
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:00 pm
September 10, 2024

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, Councilman Cummins, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, and City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder. Councilwoman Mehl was absent.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett, City Clerk/Treasurer

Minutes: August 27th, 2024, City Council Meeting

Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted and Councilman Ledbetter seconded it. The motion carried 6-0.

Report of Standing Committees:

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

1. Consideration to approve waiving all three readings for the ordinances on the September 10, 2024, City Council agenda.

Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the consideration to waive all three readings for all ordinances on the May 28, 2024, agenda and Councilman Jones seconded it. A vote was called, and the motion carried 6-0.

2. Ordinance appropriating insurance funds for City Hall.

O-24-59

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. Jamie Brice told the Council the funds were from insurance proceeds and not from the General Fund. Mayor Castleberry reminded the Council of the water leak that occurred during the severe freezing weather in February of this year, and the damage that was done to the building, especially the Council Chambers. Jamie Brice told the Council that the amount of the insurance proceeds was \$326,475.55. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilman Jones seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Cumins, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Grimes, and Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 6-0.

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

1. Ordinance appropriating funds for software for the Conway Emergency Operations Center (CEOC)

O-24-60

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C1 to the Council. Sean Canady, Director of the CEOC told the Council that this was for the software license costs up front and there will be costs for annual support which will be included in the 2025 budget. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the emergency clause and Councilman Jones seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Grimes, Councilman Cummins, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Isby, and Councilman Hawkins. The Ordinance with the emergency clause passed 6-0.

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**2. Ordinance creating an additional personnel position for the Conway Emergency Operations Center (CEOC)
O-24-61**

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C2 to the Council. Sean Canady told the Council that due to the consolidation of County and City employees at the CEOC, there was an immediate need for an administrative assistant. Councilwoman Isby stated that the actual position salary would be \$44,975 with \$18,000 to come out of the budget this year. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the emergency clause and Councilman Hawkins seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Jones, Councilman Cummins, Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Grimes, and Councilman Ledbetter. The Ordinance with the emergency clause passed 6-0.

Mayor Castleberry announced that Councilwoman Webb has resigned from the City Council due to having moved to a family home outside of Ward 3. Councilwoman Isby motioned to withdraw into an executive session to discuss Ms. Webb's replacement, and Councilman Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. When Council returned from executive session, Mayor Castleberry stated that the Council had requested that anyone *living in Ward 3* and was interested in serving out the remaining two-year term, to contact the City Clerk's office. The names of interested individuals will be forwarded to the City Council in two weeks to be discussed at the next Council meeting. He added that the deadline will be September 20th.

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 10th day of September 2024

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett