



Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

10/25/2022

City Hall

- In Chairman Howell's absence, Commissioner Centola called the meeting to order at 9:00am
- Commissioners House, Jones, and Patel were present
- Approval of Minutes: Jones made a correction to the minutes that had him both motioning and seconding the approval of the Holiday of Lights request. It was changed to Jones motioning and House seconding. Jones motioned to approve, House seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Mr. Blansett sent a copy of the financial report. The first page shows a tracking of all funds requested from the Commission. Total fund balance as of 9/31/22 was \$2,638,184.79. Restricted Fund Balance is \$2,438,102.68 and the Unrestricted Fund Balance is \$200,082.11. Collections for the month of August 2022 were for Lodging \$32,320.74, Prepared Foods \$91,681.24. Interest Income \$72.10, Donations \$83.80. Expenditures were: Master Plan Allocation \$110,000.00, Billboard Get Down Down Town \$1,595.00, Stage Wall For Events Center \$30,000.00, Spring Street Lights \$13,056.69, Searcy Recreational Sports League - Fall Baseball \$21,907.04, Professional Services \$2,435.00, Bank Fees \$411.89. Net income for August 2022 \$(55,247.74).
- Mr Blansett reported that he is working with a few businesses to bring them current: Superbowl and Knightfire. He will know by the end of the month if Noodle House has started complying. Two

businesses have not been responding to correspondence: Mixing Bowl and Daisy's Lunchbox.

- Request for Funding Yella Ball Industries, Inc. \$3,000 10th Annual Halloween Classic. Clarissa Mahanay presented for Shannon Gamewell. The amount when presented was changed to \$2,000. Jones discussed the issue of granting money to a for-profit business. Motion was made by House not to approve request. Jones seconded. Vote on the motion was unanimous. Request was not granted.
- Request for Funding Creative Group of Arkansas \$26,600 for VOMO - Volunteer Management Solution. Mat Faulkner presented. A suggestion was made by Commission Attorney Buck Gibson to table the request until the full Commission was present. A motion was made by Jones to fund half (\$13,300) with the remaining funds to be raised by the groups using the app before purchasing. Patel seconded. The vote was 3 for and 1 against, with Centola casting the against vote. After the vote, Centola said that it would be placed on the November agenda so the entire Commission could be present to reconsider the request.
- Recap of Funding Get Down Downtown. Amy Burton. Ms. Burton requested that we move the recap to November due to some receipts she has not yet received. She wants to give a full report of the fund usage.
- Michelle Pugh presented two options for website and social media for the Commission. Mr. Gibson said that due to the amount involved in the contract, the proposal should be tabled so that RFQ could be written and submitted consistent with state laws. Patel motioned to table motion. House suggested that we table the proposal until January. Patel motioned to table motion until January. House seconded. The motion to table was approved by unanimous vote.
- Commissioner Centola adjourned the meeting at 10:15 am

