

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:30 pm
October 8, 2019

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 Isby, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Pruitt. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Clerk Michael Garrett and City Attorney Chuck Clawson.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett, City Clerk

Minutes: September 24, 2019

Councilwoman Isby motioned to approve the **September 24, 2019** minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

Report of Standing Committees:

A. Community Development Committee (Airport, Community Development, Planning & Development, Permits & Inspection (Code Enforcement), Historic District, Transportation)

- 1. Resolution to approve the issuance of bonds for the purpose of assisting in the financing of the acquisition, construction & renovation of an industrial facility at property located at 1800 Sturgis Road.**

R-19-52

Mayor Castleberry presented Item A1 to the Council. Councilman Hawkins joined the meeting. Brad Lacy, of the Conway Area Chamber of Commerce addressed the Council stating that this is a standard industrial revenue bond for a new company to Conway and is in reference to their property tax abatement. Gordon Wilbourn of Kutak Rock also spoke, saying that there would be an ordinance presented soon naming the company and providing additional details. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Resolution passed 8-0.

- 2. Consideration to approve the nomination of Andrew Register to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board.**

Mayor Castleberry presented Item A2 to the Council. Councilman Hawkins moved to approve the nomination and Councilman Pruitt seconded it. The nomination was approved 8-0.

- 3. Resolution to condemn the structure located at 3290 Stone Road.**

This Item was removed from the Agenda.

- 4. Resolution approving the submittal of an application for the consolidated rail infrastructure and Safety Improvement Grant (CRIS) for the Conway Transportation Department.**

R-19-53

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A6 to the Council. Finley Vinson from the Transportation Department addressed the Council stating that this is a grant and the engineers estimate as well as the City's estimated match is a maximum figure. He added that we are still waiting on a letter of commitment from Union Pacific, and he still unsure as to whether the grant will be for full construction or just for environmental and engineering design. The amount would be if the City applied for and was awarded full construction. Councilwoman Smith moved to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The Resolution passed 8-0.

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

1. **Resolution accepting the lowest bid for a wastewater force main at the recycling center for the Department of Sanitation.**

R-19-54

Jamie Brice addressed the Council stating that one bid had been received. She added that the engineer's estimate was \$135,000 so she was comfortable with the bid from Paladino-Nash in the amount of \$109,834.60. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilman Ledbetter seconded it. The Resolution passed 8-0.

Old Business

1. **Resolution to condemn the structure located at 475 East Robins #183.**

R-19-55

Mayor Castleberry presented this item to the Council. Sheila Miller, resident of the property in question addressed the Council, reiterating her concerns from the last City Council meeting about being without a place to live if the property was condemned. Mr. Phillip Fletcher spoke on behalf of Ms. Miller. Austin Sullivan, Code Enforcement Officer addressed the Council with information from the owners of the Property regarding efforts they had made to work with Ms. Miller and general upkeep of the trailer park. Councilman Grimes moved to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. Councilman Grimes reminded Ms. Miller that she had 30 days before the condemnation was effective to locate another place to live. Mr. Fletcher told the Council he would update the Mayor's office with regards to the situation. The Resolution to condemn the property was passed 8-0.

New Business

1. **Resolutions regarding levy of millage rates on personal property taxes.**

R-19-56

Resolution of a **voluntary** levy of **two-tenths (.2) mill** on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for an ***Animal Shelter*** for the City of Conway.

R-19-57

Resolution of a **voluntary** levy of **four-tenths (.4) mill** on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for a recreation assessment raising special revenue for the sole and exclusive purpose of providing additional funds for the purpose of construction, equipping, operating and maintaining the ***public recreation and playgrounds*** of City of Conway.

R-19-58

Resolution of a **voluntary** levy of **four-tenths (.4) mill** on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue the exclusive purpose of operating and maintaining the ***cemeteries*** for the City of Conway.

R-19-59

Resolution of a levy of **four-tenths (.4) mill** on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue for the Pension and Relief Fund for a ***Policeman's Pension and Relief Fund***.

R-19-60

Resolution of a levy of **four-tenths (.4) mill** on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue for the Pension and Relief Fund for a ***Fireman's Pension and Relief Fund***.

R-19-61

Resolution of a levy of **four-tenths (.4) mill** on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue for the Pension and Relief Fund for paid ***Non-uniformed employees***.

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R-19-62

Resolution of a levy of **three (3.0) mill** on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising ***General Fund Revenues***.

Mayor Castleberry presented and read the Resolutions to the Council, noting that there is no increase in the rates from last year. Councilwoman Smith moved to adopt the Resolutions for the levy of millage rates on personal property taxes. Councilman Grimes seconded the motion. The Resolutions were passed 8-0.

Mayor Castleberry told the Council that he would be out of town on the date of the next City Council meeting, as well as Councilwoman Mehl. Councilman Grimes made a motion to suspend the rules to discuss options and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The motion carried 8-0. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to cancel the City Council meeting scheduled for October 22, and Councilman Grimes seconded it. The motion to cancel the next City Council meeting passed 8-0.

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 8th day of October 2019

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett