
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
June 8, 2010

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

Call to Order

Roll Call

Minutes: May 25th, 2010

Alderwoman Whitmore motioned to approve the May 25, 2010 minutes as submitted. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

Announcements / Proclamations / Recognition:

St. Joseph - 4A High School Girls Soccer Champions

Mayor Townsell recognized the 2010 State Champion St. Joseph 4A High School Girls Soccer team and read a proclamation recognizing their outstanding season.

1. Public Hearings

A. Discussion of the closing of an easement located at 3255 Miller's View (Between Lots 11 & 12).

Mayor Townsell opened the public hearing. Jerry Flowers representing Rob and Kay Harkness, explained the Harkness' are adding a room onto their home and is requesting the closing of this easement. Mr. Flowers added that all the utility companies have submitted releases giving their approval for the closing. Mayor Townsell closed the public hearing.

1. Ordinance closing an easement located at 3255 Miller's View.

O-10-52

Alderwoman Smith motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Whitmore seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderman Vaught motioned to adopt the ordinance. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the

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motion. There was no discussion. The clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderman Hawkins, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Rhodes, Alderwoman Whitmore, Alderman Jones, and Alderman Vaught. The motion passed 7-0.

2. Report of Standing Committees:

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

1. Consideration to appoint Reggie Rose to the Advertising and Promotion Commission for a four year term.

Alderwoman Smith motioned to approve the appointment. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

2. Resolution setting a public hearing to discuss the closing of Old Donaghey Row located near Creekwood/Charles Place Subdivision.

R-10-19

Alderman Vaught motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. The public hearing will be held June 22, 2010 at 6:30 pm.

3. Resolutions requesting the Faulkner County Tax Collector to place certified liens on certain properties as a result of incurred expenses by the City.

R-10-20

Mayor Townsell stated the property address is 626 Third Ave.; the cost of cleanup was \$139.53 plus 10% collection penalty. There was no one present to speak to this issue. Alderwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Whitmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

R-10-21

Mayor Townsell stated the property address is 1515 Freyaldenhoven Ln.; the cost of cleanup was \$147.76 plus 10% collection penalty. There was no one present to speak to this issue. Alderwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Whitmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

R-10-22

Mayor Townsell stated the property address is 702 Spruce; the cost of cleanup was \$149.26 plus 10% collection penalty. There was no one present to speak to this issue. Alderwoman Smith motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Whitmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

R-10-23

Mayor Townsell stated the property address is 1315 Harrison St.; the cost of cleanup was \$163.12 plus 10% collection penalty. There was no one present to speak to this issue. Alderman Whitmore motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

B. Public Safety Committee (Police, CEOC, Information Technology, Fire, District Court, City Attorney & Animal Welfare)

1. Ordinance appropriating funds for a surveillance camera at District Court.

O-10-53

Mayor Townsell explained the cameras will cost \$5,993.00. Alderwoman Whitmore motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderman Jones motioned to adopt the ordinance and the emergency clause. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderman Hawkins, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Rhodes, Alderwoman Whitmore, Alderman Jones, and Alderman Vaught. The motion passed 7-0. Mayor Townsell stated there was no emergency clause and asked that this wording be removed from the title of the ordinance.

C. New Business

1. Consideration to accept an offer and acceptance for the sale of 6.37 acres of land for property located in Moix Meadows Subdivision.

Mayor Townsell explained this land will be used as a trail head and could be used for a neighborhood park as well. Alderwoman Smith asked if this land had ever been listed for sale. Alderwoman Mehl stated no, the land appraised at \$260,000.00 when it was first given to UCA and we did a new appraisal that listed the property value at \$191,000.00. Alderwoman Smith stated this seems quite expensive for such a small piece of land. Alderman Hawkins asked where the money for this would come from. Mayor Townsell stated it would come from the trail bonds in which there is approximately 1.3 million available. Alderman Hawkins motioned to accept the offer and acceptance. Alderwoman

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Whitmore seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion 5-1-1. Alderwoman Smith voted in opposition. Alderwoman Mehl abstained.

Alderwoman Whitmore motioned to suspend the rules to add an item to the agenda. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

A resolution expressing the willingness of the City to utilize Federal -Aid Recreational Funds.

R-10-24

Alderman Jones asked how much money is available. Mayor Townsell stated the maximum grant is approximately \$175,000.00. Alderwoman Whitmore motioned to adopt the resolution. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

Lowell McClanahan, CFO, explained the audit is progressing and should be wrapped up by the end of the month. Mr. McClanahan stated we are not doing a CAFER nor some of the "the bells and whistles" this year due to his lack of experience, and the concern he had to get to the project that brought him to the city in the first place which is, to get into the management and looking forward to his vision of where we are with our finances and decisions. Mr. McClanahan explained that he can still not give a satisfactory answer as to what our cash projection is today but he believes our picture is beginning to clear. We began 2009 with a deficit in the general fund cash account as you will see in the audit and the city is meeting all of its obligations but we are under extreme cash pressure in our general account. Our operating expenses are at or exceeds our income explaining the budget review in February 2010, in which the budget was cut by \$1.5 million and then again by \$1.2 million, did not actually improve our money situation and as we move forward, when we do cuts, we need to make sure there is something we can cut so we are dealing with fat not lean. Mr. McClanahan stated capital demands are growing, which includes maintenance to city equipment; these needs will need to be addressed, and as we look toward the 2011 budget we need more revenue or fewer expenses to get it balanced.

Adjournment

PASSED this 8th day of June 2010

APPROVED:

Mayor Tab Townsell

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett