
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:00 pm
February 14, 2023

On this date the City Council of the City of Conway, Arkansas met in regular session. The following members being a quorum were present and acting: Councilman Hawkins, councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Webb, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, and City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder. City Clerk Michael Garrett was not present.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Denise Hurd, Office of the City Clerk

Minutes: January 24, 2023

Councilwoman Isby motioned to approve the **January 24, 2023** minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Webb seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 8-0.

Report of Standing Committees:

A. Community Development Committee (Airport, Community Development, Code Enforcement, Permits, Inspections, & Transportation, Planning & Development)

1. Consideration to approve nominations for the Conway Tree Board & Conway Housing Authority.

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A1 to the Council and read the names of the nominees and moved to accept the nominations. Councilwoman Isby seconded the motion. A vote was called and the nominations were approved 8-0.

Conway Tree Board:

Skylor Swope, Parks & Recreation Representative- Term Expires December 31, 2026

Logan Pryor, Conway Corporation Representative- Term Expires December 31, 2026

Conway Housing Authority:

Major Robyn G. Edward -Term Expires January 31st, 2028

2. Resolution requesting the Faulkner County Tax Collector to place a lien on 2205 Maplewood Drive in the amount of \$113.74 for expenses incurred by the City.

R-23-08

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. There was no one present to represent the property. Councilwoman Isby motioned to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Webb seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 8-0.

3. Consideration to dispose of inventory (vehicles) for the Conway Airport.

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Jake Briley of the Conway Airport addressed the Council stating that the Airport had several vehicles to sell at public auction and asked for approval from Council to do so. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve, and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. A vote was called, and the consideration was approved 8-0.

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4. Resolution to approve applying for grant funds for the Federal Aviation Administration and accepting the bid for the Runway 4-22 Rehabilitation project for the Conway Airport.

R-23-09

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A4 to the Council. Jake Briley told the Council that there was going to be some runway rehabilitation including repairing and sealing joints and re-doing runway markings. He told them that five proposals were received, with the lowest bid submitted by Scodeller Construction. Councilman Hawkins moved to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 8-0.

5. Ordinance accepting and appropriating donation funds for the Conway Tree Board.

O-23-15

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A5 to the Council. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. A vote was called with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Webb, Councilman Grimes, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Hawkins, and Councilwoman Isby. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

B. Public Service Committee (Physical Plant, Parks & Recreation, Sanitation)

1. Resolution to approve installing and purchasing the field lighting at the Conway Soccer Complex.

R-23-10

Councilman Hawkins presented Item B1 to the Council. Derek Cox addressed the Council stating that this Resolution would allow his department to enter into an agreement with Musco Lighting Company and Centech for lighting at the new Conway Soccer Complex. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 8-0.

C. Finance

1. Ordinance appropriating funds for the non-uniformed employee's pension plan.

O-23-11

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C1 to the Council. Tyler Winningham told the Council that the dollar amount before them was blank, as in the committee meeting the recommendation was for the amount to be one million dollars, so the final amount is left to the discretion of the Council. Councilwoman Mehl made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the amount of funds to be appropriated at one million dollars. Councilwoman Isby seconded the motion. Councilman Hawkins asked if this would have come before them if the stock market situation had been different. Mr. Winningham said that every time the actuaries present, they remind us that our unfunded liability continues to grow, and they recommend that we increase funding. But he added that they had not requested the City provide extra funds, but this was just an attempt to be pro-active. Councilman Grimes asked if the City was earning interest in the local bank account. Mr. Winningham said that the interest rates change with the federal fund rate but at the present he thought it was around 6%. He added that in our investment assets there is a cash account and the funds could be transferred and invested at any time. He added that there is still a cash flow issue in that our retiree numbers continue to grow, and we continue to pay out benefits which has been a struggle the past few years. The Council agreed that if the City's finances were in a position that allows this appropriation, then it is a good time to do so. A vote was called, and the following voted "Aye": Councilwoman Webb, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Jones, and Councilman Grimes. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

Dr. Terry Fiddler made a presentation to the Council regarding a mission project by the Arkansas Mission of Mercy to provide dental care at a free clinic across the state on April 14th and 15th and is sponsored by the Arkansas State Dental Association and Delta Dental of Arkansas.

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Adjournment-----

PASSED this 14th day of February 2023

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett