
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:00 pm
November 9, 2021

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, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Jones, and Councilwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder, City Clerk Michael Garrett. Councilman Grimes was absent.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett, City Clerk

Minutes: October 26, 2021

Councilwoman Isby motioned to approve the **October 26, 2021** minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 6-0.

Councilman Ledbetter joined the meeting.

Report of Standing Committees:

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

- 1. Resolution requesting Faulkner County Tax Collector place a certified lien against property at 26 Brierwood Circle in the amount of \$141.77 for expenses incurred by the City.**

R-21-79

Councilman Hawkins read the Resolution. There was no one present to represent the property. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

Resolution requesting Faulkner County Tax Collector place a certified lien against property at 2215 Cedar Oaks Drive in the amount of \$179.04 for expenses incurred by the City.

R-21-80

Councilman Hawkins read the Resolution. There was no one present to represent the property. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

Resolution requesting Faulkner County Tax Collector place a certified lien against property at 3900 B Tyler St. in the amount of \$184.28 for expenses incurred by the City.

R-21-81

Councilman Hawkins read the Resolution. There was no one present to represent the property. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

Resolution requesting Faulkner County Tax Collector place a certified lien against property at 3900C Tyler St. in the amount of 523.89 for expenses incurred by the City.

R-21-82

Councilman Hawkins read the Resolution. There was no one present to represent the property. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

- 2. Ordinance rescinding O-21-49 that accepted grant funds from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program for the Planning & Development Department.**

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O-21-112

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. James Walden explained that his department inadvertently appropriated funds from a reimbursement grant for funds that had not yet been spent. He added that the funds would be allocated at a later date and the monies appropriated. He added that since then his department has been awarded an additional \$14,500 in state grant funds. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0. 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 Tucker, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

3. Resolution approving the submittal of an application to FEMA and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management for a Downtown Drainage Study Project for the Transportation Department.

R-21-83

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Finley Vinson addressed the Council stating that this is an application for the engineering design for a stormwater drainage system that would improve the downtown flooding issue. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called for a vote and the Resolution passed 7-0.

4. Resolution approving the right of way purchase for Salem Road Bridge Improvements for the Transportation Department.

R-21-84

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A4 to the Council. Finley Vinson addressed the Council stating that this is an estimate from the consultant that has been hired to execute the right-of-way acquisition. He told them that he felt this was a very close estimate and that they would be hearing more about it in the future. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The Clerk called for vote. The Resolution passed 7-0.

B. Public Service Committee

1. Ordinance approving entering into an agreement with Crafton, Tull, & Associates for the development of Pompe Park.

O-21-113

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B1 to the Council. Steve Ibbotson briefed the Council stating that Crafton Tull has been working with the City on a design and this is their contract to finalize the design work on Pompe Park and move forward with the project. Mayor Castleberry added that Pompe Park is where the statue honoring our Veterans would be placed to show Conway's appreciation. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0. Councilwoman Mehl asked if the design would be completely new, or would a previous design be incorporated. Mr. Ibbotson said that the previous design was cost prohibitive. There was no further discussion. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Hawkins. The Ordinance passed 8-0.

2. Ordinance approving an agreement with Innovative Sculptures Design for the creation and installment of a monument for Markham Square.

O-21-114

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B2 to the Council. James Walden explained that with the construction of Markham Square/MLK Park, they are looking for ways to honor Dr. King. A quote was chosen and RFQs sent out for an artist to interpret the concept. He said that one response was received from Innovative Sculpture Designs, a local group that have done work in Little Rock. He added that the artwork would be paid for through allocations from the A&P tax and the Public Art Board funds. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman

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

3. Ordinance to update the authorized positions at the Parks & Recreation Department.

O-21-115

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B3 to the Council. Steve Ibbotson addressed the Council stating that last year his department moved some part time positions to full time and this Ordinance is to clarify and organize the positions within the department. He added that there would be no impact on the budget. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The motion carried 7-0. 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 Smith, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Tucker and Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

C. 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 reimbursement funds from various entities for the Conway Police Department.

O-21-116

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B3 to the Council. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The motion carried 7-0. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Hawkins, and Councilwoman Isby. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

Councilman Ledbetter gave the Council an update on the new fire station, saying that preliminary drawings have been received from the architects and a very preliminary building schedule. Mayor Castleberry reminded the Council that a decision would need to be made in the future as to what to do with the old fire station building and property.

Councilman Hawkins asked if the City had any project ready for initiation should government funds become available due to the passage of the infrastructure bill. Finley Vinson told the Council that his department has many projects ready to go, but due to Covid issues, many have fallen behind. He estimated that the program of work was close to a year and a half behind. He added that many of the in-house projects would be quick to initiate and that he would get with the Mayor to determine which projects would be in the best interest of the City to begin.

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 9th day of November 2021

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett