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# MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

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Conway, Arkansas  
Tuesday, 6:00 pm  
October 22, 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, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Cummins, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Hawks, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Clerk/Treasurer Michael O. Garrett, and City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder.

**Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry**

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

**Minutes: October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, City Council Meeting**

Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion carried 8-0.

**Monthly Financial Report ending September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

Tyler Winningham addressed the Council stating that sales tax in September was up 2.7% and 4.4% year to date. He said that the Street Turnback revenue was down slightly this year, partly due to the severance tax that isn't doing as well as years past. He said that Sanitation fee revenue was up about 2% over last year, and the airport fund is down about 17%. He added that the 2023 audit was completed in September. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the monthly financial report and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The motion carried 8-0.

**Report of Standing Committees:**

**A. Public Service Committee (Physical Plant, Parks & Recreation, and Sanitation)**

**1. Consideration to approve waiving all three readings for the ordinances on the October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, City Council agenda.**

Councilman Hawkins made a motion to approve the waiving of all three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 8-0.

**2. Consideration to approve the removal and trade in of equipment for the Parks & Recreation Department.**

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. Andrew Thames told the Council that they were looking to trade in two new mowers for two new other mowers that were larger. He added that this would have no impact on any funds as the costs would come out of their operation budget. He said they are also looking to remove some vehicles from their inventory that would be sold at auction. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the removal and trade in of the vehicles and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. A vote was called and the motion carried 8-0.

**3. Ordinance accepting and appropriating donation funds for the Parks & Recreation Department.**

**O-24-73**

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Andrew Thames told the Council that this was for the Sensory Trail at Laurel Park. He said that First Security Bank has been a sponsor, and the Department had purchased some equipment for the Trail and First Security was donating the funds to cover the purchase. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the ordinance and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Cummins, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Grimes, Councilman Hawks and Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

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**B. New Business**

**1. Resolution to approve participation in the Tax Back Program for Project Westwood (Cavalier Homes, Inc.)  
R-24-58**

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B1 to the Council. Corey Parks addressed the Council stating that the Council was being asked to authorize a company to receive an incentive that the State has offered them through the State Tax Back Program, to bring the former Spirit Homes facility back to operational. He added that the new company would provide manufacturing job opportunities with the average wage being \$26.71 per hour. He told them that Clayton Home Building Group is committed to operating at this facility, doing business as Cavalier Homes, Inc. He added that the company plans to begin hiring at the leadership level on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, with additional jobs to begin being filled during the second quarter of 2025, with the intent to be fully operational by summer of 2025. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to change the Resolution to replace references to Project Westwood with Cavalier Homes, Inc., and Councilwoman Mehl seconded the motion. A vote was called and the motion passed 8-0. Councilman Hawkins made a motion to adopt the Resolution with the proposed name change, and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution with the stated name change passed 8-0.

**Adjournment**-----

*PASSED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2024*

**APPROVED:**

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**Mayor Bart Castleberry**

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**City Clerk Michael O. Garrett**