriation of funds. This final cost is expected to be known and presented to the Council at the August regular Council meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mrs. Hale, to approve the contract for the purchase of the property using American Rescue Plan Act funds. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howell, Hale, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Kirkman, and Morris.

Item (5) on the agenda was a request for funds for downtown beautification maintenance and repair purposes. The funds will be used for replanting of the downtown flower beds. A total of \$39,400 was requested for these purposes. A motion was made by Mr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to approve the request for funds for downtown beautification maintenance and repair purposes. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Hale, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Kirkman, Morris, and Howell.

Item (6) 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 \$105,349.28 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Sanitation Department ‘HORIZONTAL GRINDER’ expenditure

Special Session

account (#01 5-090-53-21) for the purchase of a horizontal grinder for the Searcy Compost Center (\$765,000.00 has already been appropriated);

- b. Appropriate \$39,400.00 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Parks and Recreation Department 'DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION & PARKING LOTS MAINTENANCE' expenditure account (#01 5-080-02-15) for downtown beautification expenses;

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

- a. \$870,349.28 to Modern Equipment Sales and Rental Co. for the purchase of a horizontal grinder for the Searcy Compost Center (#01 5-090-53-21);

A motion was made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mrs. Hale, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Kirkman, Morris, Howell, and Hale. Mr. Moore read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Morris, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting "yes": Brewer, Chalenburg, Kirkman, Morris, Howell, Hale, and Raney. Mr. Moore then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting "yes": Chalenburg, Kirkman, Morris, Howell, Hale, Raney, and Brewer. **Ordinance 2023-32**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: August 8, 2023

/s/ Mat Faulkner  
MAYOR OF SEARCY

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris  
CITY CLERK

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