
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

**Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:00 pm
June 13, 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 Grimes, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Webb, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Clerk Michael Garrett, and City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder. Councilman Hawkins was absent.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael Garrett, City Clerk

Minutes: May 23rd, 2023

Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

Report of Standing Committees:

A. Economic Development Committee (Conway Area Chamber of Commerce, Conway Development Corporation, Conway Downtown Partnership, & Conway Corporation)

1. Resolution to set a public hearing for a proposed electric rate adjustment for Conway Corporation.

R-23-24

Mayor Castleberry presented Item A1 to the Council stating that this Resolution will set the date for the public hearing for July 11, at 6:00 pm at City Hall in the Council Chambers. City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder read the Ordinance to the Council. Councilwoman Mehl motioned to approve the Resolution setting the public hearing and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. A vote was called, and the motion was carried 7-0.

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

1. Consideration to approve the waiving of all three readings for the ordinances on the May 23rd City Council Agenda.

Mayor Castleberry asked for a motion to waive the three readings for the ordinances on the evening's agenda. Councilman Ledbetter made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

2. Resolution requesting the Faulkner County Tax Collector place a lien on 6 Sycamore Dr for expenses incurred by the City.

R-23-25

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B2 to the Council stating that the amount of the lien is \$324.14. There was no one present to represent the property. Councilwoman Isby motioned to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 7-0.

3. Resolution requesting the Faulkner County Tax Collector place a lien on 7 Azalea Loop for expenses incurred by the City.

R-23-26

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B3 to the Council stating the amount of the lien is \$120.35. There was no one present to represent the property. Councilwoman Isby motioned to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 7-0.

4. Resolution to approve the purchase of vehicles for the Permits & Inspections Department.

R-23-27

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B4 to the Council stating that this item was approved in the budget, but state contractors were having difficulty acquiring vehicles. He added that Permits & Inspections Director Cecil Corning has located two vehicles for purchase. Mr. Corning told the Council that he has put in a request for the vehicles with the Toyota dealership and is awaiting the arrival of two RAV 4 compact SUVs. Councilwoman Mehl moved to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 7-0.

5. Ordinance appropriating funds and approving the lowest bid for the stormwater detention pond project for the Transportation Department.

O-23-46

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B5 to the Council. Kurt Jones addressed the Council stating that this is a project for two detention ponds that was recently bid. He told them that one was near Catherine Place which should help with the flooding issues there, and the other is the detention pond near the intersection of Salem and Irby. He added that funding for the projects would come from the American Rescue Plan funds. He said that the low bid came in at \$481,641, which is under the 500,000 budget amount. Councilwoman Isby asked if the City had ever used the company that was the low bidder, and Mr. Jones said that he had not had any experience working with them in Conway, but he had worked with them on other projects in other locations. Councilwoman Webb asked if the flooding issues around Catherine Place was related to a sinkhole. Mr. Jones stated that some of the flooding in the area had to do with sink holes related to underground storm drainage in the area. He added that this project will not address those issues specifically but is designed to reduce some of the water flow into Catherine Place. Councilwoman Isby motioned to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Webb. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

C. Public Safety Committee (Animal Welfare, Communications Emergency Operations Center, Department of Information Systems & Technology, District Court, Fire, Office of the City Attorney, & Police)

1. Ordinance approving the reclassification of a position and personnel change within the District Court.

This Item was tabled in order to complete a salary survey.

2. Resolution to approve the sale of property located at 875 Enterprise Avenue.

R-23-28

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C2 to the Council stating that the Kordsmeier family has offered to purchase the former Fire Station #3 building. He added that the property had appraised at \$300,000, and that the Kordsmeiers have agreed to that selling price. Councilman Ledbetter motioned to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 7-0.

3. Consideration to approve vehicle disposal for the Conway Police Department.

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C3 to the Council. Chief Tapley addressed the Council stating that there were two seized vehicles they needed to sell on public surplus. Councilwoman Isby motioned to approve the consideration and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

4. Consideration to approve equipment disposal for the Conway Police Department.

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C4 to the Council. Chief Tapley told the Council the Department had a number of pieces of IT equipment that were no longer useful and needed to be auctioned on public surplus

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

or Gov Deals. Councilwoman Isby motioned to approve the consideration and Councilwoman Mehl seconded. The motion carried 7-0.

5. Ordinance appropriating reimbursement funds for the Conway Police Department.

O-23-47

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C5 to the Council. Chief Tapley told the Council that the department had received reimbursement funds from various entities such as insurance proceeds, extra duty, donations, etc. and asked to have that money placed into appropriate accounts. Councilwoman Isby motioned to adopt the Ordinance and Councilman Jones seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll, with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Webb, Councilman Grimes, and Councilwoman Tucker. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 13th day of June 2023

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett