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MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

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Conway, Arkansas  
Tuesday, 6:30 pm  
March 13, 2018

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: Alderman Hawkins, Alderman Pruitt, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Ledbetter, and Alderwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Attorney Chuck Clawson and City Clerk Michael Garrett. Alderman Grimes was not present.

**Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry**

**Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett**

**Minutes: February 27, 2018**

Alderwoman Isby motioned to approve the **February 27, 2018** minutes as submitted. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 6-0.

Alderman Pruitt joined the meeting.

**1. Report of Standing Committees:**

**A. Community Development Committee (Planning, Zoning, Permits, Community Development, Historic District, Streets, Airport & Conway Housing Authority)**

**1. Consideration to allow the Conway Tree Board to provide a grant to Conway High School.**

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A1 to the Council. Reid Kelley, Conway High School teacher was present and addressed the Council explaining that the grant from the Tree Board would provide funds in the amount of \$2,000 to purchase a tank for raising catfish, a project for the Aqua-Culture class. He stated that the new tank would allow this program to expand. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to approve the consideration and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

**2. Resolution to accept the proposal selecting a civil engineer for the design of a street, sidewalk, parking and drainage improvements along Siebenmorgan Road from Lincoln to Ingram Street for the Community Development Department.**

**R-18-09**

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. Kiera Oluokun, Community Development Director was present to address the Council. She stated that the Resolution would approve Crafton Tull Engineers as designers to complete the sidewalk and drainage improvements and was part of the 2017 project previously approved. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The Resolution passed 7-0.

**3. Consideration to approve the bid for the construction of a fence on the corner of Harkrider and Bruce Street for the Street & Engineering Department.**

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Jamie Brice, Purchasing Manager addressed the Council stating that she received 9 bids on the project and that the lowest bid was \$15,592 from United Fence and Construction. Alderwoman Smith moved to approve United Fence and Construction and Alderman Jones seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

**4. Ordinance appropriating grant funds received from FEMA for the Street & Engineering Department.**

**O-18-34**

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A4 to the Council. Candy Jones, Grant Administrator addressed the Council stating that the City had received the grant funds from FEMA in the amount of \$51,869.46 and called the Council's attention to a list of projects the money is to be used for. She said the funds would

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be transferred to the Street & Engineering Department to enable them to begin the projects, or reimburse for projects already completed. Alderwoman Isby made a motion to waive the three readings and Alderwoman Smith seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. There was no further discussion. Alderwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Alderwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderman Pruitt, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Isby, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderwoman Smith, and Alderman Hawkins. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

**5. Ordinance appropriating funds for the College Avenue and Country Club Road for the Street & Engineering Department.**

**O-18-35**

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A5 to the Council. Finley Vinson of the Street & Engineering Department was present to address the Council stating that this is a budget appropriation ordinance, in anticipation of the College and Country Club Roundabout project. They have asked Conway Corp to begin their relocation of utilities. It is planned to shut the intersection down during the summer and have it re-opened before school starts, however the construction will likely not be completed until the end of the year. Bryan Massey was present to express his concerns about the construction of the roundabout and the impact on his property. Finley Vinson explained that it would be a "mini-roundabout" roughly 80' in diameter and that it fit within the existing right of way on Mr. Massey's property. Mr. Massey was advised that his in-ground sprinkler system would be re-located at no expense to him. There was no further discussion. Alderwoman Isby made a motion to waive the three readings and Alderwoman Smith seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Isby, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderman Jones, Alderman Pruitt, Alderman Hawkins, Alderwoman Smith and Alderwoman Mehl. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

**6. Consideration to approve the bid for the Dave Ward Drive Pedestrian Overpass for the Street & Engineering Department.**

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A6 to the Council. Council members questioned the increase in costs for construction of the overpass. Finley Vinson explained that the original plan design has changed for the overpass. Initially the "simple" design was chosen, but then later changed to the "collegiate" design through meetings with the Mayor's office and representatives from UCA. He stated that UCA has contributed \$300,000 toward the construction of the overpass. He also stated that the initial estimates for the construction were developed by a planner and not by engineers. Mayor Castleberry added that design costs were a large part of the increase in cost estimates. Finley Vinson said that in addition, steel prices have gone up significantly, along with a number of other details in construction that caused the costs to increase. Mayor Castleberry stated that funding for the project would come from A&P tax monies, Metroplan, UCA and other grant funding. Alderman Hawkins made a motion to approve the bid from Manhattan Road & Bridge Co. for \$3,363,903.35 and Alderman Pruitt seconded it. The motion passed 7-0.

**7. Consideration to approve the 2018 asphalt milling & pavement program for the Street & Engineering Department.**

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A7 to the Council. Finley Vinson reported that he received two bids and recommended the job be awarded to the lowest bidder with the understanding that costs could increase based on additional repair work that may be necessary. Alderwoman Smith moved to approve this consideration and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The motion for approval passed 7-0.

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

**1. Ordinance appropriating funds received for a sponsorship to replace scoreboards at the Parks & Recreation Department.**

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**O-18-36**

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B1 to the Council stating that the check for \$31,500 would be used to replace scoreboards at both the Sports Center and McGee Center. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. There was no further discussion. Alderwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Alderwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Hawkins, Alderman Pruitt, Alderman Jones, and Alderwoman Isby. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

**C. Public Safety Committee (Police, Fire, District Court, Animal Welfare Unit, Communication Emergency Operations Center, Information Technology & City Attorney)**

**1. Ordinance accepting bids & appropriating funds for the cost to refurbish the concrete floors in the kennel area of the Animal Welfare Unit.**

**O-18-37**

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C1 to the Council. Jamie Brice reported that she received five bids for this job and recommended accepting the low bid from Neat Crete, LLC for \$25,751, to be paid from the City of Conway Spay and Neuter Fund. Alderwoman Isby made a motion to waive the three readings and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. There was no further discussion. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the emergency clause and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderman Pruitt, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Hawkins, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Jones and Alderwoman Isby. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

**2. Ordinance appropriating funds for the renovations at the Conway Emergency Operations Center.**

**O-18-38**

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C2 to the Council. Candy Jones, Grants Administrator reported that as the State Supreme Court ruled that all GIF grant funds be returned to the DFA, the City was left without grant funds to cover the planned improvements to the CEOC. The Ordinance would appropriate \$58,816 from the General Fund for the renovation along with funds provided by the County. Alderwoman Smith motioned to waive the three readings and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Alderwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the emergency clause and Alderwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Isby, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderman Pruitt, Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Hawkins and Alderman Jones. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

There was no further discussion. The meeting was adjourned.

**Adjournment-----**

*PASSED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018*

**APPROVED:**

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*Mayor Bart Castleberry*

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*City Clerk Michael O. Garrett*