



## Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

2/14/2023

### City Hall

- Chairman Howell called the meeting to order at 9:00am
- Commissioners Centola, Chalenburg, House, Orozco, and Patel were present
- Approval of Minutes: Chalenburg motioned to approve, House seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Mr. Blansett presented the financial report. Total fund balance as of 12/31/22 was \$2,907,320.48. Restricted Fund Balance is \$2,397,878.07 and the Unrestricted Fund Balance is \$509,442,41. Collections for the month of November 2022 were for Lodging \$25,900.47, Prepared Foods \$93,403.39. Interest Income \$69.89. Expenditures were: New Years Eve Beats & Eats \$15,913.81, Holiday of Lights 2022 \$14,062.67, Professional Services \$2,465.75, Bank Fees \$369.90. Net income for December 2022 \$86,561.62.
- Discussion on GovOS Software & AirBNB & VRBO remittance - Mr Blansett and Mr Gibson discussed the ability to comply enforcement of A&P tax for AirBNB & VRBO remittance. They both felt that this software would increase the compliance with this issue. Mr Blansett also said that this software would be very beneficial to the commission as well as the businesses collecting the tax. Patel motioned to approve the purchase for the software, Chalenburg seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

- Discussion A&P Website Michelle Pugh discussed the benefits of an A&P website. A discussion was had on the communication between the City, Chamber of Commerce and the Commission. Centola motioned to approve Option B for a Stand Alone website and social media presence in cooperation with a meeting with the above mentioned parties on content and direction. House seconded. Vote to approve the motion was unanimous.
- Recap Get Down Downtown Amy Burton presented the financials on the 2022 Get Down Downtown event. She said that she felt the attendance was a little lower than normal due to 4 other festivals scheduled that same weekend. She already has a band in mind for the upcoming year.
- Request for Funding Main Street Searcy \$20,000 Legion Hut Amy Burton presented the request for the Commission to approve \$20,000 for matching funding for a grant to restore the Legion Hut. The city will be considering funding \$20,000 for the grant on 2/14. Total possible award for the grant would be \$120,000. Chalenburg motioned to approve the request, Patel seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Request for Funding Creative Group of Arkansas \$74,100 Robotics Regional Brian Jones presented. After much discussion of the amount and total ask, the request was tabled until a special meeting on 2/21 at 9:00am to see if there can be any cuts to the budget.
- Request for Funding Searcy Recreational Sports League \$54,396 Tournaments and Travel League Rigel Page presented. Chalenburg motioned to approve the request, House seconded. The vote was 5 for, 0 against, with Orozco abstaining.
- Request for Funding Searcy Girls Softball \$5,526 Equipment and Tournament Crews Clarissa Mahanay presented. Centola motioned to approve the request, Patel seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Request for Funding Searcy Regional Chamber of Commerce \$6,000 State Parks Commission meeting Tara Cathey presented.

This is the first time Searcy has been asked to host this meeting. Patel motion to approve the request, Chalenburg seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.

- Change Orders for Berryhill project. Bear Davidson presented. Mr Davidson wanted to bring to the commission's attention for some change orders that were coming. He asked to be added to the agenda for the special meeting on 2/21.