
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:30 pm
September 13, 2022

On this date the City Council of the City of Conway, Arkansas met in regular session. The following members were present and acting: Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder, City Clerk Michael Garrett.

Call to Order: Mayor Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett, City Clerk

Minutes: August 23rd, 2022

Councilwoman Isby motioned to approve the **August 23, 2022** meeting minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 8-0.

Report of Standing Committees:

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

1. Resolution accepting the donation of a utility easement from Stephens Real Estate Investments for Conway Corporation.

R-22-43

Mayor Castleberry presented Item A1 to the Council. Mark Ferguson explained to the Council that this is an easement related to the Chestnut Street improvements. He said the goal was to relocate and upgrade some utilities ahead of the Street Department's work. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 8-0.

2. Resolution approving a new water source for Faulkner and Conway Counties from Conway Corporation.

R-22-44

Mayor Castleberry presented Item A1 to the Council. Mark Ferguson explained that Conway Corporation was seeking support for a proposed lake to be located in Conway County. He said it would be a joint collaboration between Conway Corp and Conway County Regional Water Distribution District. He added that presently both companies use water from Brewer Lake to serve their customers but as it is a finite watershed, a new water supply would be needed in the future. He said that the new lake would be located at the East Fork of Point Remove River in Conway County. He added that there is no obligation for the City to invest financially at this step. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 8-0.

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

1. Ordinance appropriating funding for Program Year 2022 for the Community Development Block Grant Program.

O-22-103

Councilman Hawkins presented Item B1 to the Council. Shawanna Rodgers addressed the Council stating that this Ordinance allowed appropriation of HUD funding in the amount of \$481,835.00, and that the CDBG Program was looking to provide services to three non-profits again this year. She added that there was originally four, but one had withdrawn their application. She told them that their current project was the Overnight Shelter which they are hoping will open Spring of 2023.

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Councilwoman Isby made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The motion carried 8-0. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Jones, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilwoman Smith, Councilwoman Isby and Councilwoman Mehl. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

2. Ordinance appropriating funds for the T-Hangar construction project for the Conway Airport.

O-22-104

Councilman Hawkins presented Item B2 to the Council. Jake Briley addressed the Council stating that these funds were for the additional hangars that were completed in the spring of this year. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 8-0. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Smith. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

3. Ordinance appropriating funds to purchase aviation fuel for resale at the Conway Airport.

O-22-105

Councilman Hawkins presented Item B3 to the Council. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 8-0. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the emergency clause and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Tucker, and Councilman Hawkins. The Ordinance with the emergency clause passed 8-0.

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

1. Ordinance appropriating funds for fuel replenishment for the Conway Police Department.

O-22-106

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C1 to the Council. Chief Tapley told the Council that the Department's fuel budget had been depleted and that they would need another \$100,000 to complete the year. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 8-0. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Ledbetter and Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

2. Ordinance appropriating insurance funds received for the Conway Fire Department.

O-22-107

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C2 to the Council. Chief Winter told the Council the Department had received insurance funds for repairs to Engine 6. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 8-0. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Ticker, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

3. Resolution approving the re-allocation of funds for the Conway Fire Department.

R-22-45

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C3 to the Council, reminding them that in 2006 bond issued monies financed the building of a new Police Station, furnishings, etc., two engines and one ladder truck for the Fire Department. In 2011 the Council passed an Ordinance committing \$500,000 annually to the Police Department for the purchase of vehicles. In 2018 and Ordinance was passed committing \$400,000 annually, \$100,000 went to the Fire Department for apparatus. He told them that after

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meeting with both Chiefs, it was agreed to split the annual funding 50/50 between the Fire Department and Police Department for vehicles and apparatus. Mayor Castleberry asked the Council to agree that if Chief Tapley and the Police Department found they needed additional funds for vehicles, it would be considered by the Council. Councilman Hawkins made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 8-0.

4. Ordinance approving the purchase of a pumper and rescue unit with PNC Equipment for the Conway Fire Department. O-22-108

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C4 to the Council telling them that they have several options to consider. One is to buy both trucks at the same time for around 1.7 million, another is a 5 year purchase plan at 4.01% which would be approximately \$379,000 annually less \$250,000 leaving \$129,500 to come out of the General Fund. Another option is a 10 year plan which would be \$211,292 over 10 years. There was discussion about the interest amounts and trade in values. Jamie Brice told the Council that once the vehicles were ordered, the City would only be required to pay an interest payment until the vehicles were received. The recommendation from the Purchasing Department was the 5 year plan. It was agreed that inquiries would be made to local banks to see if competitive interest rates could be had. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 8-0. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the 5-year financing option and the emergency clause, and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Hawkins. The Ordinance and the emergency clause passed 8-0.

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 13th day of September, 2022

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett