
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Monday 4:30pm
December 23, 2013

On this date the City Council of the City of Conway, Arkansas met in special session. The following members being a quorum were present and acting: Alderman Hawkins, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderwoman Smith, and Alderman Grimes. Also, present and acting: Mayor Tab Townsell, City Clerk Michael Garrett, and City Attorney Michael Murphy. Alderman Pruitt was not in attendance.

Call to Order: Mayor Tab Townsell

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

1. Report of Standing Committees:

A. New Business

- 1. Ordinance approving the budget for the City of Conway fiscal year FY2014 (January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014).**

O-13-138

Mayor Townsell explained the revenues are slightly above the expenditures, except for General Fund revenues, which are slightly below the authorized expenditures; these expenditures are above the projected revenue and does include the elimination of all capital, small accountable equipment, travel, education, and step/certificate pay increases. The Mayor stated you can likely expect tighter revenues, even though he does expect us to bottom out and let natural growth start coming up and increasing the budget in the course of the next few years; any new businesses will help build our market for a short time, but feels we are in a long term, down turn in terms of sales tax revenue growth. Mayor Townsell stated department heads will be speaking to council in a retreat setting, to drill down into their budgets to determine what our options are. The Mayor stated also the non uniformed pension fund needs to be discussed, worst case scenario, worst 5% performance of the stock market, has the non uniform pension broke by 2025. Alderman Ledbetter stated he realizes there are capital items that are needed, but employees went 3-4 years without a pay increase; we paid for a study to bring employees to mid-range which became effective January 2013. Alderman Ledbetter went onto say another market study was done for 30+ employees, which raised their pay mid-year and made it retroactive back to January 2013. Alderman Ledbetter stated there are approximately 70-80 employees who did not get to the mid-range, some were to be stepped up in a 3 year increment, and others were to be stepped up by certification pay, and he feels we should at least honor these as money is available, making it retroactive to the first of the year. Alderwoman Whitmore motioned to waive the readings of the ordinance. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. Alderwoman Whitmore motioned to adopt the ordinance and the emergency clause. Alderman Hawkins seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderman Jones,

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Alderwoman Whitmore, Alderman Grimes, Alderwoman Mehl, and Alderman Hawkins. The motion passed 7-0. After some discussion about street projects the Mayor stated we have an obligation to build a roadway system at the old airport, but to do this in a timely fashion we will need a more robust mechanism than 5 year financing. The Mayor stated he has been in contact with our bond underwriters, and we can bond out the pay-as-you-go one-quarter cent, the one-eighth cent, or the one-half cent turn back and segregate the more costly projects.

Adjournment

PASSED this 23rd day of December 2013

APPROVED:

Mayor Tab Townsell

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett