

**Searcy City Council – Regular Session**  
**Tuesday, August 14, 2018 6:00 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

A public hearing had been advertised to be held at 6:00 p.m. on August 14, 2018. The purpose for this public hearing was for the consideration of any public input in determining the amounts of liens to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against certain properties as a result of grass cutting expenses and the abatement of other nuisances that have been incurred by the City of Searcy. Mayor David Morris opened the public hearing. No person requested to speak. Mayor Morris closed the public hearing.

A public hearing had been advertised to be held immediately following the previous public hearing regarding the private club permit application from Bold Partners Social Club of Searcy for the Rib Crib of Searcy restaurant. A total of 22 persons signed the sign-in sheet to speak with 21 of them doing so. Mayor Morris thanked all who chose to speak after allowing all to do so. Mayor Morris closed the public hearing.

Mayor David Morris called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. Council member Dale Brewer gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Council member Mike Chalenburg. City Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Council members 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: (14) ordinance regarding the application for a private club permit from Bold Partners Social Club of Searcy, Inc., (15-1-i) budget ordinance appropriation for flooring repair and replacement at the Lightle Senior Center, (15-1-j) budget ordinance appropriation for the acquisition of a 2010 Chevrolet pickup truck for the Parks and Recreation Department, (15-1-k) budget ordinance appropriation for repairs to the Street Department’s Case backhoe, (15-1-l) budget ordinance appropriation for culvert and pipe for the Street Department, (15-2-k) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for flooring repair and replacement at the Lightle Senior Center, and (15-2-l) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for the acquisition of a 2010 Chevrolet pickup truck for the Parks and Recreation Department. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer 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 July 10, 2018 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.

August 14, 2018

Regular Session

Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris presented and read the Treasurer's Report which lists the following balances as of 7-31-2018: General Fund: \$1,678,114.10; Street Fund \$1,953,487.94; Capital Equipment Fund \$17,677.87; LOPFI Fund \$134,351.52; Act 833 Fund \$66,100.89; Airport Fund \$29,948.81. The total of all of the preceding funds is \$3,879,681.13. He also reported the following balances as of 7-31-2018: Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$4,087,369.50; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$6,702,495.17; Information Technology Projects Fund \$8,345.66; Special Projects Fund \$2,545.36; 0.25% Fire Protection Services County Sales Tax Fund \$188,170.20. He also reported a total of \$3,917,015.81 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is up \$239,861.92 from the same time in 2017.

Item (6) on the agenda was a report on the City of Searcy employee salary analysis presented by Bruce Johanson of the Johanson Group. After explaining the process that was used for this salary analysis, he noted that overall the City of Searcy is approximately 8.2% below the market average for like positions to comparable cities (9 cities) and regional areas. He further noted that there are 39 positions in the city that are below the minimum range and 9 that are above the maximum range of comparable positions. This translates into approximately 79% percent being within the market range and 21% outside the market range, which he said is actually fairly good.

Item (7) was for the authorization to solicit bids for the Country Club Road improvement project. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Brewer for the authorization to solicit bids for the Country Club Road improvement project. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard.

Item (8) was for the authorization to solicit bids for the Rolling Meadows and Cloverdale drainage projects. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Chalenburg for the authorization to solicit bids for the Rolling Meadows and Cloverdale drainage projects. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling.

Item (9) on the agenda was for the authorization to solicit bids for the 2018 street paving/overlay project. City Engineer had presented to the Council a listing of various streets to be included in this program with a preliminary estimate of approximately \$1,200,000.00. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mr. Sterling for the authorization to solicit bids for the 2018 street paving/overlay project. Motion carried with the following voting "yes": Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English.

Item (10) was a resolution to authorize the abandonment of a fully utilized asset, namely a 2002 Chevrolet Impala with VIN# 2G1WF55K329295581 in the Airport Department. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Howard and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to approve the resolution to authorize the abandonment of a fully utilized asset, namely a 2002 Chevrolet Impala with VIN# 2G1WF55K329295581 in the Airport

August 14, 2018

Regular Session

Department. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, and Raney. **Resolution 2018-30**

Item (11) was a resolution approving amounts of liens to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against certain properties in the City of Searcy as a result of grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling and seconded by Mr. Brewer to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer. **Resolution 2018-31**

Item (12) on the agenda was an ordinance authorizing the City of Searcy to conduct business with certain individuals who serve as employees of the City of Searcy. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. **Ordinance 2018-22**

Item (13) on the agenda was an ordinance amending Chapter 17 of the Searcy Code of Ordinances, providing for a late payment penalty upon the levy of a tax upon certain sales in the City of Searcy. 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”: Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howard. 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”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, and Sterling. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Sterling, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, and English. **Ordinance 2018-23**

Item (14) on the agenda was an ordinance authorizing Bold Partners Social Club of Searcy, Inc. to file for a private club permit with the Alcohol Beverage Control Division under the provisions of the City of Searcy private club permit ordinance and Arkansas law. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Mayor Morris asked if there was any discussion regarding this motion. Mr. Brewer stated that he would like for this ordinance to be handled on a three reading basis at three separate council meetings. Motion failed with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Sterling, English, and Raney and the following voting “no”: Brewer, Chalenburg, and Howard. Mayor Morris noted that the motion fails because it takes a 2/3 vote to pass. Mr. Gibson stated that at this point it is to

August 14, 2018

Regular Session

be read in its entirety for its first reading. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance for its first reading in its entirety. Mayor Morris stated that this ordinance will be placed on the agenda for the September council meeting.

Item (15) 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 \$54,245.00 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'SOFTBALL PRESSBOX/CONCESSION/RESTROOM' expenditure account (#14 5-085-54-03) for construction services on the new softball pressbox/concession/restroom facility;
- b. Appropriate \$549.29 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'SOFTBALL PRESSBOX/CONCESSION/RESTROOM' expenditure account (#14 5-085-54-03) for architectural/design services on the construction of the new softball pressbox/concession/restroom facility;
- c. Appropriate \$40,000.00 from 1% Special Tax Connector Route Fund unappropriated reserves to 'NORTH MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS' expenditure account (#13 5-900-54-03) for appraisal services and right-of-way acquisition costs for the North Main Street improvement project;
- d. Appropriate \$19,823.19 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'ROLLING MEADOWS/CLOVERDALE DRAINAGE' expenditure account (#14 5-130-05-02) for Rolling Meadows/Cloverdale Addition drainage improvement project engineering services;
- e. Appropriate \$301,355.00 to 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund 'ADA 3676-18 REPAIR, REMARK RUNWAY' expenditure account (#14 5-040-56-08) and appropriate to 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund 'ADA 3676-18 REPAIR, REMARK RUNWAY' revenue account (#14 4-000-98-09) for the 80/20 grant from the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics for repairs and remarking for the runway at the Searcy Municipal Airport (Resolution 2017-52);
- f. Appropriate \$34,425.00 from the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'COUNTRY SQUIRE DRAINAGE PROJECT' expenditure account (#14 5-130-05-05) for construction services on the Country Squire area drainage relief project;

- g. Appropriate \$10,000.00 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Code Enforcement Department 'URBAN RENEWAL-MOWING' expenditure account (#01 5-120-05-04) for grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances;
- h. Appropriate \$5,838.90 to General Fund 'RECREATION DONATIONS' revenue account (#01 4-000-90-08) and appropriate \$5,838.90 to the Parks and 'Recreation Department 'DONATIONS EXPENSED' expenditure account (#01 5-080-05-10) for a donation from First Security Bank for additions and enhancements to the American Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible playground equipment at the Berryhill Park;
- i. Appropriate \$18,881.39 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Mayor's Department 'LIGHTLE CENTER REPAIRS' expenditure account (#01 5-010-02-13) for repair and replacement of flooring at the city-owned John E. Lightle Senior Center building;
- j. Appropriate \$1,671.00 from the 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM' expenditure account (#14 5-190-03-01) for the acquisition of a 2010 Chevrolet pickup truck for the Parks and Recreation Department;
- k. Appropriate \$10,000.00 from Street Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'HEAVY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE' expenditure account (#02 5-900-03-07) for repairs to the Street Department's Case backhoe;
- l. Appropriate \$20,000.00 from Street Fund unappropriated reserves to the 'DRAINAGE' expenditure account (#02 5-900-05-06) for the acquisition of culvert and pipe for the Street Department;

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

- a. \$39,792.21 to Stephenson Oil Company for fuel for all departments;
- b. \$108,217.06 to Regions Bank for payment on the loan for the construction of the Searcy Swim Center (#14 5-085-05-01);
- c. \$54,245.00 to Odom Construction Services, LLC for construction services on the new softball pressbox/concession/restroom facility (#14 5-085-54-03);

- d. \$549.29 to Hoffmann Architectural Inc. for architectural/design services for the new softball pressbox/concession/restroom facility (#14 5-085-54-03);
- e. \$5,650.00 to Mitchell Appraisal Service for appraisal services on the North Main Street improvement project (#13 5-900-54-03);
- f. \$19,823.19 to Morrison – Shipley Engineers Inc. for Rolling Meadows/Cloverdale Addition drainage improvement project engineering services (#14 5-130-05-02);
- g. \$20,637.53 to Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for engineering services for the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics grant #3676-18 for runway repair and remarking (#14 5-040-56-08);
- h. \$172,072.74 to Custom Pavement Maintenance and Safety for construction services for the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics grant #3676-18 for runway repair and remarking (#14 5-040-56-08);
- i. \$34,425.00 to Johnny Brock Excavating & Landscaping, Inc. for construction services on the Country Squire area drainage relief project (#14 5-130-05-05);
- j. \$23,370.00 to Johnny Brock Excavating & Landscaping, Inc. for construction services on the Cecil Tedder Drive area drainage project (#14 5-130-05-04);
- k. \$18,881.39 to Double S Carpet & Supply, Inc. for repair and replacement of flooring at the city-owned John E. Lightle Senior Center building (#01 5-010-02-13);
- l. \$10,950.00 to East Park AutoPlex for the acquisition of a 2010 Chevrolet pickup truck for the Parks and Recreation Department (#14 5-190-03-01);

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, and Brewer. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howard, Sterling, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. **Ordinance 2018-24**

The Mayor announced:

City Council Meeting

7

August 14, 2018

Regular Session

- City offices will be closed on Monday, September 3, 2018 in observance of the Labor Day holiday

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: September 11, 2018

/s/ David Morris  
MAYOR OF SEARCY

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris  
CITY CLERK

Seal