

Searcy City Council – Regular Session
Tuesday, August 11, 2020 6:00 p.m.
Minutes

A public hearing had been advertised to be held at 6:00 p.m. on August 11, 2020. 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 Kyle Osborne opened the public hearing. No person requested to speak. Mayor Osborne closed the public hearing.

A public hearing had been advertised to be held immediately following the previous public hearing regarding the confirmation of water and sewer rates and the proposed issuance of a water and sewer revenue bond. Mayor Osborne opened the public hearing. No person requested to speak regarding the confirmation of water and sewer rates and the proposed issuance of a water and sewer revenue bond. Mayor Osborne inquired of the Council as to whether any of them had any questions or comments. There were none. Mayor Osborne closed the public hearing.

Mayor Kyle Osborne called to order the Regular Session of the Searcy City Council. In order to follow recommended Covid-19 guidelines regarding social distancing, the regular August 11, 2020 City Council meeting was held at the Carmichael Community Center. Don Raney gave the Invocation, with the Pledge of Allegiance following, led by Rodger Cargile. City Clerk/Treasurer Jerry Morris called the roll with the following Council members answering “present”: Logan Cothorn, Mary Ann Arnett, Chris Howell, Rodger Cargile, Dale English, Don Raney, Dale Brewer and Mike Chalenburg. Also present was City Attorney Buck Gibson.

Item (3) on the agenda was for suspending the rules to add items (20-1-j): budget ordinance appropriation for lawn sprinkler repair due to construction on the Country Club Road improvement project, (20-2-j & k) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for lawn sprinkler repair due to construction on the Country Club Road improvement project, and (20-2-l) budget ordinance authorization to expend funds for the purchase of a pick-up truck for the Searcy Municipal Airport. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to suspend the rules and add the items to the budget adjustment ordinance. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn.

The minutes of the regular July 14, 2020 meeting of the Council were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to approve the minutes. The following voted to approve: Howell, Cargile, 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 July 31, 2020: General Fund: \$1,578,563.77; Street Fund \$2,297,523.12; Capital Equipment Fund \$17,852.61; LOPFI Fund \$141,330.27; Act 833

Fund \$35,483.72; Airport Fund \$130,108.27. The total of all of the preceding funds is \$4,200,861.76. He also reported the following balances as of July 31, 2020: Special Highway Connector Route Tax Fund \$3,626,575.66; 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund \$8,362,962.29; Information Technology Projects Fund \$493.18; Special Projects Fund \$2,596.86; 0.25% Fire Protection Services County Sales Tax Fund \$422,093.90; Court Automation Fund \$38,028.68; Advertising and Tourism Promotion Fund \$798,422.93. He also reported a total of \$4,065,973.22 year-to-date in City and County Sales Tax revenues received, which is up \$279,543.67 from the same time in 2019.

Item (6) on the agenda was for the reappointment of Justin Lawson to a five-year term on the City of Searcy (Harding University and Harding Place) Public Educational and Residential Housing Facilities Board, with the term set to expire on August 17, 2025. A motion was made by Mrs. Arnett and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to approve the reappointment of Justin Lawson to a five-year term on the City of Searcy (Harding University and Harding Place) Public Educational and Residential Housing Facilities Board, with the term set to expire on August 17, 2025. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howell. Mr. Chalenburg abstained from voting.

Item (7) was for discussion regarding the Arkansas Public Entities Risk Management Association (APERMA) assessment billing that was received by the City of Searcy. Mr. Gibson informed the Council that at this time there was no new information regarding this billing and recommended that the Council table this discussion until new information has been received. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to table this item until new information has been received. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, and Cargile.

Item (8) on the agenda was for consideration of a request by the Searcy Municipal Airport Commission for the authorization to purchase a pick-up truck. A motion was made by Mr. Raney and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to approve the purchase of a pick-up truck for use by the Searcy Municipal Airport. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, and English.

Item (9) was for the approval of a change order increase in the amount of \$16,428.00 for the Country Club Road improvement project. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to approve the change order increase of \$16,428.00 for the Country Club Road improvement project. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, and Raney.

Item (10) was a resolution for authorization to rename Safety Cove to Ulrey Drive and to notify the Office of Emergency Management of such change. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Brewer and seconded by Mr. Cothorn to approve the resolution for authorization to rename Safety Cove to Ulrey Drive and to notify

the Office of Emergency Management of such change. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, and Brewer.

Resolution 2020-22

Item (11) was a resolution for authorization to execute and perform a certain agreement regarding the provision of School Resource Officers (SRO) to the Searcy School District. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg.

Resolution 2020-23

Item (12) was a resolution to approve the amounts of liens to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against certain properties as a result of grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg and seconded by Mr. Brewer to approve the resolution to approve the amounts of liens to be certified to the White County Tax Collector against certain properties as a result of grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. **Resolution 2020-24**

Item (13) was a resolution authorizing the abandonment of a fully utilized asset, specifically a 1990 Chevrolet truck at the Searcy Municipal Airport. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. Motion was made by Mr. Cothorn and seconded by Mrs. Arnett to pass the resolution. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. **Resolution 2020-25**

Item (14) was a resolution authorizing the officials of the City of Searcy to make an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the purpose of applying for and accepting grant funding and to take all actions necessary to perform under the terms of any grant conditions. Mr. Gibson read the resolution in full. A motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg and seconded by Mr. Brewer to approve the resolution authorizing the officials of the City of Searcy to make an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the purpose of applying for and accepting grant funding and to take all actions necessary to perform under the terms of any grant conditions. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howell. **Resolution 2020-26**

Item (15) on the agenda was an ordinance authorizing the provision of goods and services to the City of Searcy by an employee 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”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, and Cargile. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer,

Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, and English. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, and Raney. **Ordinance 2020-24**

Item (16) on the agenda was an ordinance authorizing the Mayor to apply for grants for city departments. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to table this ordinance until the September 2020 regular Council meeting. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, and Brewer.

Item (17) on the agenda was an ordinance increasing the death benefit amount payable to an eligible survivor of a deceased member of the Searcy Local Police Pension Fund. A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Brewer, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. 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”: Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mr. Chalenburg, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett. **Ordinance 2020-25**

Item (18) on the agenda was an ordinance accepting the dedication of right of way over and across certain real property constituting Colonial Heights as a public road, street, or way. A motion was made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, and Howell. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mrs. Arnett, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, and Cargile. Mr. Gibson then read the emergency clause of the ordinance. Motion was made by Mrs. Arnett, seconded by Mr. Cothorn, to adopt the emergency clause, with the following voting “yes”: Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, and English. **Ordinance 2020-26**

Item (19) on the agenda was an ordinance authorizing the construction of betterments and improvements to the sewer facilities of the City of Searcy, authorizing the issuance of a water and sewer revenue bond for the purpose of financing all or a portion of the cost of construction; providing for the payment of the principal of and interest on the bond; confirming existing water and sewer rates; and prescribing other matters relating thereto. 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”: Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, and Raney. Mr. Gibson read the ordinance by title only. A motion was then made by Mr. Cothorn, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to adopt the ordinance. The ordinance passed with the following voting “yes”: Chalenburg, Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, and Brewer. **Ordinance 2020-27**

Item (20) 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 \$188,848.25 from Special 1% Connector Route Tax Fund unappropriated reserves to the ‘NORTH MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS’ expenditure account (#13 5-900-54-03) for construction services on the North Main Street improvement project;
- b. Appropriate \$6,120.00 from Special 1% Connector Route Tax Fund unappropriated reserves to the ‘NORTH MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS’ expenditure account (#13 5-900-54-03) for easement marking services on the North Main Street improvement project;
- c. Appropriate \$352,461.11 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to the ‘COUNTRY CLUB ROAD IMPROVEMENT’ expenditure account (#14 5-900-54-01) for construction services on the Country Club Road improvement project;
- d. Appropriate \$8,294.00 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 \$6,053.95 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘ADA 3787-19 DRAINAGE/SURFACE REPAIRS’ expenditure account (#14 5-040-56-11) for the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics 3787-19 drainage and surface repairs grant project engineering services;
- f. Appropriate \$66,558.92 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to ‘ADA 3787-19 DRAINAGE/SURFACE REPAIRS’ expenditure account (#14 5-040-56-11) for the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics 3787-19 drainage and surface repairs grant project construction services;

- g. Appropriate \$11,750.00 from General Fund unappropriated reserves to the Mayor Department 'LIGHTLE CENTER REPAIRS' expenditure account (#01 5-010-02-13) for plumbing repairs at the Lightle Senior Center;
- h. Transfer \$2,000.00 from the Police Department 'SMART CHOICES BETTER CHANCES' expenditure account (#01 5-060-05-02) to the Police Department 'UNIFORMS' expenditure account (#01 5-060-01-07) due to unexpected purchases of bullet proof vests;
- i. Transfer \$500.00 from the Police Department 'TRAFFIC SUPPLIES' expenditure account (#01 5-060-04-10) to the Police Department 'UNIFORMS' expenditure account (#01 5-060-01-07) due to unexpected purchases of bullet proof vests;
- j. Appropriate \$1,481.53 from 2014 Eight Year Plan Fund unappropriated reserves to 'COUNTRY CLUB ROAD IMPROVEMENT' expenditure account (#14 5-900-54-01) for repair of lawn sprinkler systems that were disturbed by construction on the Country Club Road improvement project;

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

- a. \$23,333.20 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. \$188,848.25 to Township Builders, Inc. for construction services on the North Main Street improvement project (#13 5-900-54-03);
- d. \$6,120.00 to Quattlebaum Surveying, LLC for easement marking services on the North Main Street improvement project (#13 5-900-54-03);
- e. \$352,461.11 to RL Persons Construction, Inc., for construction services on the Country Club Road improvement project (#14 5-900-54-01);
- f. \$8,294.00 to Morrison – Shipley Engineers Inc. for Rolling Meadows/Cloverdale Addition drainage improvement project engineering services (#14 5-130-05-02);
- g. \$6,053.95 to Miller-Newell Engineers, Inc. for engineering services on the ADA 3787-19 grant for drainage/surface repairs project (#14 5-040-56-11);
- h. \$66,558.92 to Cox Paving for construction services on the ADA 3787-19 grant for drainage/surface repairs project (#14 5-040-56-11);

- i. \$11,750.00 to Humbard Contracting Inc. for plumbing repairs at the Lightle Senior Center (#01 5-010-02-13);
- j. \$1,263.13 to Absolute Lawn & Landscaping, Inc. for repair of lawn sprinkler systems that were disturbed by construction on the Country Club Road improvement project (#14 5-900-54-01);
- k. \$218.40 to Winsupply of Searcy for repair of lawn sprinkler systems that were disturbed by construction on the Country Club Road improvement project (#14 5-900-54-01);
- l. \$25,644.00 to Landers Chrysler Dodge Jeep for the purchase of a pick-up truck for the Searcy Municipal Airport (#14 5-190-03-01);

A motion was made by Mr. Raney, seconded by Mr. Chalenburg, to suspend the rules and allow reading of the ordinance by title only. Motion carried with the following voting “yes”: Cothorn, Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, and Chalenburg. 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”: Arnett, Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, and Cothorn. 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”: Howell, Cargile, English, Raney, Brewer, Chalenburg, Cothorn, and Arnett.
Ordinance 2020-28

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Minutes Approved: September 8, 2020

/s/ Kyle Osborne
MAYOR OF SEARCY

ATTEST:

/s/ Jerry Morris
CITY CLERK

Seal