



## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**March 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM**

**City Hall**

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### **MINUTES**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present were Council Member Dan Cross, Council Member Sean Engel, Council Member Bob Fant, Council Member Katherine Hudson, Council Member Angela Perea and Council Member John Wright. Also present were City Clerk/Treasurer Jennifer Allen, Police Chief Chris Kelley, Fire Chief Chance Wright, Building Official Clay Wilson, and City Attorney Justin Eichmann.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Perea. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. February 14, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2023 City Council Meeting. Motion made by Council Member Perea, Seconded by Council Member Cross. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

2. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Community Policing:

Patrols were conducted of residential and business areas daily.

Enforcement:

Officers enforced speeding throughout the city. We have received additional complaints of speeding on Johnson Rd and Johnson Mill Blvd. Chief Kelley spoke with a local trucking company regarding their drivers speeding through the 25-mph zone.

The newly installed speed radar signs appear to have a positive effect regarding vehicle speed on Johnson Mill Blvd.

JPD enforced Truck Route violations of truck traffic coming off Johnson Mill, Wilkerson, and

Elmore on to Main Dr.

Fleet Update:

Installation/upfit of emergency equipment for the 2022 Ford PIU's is continuing.

Grant update:

E-Cite/E-Crash systems have been installed in the patrol vehicles. The system is performing as expected.

Awaiting installation of the Computer Assisted Dispatch by Southern Software. Potential installation in March. Once installation is done, this will complete the grant and city funded outlay for this project.

Personnel update:

3 vacant Police Officer positions are filled. One officer will start on March 13, one starts March 20 and another Officer will start on April 3rd, 2023.

Lost Code Enforcement this week.

Currently advertising for one vacant Police Officer position.

Qualification/Training:

2 Officers attended Advanced Interview Techniques at Ozark PD in February.

All Officers were certified to administer Naloxone (Narcan).

2 Officers will attend Firearms Instructor school in May.

1 Officer will attend Instructor Development school in May.

### 3. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Employment update:

Fully Staffed with 6 full-time personnel

2 personnel completed CPR Training

Jordan Womack is currently in EMT School

Fleet Update:

Engine 2 has the body subframe completed and will return to the production line during the week of March 13, hoping to get a new update by Friday.

Fayetteville E-5 is still being run as front-line Rescue Engine.

Ladder 1 is repaired and up and running again.

Training:

316 hours of training completed

### 4. BUILDING OFFICIAL

Building Permits: 3 (1 commercial build out, 1 new home and 1 pool cabana) Mechanical

Permits: 6 Inspections: 69 Finals: 1 (pool)

Inspected all traffic light battery backups (all passed). Started generators, MS4 inspections after rain events. Multiple for calls with the city attorney and the city engineer. Turn in all MS4 inspections to the city engineer for 2022. I attended my quarterly MS4 meeting via zoom.

Vehicle maintenance:

Police department: Replaced 1 battery, 1 set of brakes and rotors, 1 oil change, replaced DVR cables and 1 low beam headlight.

Public works: ordered tensioner pulley for the Dodge Ram.

### 5. PUBLIC WORKS

The department has been cleaning out the creeks and ditches. A PW employee stepped in a hole and broke his ankle. He is off on Workers' Comp time.

Patches being made to roads as weather allows.  
Limb pick up goes to 2 times per month in April.  
There has been significant work done in the in the park. Progress!

6. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Planning Commission had its quarterly meeting. Wright's Barbeque has opted to not comply with City regulations regarding their parking lot.

7. CITY CLERK/TREASURER

State Turnback and Property Taxes have been received, Sales Tax has not.  
Major expenditures include \$10,985 from the Street Fund for a new mower, and \$18,306 for the purchase of right of way and utility easements for the road project from the General Fund. The business license that was being held due to late Park A&P payments has been released. Everyone else is up to date and had no issues getting licensed.

8. CITY ATTORNEY

Legislature update:

Senate Bill 197 - removes any ability for the City to have any control over short term rentals (STR). No other law like this in the State. Sailed thru the Senate and is in the House now. Our hope is to find a reasonable compromise. STR taking over communities such as Jasper. Run in committee, 100% off all regulation taken away from cities. Better chance in the house to get any amendments into the legislation that does not happen in the Senate. ARML and City officials will go to the committee tomorrow to voice concerns. ARML is the advocate for cities in AR.

House Bill 1399 bill to allow for online publication of legal notices. Justin will check if our ".com" website will work or if it applies to ".gov" only?

House Bill 1610 wants change the number of Council members allowed to talk about any issue (currently more than 2) to change to "less than a quorum" making a public meeting necessary. Viewed as a step backwards for transparency.

9. MAYOR

State Aid for Streets got bids back. \$381,984.71 was the original estimate, bid is \$426,371.50. The State will pay \$300,000.00. Because of the increase in cost, the Council will need to decide if the extra will be paid or if the City will need to amend the scope.

Mr. Engle asked for a better perspective of who the top revenue producers tax wise are in the City. The City cannot tell by business who produces what tax. Taxes are reported using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and sales tax received is only listed by these classes, not by individual businesses.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

10. **ORDINANCE 2023-02: AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT UNAUTHORIZED PARKING OR TRESPASS ON OR THROUGH THE JOHNSON POLICE DEPARTMENT PARKING LOT AND OTHER DESIGNATED AREAS OF CITY PROPERTY.** Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to read Ordinance 2023-02 by title only waiving the second and third readings. Motion made by Council Member

Fant, Seconded by Council Member Cross. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle. City Attorney Justin Eichmann read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the reading. Motion made by Council Member Cross, Seconded by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to read the emergency clause. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Cross. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle. City Attorney Justin Eichmann read the emergency clause. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the emergency clause. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **MOTION TO PAY BILLS**

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Cross. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Cross. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jennifer Allen CMC, CAMC  
City Clerk/Treasurer

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Chris Keeney, Mayor