
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
October 23, 2007

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; Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Vaught, Alderman Hawkins, Alderman Jones, and Alderwoman Mehl. Also, present and acting: Mayor Tab Townsell, City Clerk Michael Garrett, and City Attorney Michael Murphy. Alderman Bell, Alderwoman Whitmore and Alderman Grimes were not in attendance.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Minutes:** *October 9th, 2007*

Alderwoman Smith motioned to approve the minutes a submitted. Alderman Vaught seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

4. **Recognition of Guests:** *Employee Service Awards*

5 Years of Service – Officer Danny Pannell

5. **Public Hearings:**

6. **Report of Standing Committees:**

A. *Community Development Committee (Planning, Zoning, Permits, Community Development, Historic District, Streets, & Conway Housing Authority)*

Alderwoman Smith motioned to move the next council meeting up to November 6, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. Alderman Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

1. **Resolution to set a public hearing to remove the word “access” from a utility easement between Lots 19 & 20 in the Shady Valley subdivision.**

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Alderman Hawkins motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0. The public hearing will be held Tuesday November 6, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

- 2. Ordinance to rezone property located at 105 and 107 Lower Ridge Road directly north of the intersection of Lower Ridge Road and the eastern terminus of Azalea Loop from A-1 to C-2.**

Alderman Jones motioned to hold all ordinances on the agenda in committee until the next council meeting. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 3. Consideration of a request from Family Services Agency to amend its PUD for property located at #855 South German Lane.**

Alderman Hawkins motioned to grant this request. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 4. Consideration of a conditional use permit for a Doggie Day Care/Kennel for property located at 910 Walnut Drive.**

John Wesley, 921 Walnut, stated he is against the proposed Doggie Day Care as he has a banquet hall next door that serves many purposes and he is concerned about the odor, cleanliness, and his property value. Mr. Wesley stated he is not against the business; just the location. Mike Wilkinson, President; Wilkinson's Mall, stated he is against the location of the proposed Doggie Day Care and is also concerned with the odor, noise, and property values of neighboring homes and businesses. Dewayne Gault, owner, Gault's Paint & Body Shop - 854 Walnut St, is against the proposed Doggy Day Care and is also concerned about the odor and the noise. Benny Gildner, property owner of 1266, 1270, 1262 Harrison, and Rita Wesley, 921 Walnut, spoke against the proposed Doggy Day Care. Alderwoman Smith motioned to deny the conditional use permit. Alderman Jones seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 5. Ordinance appropriating funds for a GIS Coordinator for the Conway Planning Department.**

Item held in committee.

6. Ordinance appropriating funds to landscaping the Wampus Cat roundabout at the corner of Prince & Western Avenue

Item held in committee.

B. Public Safety Committee (Police, CEOC, Fire, Dist. Court & City Atty., & Animal Control)

1. Consideration of a request from the Wescon Volunteer Fire Department asking for the CFD to take over its jurisdiction.

Alderwoman Smith motioned to hold this item in committee. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

2. Ordinance appropriating revenue funds to the Conway Fire Department.

Item held in committee.

3. Ordinance accepting assets obtained through court order for the CPD.

Item held in committee.

C. Personnel

1. Consideration of 2008 Dental Insurance benefits.

Lisa Mabry-Williams, HR Director, stated we are currently with Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield and they came forward with a 5% increase. Delta Dental came forward with a 2% increase. Ms. Williams stated we have had no problems with Blue Cross Blue Shield. Alderman Vaught motioned to stay with Blue Cross Blue Shield. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

D. Finance

1. Ordinance appropriating funds for employee appreciation bonus.

Item held in committee.

7. *Old Business*

8. *New Business*

A. **Annual Resolutions for Quorum Court**

Mayor Townsell stated all of these have been approved by the voters in special elections that date back to the 1960's and early 1970's; the only one that is optional is #3 (General Fund Revenues). State law allows cities to charge up to 5 mills on this levy, and it was set at 5 mills in the past, but back in the early 1980's it was rolled back in a state wide rollback to 1.9 mills. Mayor Townsell stated we can set this at zero or at five, but for the last 26 years it has been set at 1.9 mills.

1. **Resolution of a levy of four-tenths (.4) mill on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue for the Pension and Relief Fund for paid non-uniformed employees.**

R-07-31

Alderwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderman Jones seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

2. **Resolution of a levy of four-tenths (.4) mill on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue the exclusive purpose of operating and maintaining the cemeteries for the City of Conway.**

R-07-32

Alderwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

3. **Resolution of a levy of one and nine-tenth's (1.9) mill on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising General Fund Revenues.**

R-07-33

Aldерwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Aldерwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 4. Resolution of a voluntary levy of two-tenth's (.2) mill on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for a Animal Shelter for the City of Conway.**

R-07-34

Aldерwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Aldерwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 5. Resolution of a levy of four-tenths (.4) mill on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue for the Pension and Relief Fund for a Policeman's Pension and Relief Fund.**

R-07-35

Aldерwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderman Jones seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 6. Resolution of a levy of four-tenths (.4) mill on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for raising special revenue for the Pension and Relief Fund for a Fireman's Pension and Relief Fund.**

R-07-36

Aldерwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Aldерwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- 7. Resolution of a voluntary levy of four-tenth's (.4) mill on the dollar be made upon the assessed valuation of all taxable real estate and personal property tax for a recreation assessment**

raising special revenue for the sole and exclusive purpose of providing additional funds for the purpose of construction, equipping, operating and maintaining the public recreation and playgrounds of City of Conway.

R-07-37

Aldерwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderman Hawkins seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0.

- B. **Ordinance establishing the rate for bond issuance intended for parks use.**

Item held in committee.

- C. **Consideration to move the next regular scheduled City Council (November 13) to an alternative date.**

Item moved up on the agenda.

Adjournment

There was no further discussion and the meeting was adjourned.

PASSED this 23rd day of October 2007

APPROVED:

Mayor Tab Townsell

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett