
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:30 pm
November 10, 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, Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Jones, Councilman Pruitt, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Grimes and Councilwoman Smith. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Clerk Michael Garrett and City Attorney Chuck Clawson. Councilman Ledbetter was absent.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett, City Clerk

Minutes: October 27, 2020

Councilwoman Smith motioned to approve the **October 27, 2020** minutes as submitted. Councilwoman Isby 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 requesting the Faulkner County Tax Collector place a lien against property located at 2104 Hairston in the amount of \$176.29 for expenses incurred by the City.**

R-20-79

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A1 to the Council. 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 to adopt the Resolution passed 7-0.

- 2. Ordinance approving a substantial amendment to 2019 Annual Action Plan for the Community Development Block Program.**

O-20-64

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. Kiera Oluokun addressed the Council stating that this is a reallocation of previous years grant funding that will be used toward the overnight emergency shelter. She added that after City Council approval, final approval will be sought from HUD. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilman Jones seconded it. The motion carried 7-0. Councilwoman Smith moved to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Grimes, Councilman Pruitt, Councilwoman Isby, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Smith and Councilman Hawkins. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

- 3. Resolution to approve the request for proposal for architects for the Community Development Block Program.**

R-20-80

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Kiera Oluokun told the Council that several trips to see existing overnight shelters have been taken; one to Fort Smith, one locally to the Bethlehem House and one will be taken to Little Rock to see the shelter there. The purpose of the trips is to see what the shelters offer and the types of amenities available in order that the Conway shelter will be the best that the City can bring to this facility. She added that it will be a small remodel due to the limited budget and they felt that the architecture firm Level 5 Architecture was the best choice due to their experience with

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historical preservation, remodeling and HUD requirements. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Smith seconded it. The motion to adopt carried 7-0.

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

1. Ordinance appropriating funds for the Shop Secure Program for the Conway Police Department.

O-20-65

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B1 to the Council. Chief Tapley addressed the Council but due to technical difficulties could not be heard. Mayor Castleberry reminded the Council that the Shop Secure Program provides additional police presence to provide safety to shoppers during the holiday season. He added that the Department needs approximately \$50,000 in overtime funds and the City will be reimbursed those funds. 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 Isby, Councilman Grimes, Councilman Jones, Councilman Pruitt, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Smith and Councilwoman Mehl. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

2. Ordinance appropriating reimbursement funds from various entities for the Conway Police Department.

O-20-66

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B2 to the Council. 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 Mehl, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Grimes, Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Pruitt, Councilman Jones and Councilwoman Isby. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

C. Personnel

1. Consideration to approve the health and dental benefits and the fitness facility for the FY2021 for the City of Conway.

Jamie Brice, Procurement Manager addressed the Council stating that they had reached out to employees for feedback on the health insurance. She stated that since the City has switch to Blue Cross Blue Shield there have been no complaints, and the provider came back this year with no increase. She added that the list of potential providers was evaluated through RFP process and the committee selected BCBS for the health and dental insurance. She also told the Council that the Committee evaluated the fitness center RFPs and 10 Fitness was the choice for this provider even though they were not the lowest bidder, due to the services and number of locations provided. There was some discussion among the Council regarding the fitness centers in question. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the recommendation for Blue Cross Blue Shield to provide health care insurance for the City. The motion to approve BCBS carried 7-0. Councilman Hawkins made a motion to approve the proposal from 10 Fitness for fitness facility for the City. The motion to approve passed 6-1 with Councilwoman Smith voting "No".

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 10th day of November 2020

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

