
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:30 pm
December 8, 2020

On this date the City Council of the City of Conway, Arkansas met in regular session. ***Due to restrictions imposed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City Council meeting was held via Facebook Live on the City of Conway, Arkansas Facebook page, and the City of Conway YouTube channel.*** The following members being a quorum were present and acting: Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Jones, Councilman Pruitt, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Grimes and Councilwoman Smith. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Clerk Michael Garrett and City Attorney Chuck Clawson. Councilwoman Isby was not present.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett, City Clerk

Minutes: November 24, 2020

Councilwoman Smith motioned to approve the **November 24, 2020** minutes as submitted. Councilman Jones 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. Ordinance granting a franchise to Kings Live Music to utilize specific street rights of way on the east side of Front Street.

O-20-75

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A1 to the Council, stating that this matter has been approved by the planning Department and the Code Enforcement Department. City Attorney Chuck Clawson said that a Franchise agreement had been drafted to allow the restaurant to host a food truck outside the establishment, adding that the agreement is specific to the current owners and is not transferable. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilman Jones seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Councilwoman Smith made a motion for the adoption of the Ordinance and Councilman Jones seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Pruitt, Councilwoman Smith, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Jones, Councilman Grimes and Councilman Ledbetter. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

2. Resolution requesting the Faulkner County Tax Collector place a lien against property at 2411 Parkwood in the amount of \$217.78 for expenses incurred by the City of Conway.

R-20-94

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. There was no one present to represent the property. There was no further discussion. The Resolution passed 7-0.

3. Ordinance creating a Diversity Advisory Council for the City of Conway.

O-20-76

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Shawanna Rodgers, Diversity and Economic Development Coordinator addressed the Council stating the individuals on this Council will work toward diversity in City government and the community at large. She added that applications have been received and asked the Council for approval for the creation of this Council. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Councilman Jones made a motion for the adoption of the Ordinance and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman

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Jones, Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Pruitt. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

4. **Consideration to approve the nominations for boards and commissions for the City of Conway.**

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A4 to the Council stating the request for nominations for boards and commission were advertised in October. He read the nominations for boards and commission to the Council for their approval.

Airport Advisory Committee- Term expires December 31, 2024

Brett Carroll
Bill Atkisson

Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board- Term expires December 31, 2023

Isaac Sims
Andrew Register
Marie Cason
Jeremy Waits
Jon Ross Henderson

Diversity Advisory Council – Term Expires TBD

Wayne Dickerson
Danielle Henry
Jalon Hughes
Rafeal Marlow
Corey Parks
Jema Quintana
Jordan Summers

Historic District Commission – Term expires December 31, 2023

Marie Cason
Shane Lind

Oak Grove Cemetery Board – Term expires December 31, 2024

Claude Moore

Planning Commission – Term expires December 31, 2025

Laura King
Larry Webb

All boards and commissions nominations were approved 7-0.

5. **Resolution to authorize the City to sell a portion of vacant property (4.5 acres) located on Blaney Hill Road.**

R-20-95

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A5 to the Council. James Walden told the Council that the City was approached by Mr. Conley whose family has owned the adjacent property for generations. He said that the property in question can only be accessed via Mr. Conley's property. He added that the proceeds from the sale can be used for development of mountain bike trails in the area. Councilwoman Smith made a motion for the adoption of the Resolution and Councilman Jones seconded it. The Resolution passed 7-0.

6. **Resolution authorizing the City to convey property located along South German Lane.**

R-20-96

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A6 to the Council. Mr. Bethea and Mr. McDaniel of Conway Corporation addressed the Council explaining the history of the property conveyances and stating that the Henze family is requesting the completion of the release of the property. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilman Jones seconded it. The Resolution passed 7-0.

7. **Ordinance approving professional services for the Salem Road Bridge Project for the Transportation Department.**

O-20-77

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Councilman Hawkins presented Item A7 to the Council. Finley Vinson addressed the Council stating that the City was awarded a 3 million dollar grant from Metroplan to build a new bridge on Salem road over Tucker Creek and Kinley Trail. He said that a contract was secured with Garver for the structural aspect of the bridge only, but with the grant secured, he is seeking to expand the contract to include environmental documentation and ARDOT coordination for \$233,800, property acquisition services for \$127,700 and construction inspection \$238,000. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Councilwoman Smith made a motion for the adoption of the Ordinance and Councilman Ledbetter seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Grimes, Councilman Pruitt, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

8. Ordinance establishing requirements for permitting of all grading, excavation and other land altering activities for the Transportation Department.

O-20-78

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A8 to the Council. Finley Vinson stated that this is an ordinance that replaces and existing stormwater ordinance and clarifies processes for developers. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Councilwoman Smith made a motion for the adoption of the Ordinance and Councilman Ledbetter seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Pruitt, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Jones, Councilman Hawkins. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

B. Finance

1. Ordinance adopting a budget for the City of Conway for the FY2021.

O-20-79

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B1 to the Council, presenting a prepared statement giving the state of the local economy, the pandemic, and its impact on the 2021 budget preparation. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilman Jones seconded it. The motion carried 7-0. Councilman Jones made a motion to adopt the FY2021 Budget as submitted. Councilman Ledbetter seconded the motion. Councilman Hawkins expressed his approval of a conservative approach to the budget due to the economic unknowns. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Pruitt, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Jones, Councilman Grimes and Councilman Ledbetter. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

Mayor Castleberry closed the meeting stating that this is the last City Council meeting in which City Attorney Chuck Clawson would serve as City Attorney. Statements were made by Mr. Clawson, and Mr. Charles Finkenbinder who replaces Mr. Clawson as City Attorney in January 2021. The City Council joined the Mayor in thanking Mr. Clawson for his good service and wise council.

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 8th day of December 2020

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett