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MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

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Conway, Arkansas  
Tuesday 6:30 p.m.  
May 8, 2012

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

**Call to Order:** Mayor Tab Townsell

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

**Minutes:** April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 City Council Meeting

Alderwoman Smith motioned to approve the April 24, 2012 minutes as submitted. Alderman Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

**Announcements/Proclamations/Recognitions:**

**1. Report of Standing Committees:**

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

- 1. Ordinance to discuss closing of the south 25 feet of Hardy Street lying adjacent to the north side of Block 1 and also lying adjacent to the north side of Block 4 in the Harlan Park Subdivision.**

**O-12-45**

Kim Tyler, Tyler Mapping & Surveying, stated a signature is still needed from one property owner. Bryan Patrick, Planning and Development Director, explained a private agreement with the aforementioned property owner is in the works. After some discussion, Alderwoman Smith motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderman Jones motioned to adopt the ordinance. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. Ms. Francis called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Vaught, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Rhodes, Alderman Grimes, Alderman Hawkins, and Alderman Jones. The motion passed 7-0.

2. **Ordinance to allow indoor firing range in additional zoning districts with a conditional use permit.**

**O-12-46**

Bryan Patrick, Planning and Development Director, explained that the zoning ordinance only allowed indoor firing ranges in I-3 Industrial zones. Requests have been made to allow indoor firing ranges in commercial zones as well as other industrial zones. After some discussion Alderwoman Smith motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderwoman Smith motioned to adopt the ordinance, striking C-2 from the allowed zones in section 3. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. Ms. Francis called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Vaught, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Rhodes, Alderman Grimes, Alderman Hawkins, and Alderman Jones. The motion passed 7-0.

3. **Ordinance authorizing the issuance of a promissory note & accepting short term financing proposals for relocated Conway Municipal Airport.**

**O-12-47**

Mark Lollar, First Security Bank, was present to answer questions. City Attorney Michael Murphy stated, in reference to Mr. Hall's question, as long as the loan is repaid within the five-year period, state statutes does not dictate the terms of the loan. Alderman Hawkins asked if this would be done in phases. Ronnie Hall, City Engineer, explained half the money will be spent in 2013 and the rest will be distributed as needed. Mayor Townsell explained beginning in 2013, federal grant funding has been cut from 95% to 90%; state funding will also decline by 5%. Mayor Townsell stated prior to drawing the money down, he would like to have a back-up plan in place. The best rate was received from First Security Bank at a rate of 1.92% fixed for the duration of the loan. After some discussion in regards to the sale of the existing airport Alderwoman Smith motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderwoman Smith motioned to accept the RFP from First Security Bank and to adopt the ordinance. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. Ms. Francis called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Vaught, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Rhodes, Alderman Grimes, Alderman Hawkins, and Alderman Jones. The motion passed 7-0.

**B. Public Services Committee (Sanitation, Parks & Recreation & Physical Plant)**

1. **Consideration of proposals for a master plan at Curtis Walker Park.**

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Steve Ibbotson, Parks Director, recommended Jacobs proposal in the amount of \$9,130.00 for design services. Mr. Ibbotson stated we have had positive experiences with them on other sport facility plans, and they have also offered us an alternative design. After some discussion, Alderwoman Smith motioned to accept the Jacobs proposal. Alderman Grimes seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

**C. Public Safety Committee (Police, Fire, CEOC, Information Technology, City Attorney, & Animal Welfare)**

**1. Consideration to request permission to apply for a joint application with the Faulkner County Sheriff Department for the JAG 2012 Grant for the Conway Police Department.**

A.J. Gary, Chief of Police, explained that the grant money will be split between the Faulkner County Sheriff Department and the Conway Police Department; the grant money will be used to purchase additional equipment for the police department. Alderwoman Smith motioned to approve the joint application. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

**2. Ordinance appropriating asset forfeiture funds for the purchase of two computer voice stress analyzers for the Conway Police Department.**

**O-12-48**

A.J. Gary, Chief of Police, was present to answer questions. A.J. Gary explained the funds, which are seized during criminal arrests, can be used for certain items. Funds are needed to replace two computer voice stress analyzers, to be used during criminal investigations, and background investigations for employment applications. Alderman Hawkins motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderman Hawkins motioned to adopt the ordinance. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Ms. Francis called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Vaught, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Rhodes, Alderman Grimes, Alderman Hawkins, and Alderman Jones. The motion passed 7-0.

**3. Ordinance appropriating funds to purchase a Vertex VDI software and network switches for the IT Dept.**

**O-12-49**

Lloyd Hartzell, IT Director, explained the software would make updates to city computers faster and easier by allowing updates to be done at one time; he also stated the current network switches are out of date and new ones are needed.

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Alderwoman Smith motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderwoman Smith motioned to adopt the ordinance with the emergency clause stricken from the title. Alderwoman Mehl seconded the motion. Ms. Francis called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Vaught, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Rhodes, Alderman Grimes, Alderman Hawkins, and Alderman Jones. The motion passed 7-0.

**New Business**

**Consideration of an event permit for the City of Conway.**

Jack Bell, Mayors Assistant, gave a brief synopsis of the permit application. Council members suggested some possible amendments to the application and Mr. Bell asked to suggestions be forwarded to him. No action was taken.

*Adjournment*

**PASSED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 2012**

**APPROVED:**

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**Mayor Tab Townsell**

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**City Clerk Michael O. Garrett**