

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, March 8, 2016 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. David Orr, Senior Pastor of the Searcy First United Methodist Church gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Searcy Police Chief Eric Webb. 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 a motion to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add items: (8) discussion of Capital Growth Buchalter request, (12) authorization to solicit bids for asphalt paving for the Downtown Beautification project area, (13) update on bids for the construction of the Information Technology building, (15) resolution approving/executing certain agreements, namely an agreement with Morrison-Shipley Engineers, Inc. for Chrisp Avenue drainage improvements from Williams Pond to Gin Creek, (16) ordinance amending the Searcy Code of Ordinances; providing for modification to the Searcy Tree Board and establishing the City of Searcy as a ‘Pollinator Friendly Community’, (18-1-k) budget ordinance appropriation for the purchase of turnouts for the Searcy Fire Department, (18-1-l) budget ordinance appropriation for design services for the new Information Technology building, (18-1-m) budget ordinance appropriation for design services for the Fire Station 2 Relocation project, (18-1-n) budget ordinance appropriation for engineering services for the Main Street Deener Creek replacement bridge, (18-1-o) budget ordinance appropriation for a personnel position at the Searcy Municipal Airport, (18-2-l) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for the purchase of turnouts for the Searcy Fire Department, (18-2-m) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for design services for the new Information Technology building, (18-2-n) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for design services for the Fire Station 2 relocation project, and (18-2-o) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for engineering services for the Main Street Deener Creek replacement bridge. A motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Howard to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add the items. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular February 9, 2016 meeting of the Council and the special February 11, 2016 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. It was noted that a correction to February 9, 2016 meeting minutes needed to be made. The correction was for a change to item (9), page 3 of the minutes, the name of Mr. Stafford should be replaced with Mr. Hoffmann. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Brewer to approve the minutes as revised. The following voted to approve: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

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Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer's Report which lists the following balances as of 2-29-16: General Fund: \$2,445,789.53; Street Fund \$803,073.28; Capital Equipment Fund \$22,398.42; LOPFI Fund \$138,251.55; Act 833 Fund \$89,483.70; Airport Projects Fund \$1,187.45; Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$7,997,125.53; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$3,488,944.48; Information Technology Projects Fund \$21,205.40; Special Projects Fund \$176,300.66. He also reported a total of \$1,075,370.77 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is down \$20,006.65 from the same time in 2015. The total of all funds (excluding the Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund, the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund, the Information Technology Projects Fund, and the Special Projects Fund) is \$3,500,183.93.

Item (6) on the agenda was for the discussion of the Needs Assessment Report for the White County Library System and approval of a request to move forward with the building concept planning and design. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Raney to approve the request to move forward with the building concept planning and design. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard.

Item (7) was for the presentation of the quarterly report for the Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce by Mr. Buck Layne. Mr. Layne was not present and this item was tabled until the April 2016 regular Council meeting.

Item (8) on the agenda was for the discussion of Capital Growth Buchalter's proposal to the City of Searcy regarding a retail development to be located in the city. Mayor Morris explained that the requests made by this group as to what the City of Searcy could or would offer as incentives were either not consistent with what can be done under State law or City Ordinance or were not economically feasible for the City of Searcy. Mayor Morris further stated that he thought it important to discuss this in a public meeting.

Item (9) was a request from the Searcy Municipal Airport to create one full-time personnel position for mowing/maintenance at the Airport, using the existing budget appropriations for two part-time personnel positions and eliminating the two part-time positions. The need for this new personnel position was because of the loss of the Act 309 inmate that had previously been performing this work. Searcy Municipal Airport manager Roger Pearson explained that he has been in contact with the White County Sheriff's office and was told that the prospect of getting another Act 309 worker is not likely. An additional appropriation would be needed to fund the new full-time position, to be paid at the rate of \$10.00 per hour. The total additional appropriation for the cost of this employee (\$10,147.51) for the remainder of the calendar year is included in the budget ordinance to be considered in item (18).

Item (10) on the agenda was listed as Chapter 9 of the Searcy Code of Ordinances as a reminder for the Council to examine this chapter and prepare for the discussion of any needed changes. Mayor Morris asked the Council to forward any suggestions to City

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Attorney Buck Gibson and prepare for discussions regarding any needed changes at the April 2016 Council meeting.

Item (11) was for the approval and selection of a bid for the purchase of a skid steer machine with broom attachment for the Street Department. A total of nine (9) bids were received. The bids received were as follows:

- Hugg & Hall, Little Rock, AR: S650 with standard hand and foot controls - \$40,850.00
- Hugg & Hall, Little Rock, AR: S650 with joystick controls - \$41,981.00
- Hugg & Hall, Little Rock, AR: A91 package with joystick controls - \$43,110.00
- Henard Utility, Searcy, AR: \$45,800.00
- Venture Equipment, Searcy, AR: \$45,946.49
- Lift Truck Service Center, Little Rock, AR: \$47,544.17
- H&E Equipment, Little Rock, AR: \$48,412.00
- Lift Truck Service Center, Little Rock, AR: \$48,816.90
- Scott Equipment, Little Rock, AR: \$50,000.00

City Engineer Mark Lane stated that, upon consultation with Street Department Manager Sam Watson, it is both of their recommendations that the bid from Hugg & Hall for the A91 package with joystick controls in the amount of \$43,110.00 be accepted. He also noted that this bid is under the amount budgeted in the 2016 Street Department budget. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. English, to accept the bid from Hugg & Hall for the A91 package with joystick controls in the amount of \$43,110.00. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

Item (12) on the agenda was for the authorization to solicit bids for the asphalt paving in the Downtown Beautification project area. Mayor Morris noted that, even though the construction portion is not finished, it should be completed by the time the bids are received. This should allow for the paving company to begin in a short period of time after the completion of the construction for the Downtown Beautification project. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg for the authorization to solicit bids for the asphalt paving in the Downtown Beautification project area. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (13) was an update on the bids for the construction of the new Information Technology building. Mayor Morris noted that the first time the construction bids were received, they were too high. Hoffmann Architectural was asked to scale back the design and to re-bid in an effort to meet the budgetary amount of \$734,085.00 for construction. The new bids were received on this very day (March 8, 2016). Mayor Morris noted that since the bids were just received, some time was needed to review the bids before a recommendation could be made to the Council. Upon the review, he asked the Council to consider coming in for a special meeting for any possible action that may be taken. Mr. Barry Hoffmann explained that there were five (5) bids that were received and he agrees that there needs to be some time taken in order to fully review the bids that were received.

Item (14) was a resolution for the declaration of a nuisance property located at 308 Lakewood. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to approve the resolution for the declaration of a nuisance property located at 308 Lakewood. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney.

Resolution 2016-05

Item (15) was a resolution approving certain contracts and the authorization to execute/perform certain agreements, namely an agreement with Morrison-Shipleigh Engineers for the Chrisp Avenue (Williams Addition) Drainage improvements from Williams Pond to Gin Creek. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Howard to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer. **Resolution 2016-06**

Item (16) on the agenda was an ordinance amending the Searcy Code of Ordinances; providing for modification to the Searcy Tree Board and establishing the City of Searcy as a ‘Pollinator Friendly Community’. Alderman Raney asked if the Searcy Tree Board had been contacted in order to ascertain whether this was the appropriate positioning (as part of the Searcy Tree Board) of a new ‘Pollinator Friendly Community’ committee. Mr. Richard Stafford, chairman of the Searcy Tree Board, was present and replied that he has not been contacted regarding this matter. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, and seconded by Mr. Sterling, to table the ordinance until discussion with the Searcy Tree Board can be had in order to determine if this is the appropriate place for such committee. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg.

Item (17) on the agenda was an ordinance amending Ordinance 2015-05, the budget for the calendar year 2015 (year-end adjustments). A motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Howard, 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. Cothorn, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, 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. Sterling, seconded by Mr. English, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. **Ordinance 2016-08**

Item (18) 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 \$784.77 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘FIRE STATION 2 RELOCATION’ expenditure account (#14

- 5-070-54-01) for payment of closing costs on the purchase of Golf Course Drive property for the relocation of Fire Station 2;
- b. Appropriate \$100,000.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'TRANSFER TO LOPFI FUND' expenditure account (#14 5-190-05-04) and appropriate \$100,000.00 to 'TRANSFER FROM 2014 EIGHT YEAR PLAN FUND' revenue account (#05 4-000-80-12) in the LOPFI Fund;
 - c. Appropriate \$3,000,000.00 from Special 1% Tax Connector Route Fund unappropriated reserves to 'AHTD 050249-050251 CONNECTOR ROUTE' expenditure account (#13 5-900-54-02) for payment of city contribution on the construction of the Highway 36 – Highway 67 Connector Project;
 - d. Appropriate \$499,070.36 from Special 1% Connector Route Tax Fund unappropriated reserves to 'MAIN STREET DEENER CREEK BRIDGE' expenditure account (#13 5-900-54-01) for construction services on the construction of the Main Street Deener Creek replacement bridge;
 - e. Appropriate \$3,894.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'TRANSFER TO SPECIAL PROJECTS FUND' expenditure account (#14 5-190-05-07) for funding of additional work on the Downtown Beautification Project;
 - f. Appropriate \$3,894.00 to Special Projects Fund 'TRANSFER FROM 2014 EIGHT YEAR PLAN FUND' revenue account (#16 4-000-10-01) and appropriate \$3,894.00 to Special Projects Fund 'DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT' expenditure account (#16 5-190-05-01) for additional work on the Downtown Beautification Project;
 - g. Appropriate \$31,117.38 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'FAA ACCESS ROAD, CRACK REPAIR GRANT' expenditure account (#14 5-040-56-02) for construction and engineering services at the Searcy Municipal Airport;
 - h. Appropriate \$2,979.50 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to Police Department 'BODY CAMERAS' expenditures account (#01 5-

060-53-18) for body camera purchase;

- i. Appropriate \$19,820.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'FOOTBALL CONCESSION/RESTROOM' expenditure account (#14 5-085-54-01) for professional services on the design of the football concession/press box/restroom facility at the Searcy Sports Complex;
- j. Appropriate \$43,763.84 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to 'GIF-RIVERSIDE PARK PLAN & DESIGN' expenditure account (#01 5-010-56-07) for professional design services for Riverside Park;
- k. Appropriate \$62,239.80 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'ROF-FIRE TURNOUTS' expenditure account (#14 5-500-05-07) for the purchase of turnouts for the Fire Department;
- l. Appropriate \$2,006.74 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION' expenditure account (#14 5-160-54-01) for professional design services on the new Information Technology building provided by Hoffmann Architectural, Inc.;
- m. Appropriate \$2,772.19 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'FIRE STATION 2 RELOCATION BUILDING CONSTRUCTION' expenditure account (#14 5-070-54-01) for professional design services for the Fire Station 2 relocation project provided by Hoffmann Architectural, Inc.;
- n. Appropriate \$3,463.11 from Special 1% Connector Route Tax Fund unappropriated reserves to 'MAIN STREET DEENER CREEK BRIDGE' expenditure account (#13 5-900-54-01) for professional engineering services on the construction of the Main Street Deener Creek replacement bridge;
- o. Appropriate \$10,147.51 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to 'TRANSFER/SUPPLEMENT TO AIRPORT' expenditure account (#01 5-190-05-13) and appropriate \$10,147.51 to Airport Fund 'TRANSFER FROM GENERAL FUND' for the additional funding needed to change

the personnel structure at the Searcy Municipal Airport, eliminating the budgeted two part-time positions and creating one full-time position.

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

- a. \$8,931.56 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- b. \$100,000.00 to City of Searcy LOPFI Fund from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund for LOPFI obligation;
- c. \$3,000,000.00 to the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department for the City of Searcy contribution for the construction of the Highway 36 – Highway 67 Connector Project (Job #'s 050249 and 050251);
- d. \$499,070.36 to Seagraves Construction, Inc. for the construction on the Main Street Deener Creek Bridge;
- e. \$43,110.00 to Hugg & Hall Equipment for the purchase of a Skid Steer with broom attachment for the Street Department;
- f. \$3,894.00 for additional work on the Downtown Beautification project;
- g. \$29,040.82 to Redstone Construction, Inc. for construction services for the FAA Access Road, Crack Repair Grant at the Searcy Municipal Airport;
- h. \$2,076.56 to Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for engineering services for the FAA Access Road, Crack Repair Grant at the Searcy Municipal Airport;
- i. \$2,979.50 to WatchGuard Video for purchase of body cameras for the Police Department;
- j. \$19,820.00 to ETC Engineers & Architects, Inc. for professional services on the design of the football concession/press box/restroom facility at the Searcy Sports Complex;
- k. \$43,763.84 to Whitlow Engineering Services, Inc. for professional design services for Riverside Park;

- l. \$62,239.80 for the purchase of turnouts for the Fire Department: an emergency has been declared to exist and the process of formal bidding is hereby waived for this purchase;
- m. \$2,006.74 to Hoffmann Architectural, Inc. for professional design services for the Information Technology building project;
- n. \$2,772.19 to Hoffmann Architectural, Inc. for professional design services for the Fire Station 2 relocation building project;
- o. \$3,463.11 to Morrison-Shipleigh Engineers, Inc. for professional engineering services on the construction of the Main Street Deener Creek replacement bridge;

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. 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”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. English, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. **Ordinance 2016-09**

The Mayor announced:

- A public meeting will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2016, at the Carmichael Community Center from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. for showing right-of-way acquisition and plans for the Country Club Road improvements/construction
- The Spring 2016 County-wide Clean-up will be April 21, 22, 23 at the White County Fairgrounds

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Immediately following the adjournment of the Council meeting Mayor Morris gave the annual ‘State of the City’ address.

Minutes Approved: April 12, 2016

/s/ David Morris
MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK