



## **Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

**Minutes - Monday, September 16, 2024 - 6:00 PM**

Assistant Mayor Jeff Hart called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PRESENT: Assistant Mayor Ward 6 Director Jeff Hart, Ward 1 Director Terry Roberts, Ward 2 Director Laney Harris, Ward 3 Director Steven Hollibush, Ward 4 Director Ulysses Brewer, and Ward 5 Director Danny Jewell.

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager Tyler Richards, City Attorney Josh Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

ABSENT: Mayor Allen Brown.

Invocation given by Director Steven Hollibush.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Animal Care and Adoption Center Director Lenor Teague.

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Rick Hall, 2020 Beech Street, wanted a road to access and maintain the "Welcome to Texarkana" sign on the interstate. He also wanted to know how the City Beautiful Commission could restore the electricity to the fountain on Stateline Avenue and 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

Rachel Burnett, 1107 Grand Avenue, spoke in opposition of the shed ordinance.

Chris Owens, 3614 Garland Avenue, wanted to thank everyone who came out and supported the city clean-up. She also said they would be honoring all the first responders at the Recreation Center on October 19.

### **PROCLAMATION(S)**

1. Presented a proclamation declaring September 17, 2024, as National IT Professionals Day. (CCD)

### **CONSENT**

Director Roberts made the motion to adopt the Consent agenda, Seconded by Director Brewer. The motion carried and the following items were approved:

2. Approval of the minutes of the rescheduled regular meeting September 3, 2024. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

3. Resolution No. 2024-69 appointed Laura Cowling to the Depository Board. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
4. Resolution No. 2024-70 approved a Sub-Recipient Monitoring Policy for sub-grantees of the City of Texarkana, Arkansas, and the Texarkana, Arkansas Police Department. (TAPD) Interim Police Chief Ed Chattaway

## **REGULAR**

5. Consider the following action concerning the clean-up of nineteen (19) nuisance properties:  
Conduct a Public Hearing to receive comments regarding certification of certain delinquent taxes.

Assistant Mayor Hart opened the Public Hearing.

Building Official Roger Douglas gave a brief presentation regarding the nuisance properties.

Assistant Mayor Hart asked if anyone would like to speak for or against this item.

Director Harris spoke about the property located at 1010 Grape Street.

Assistant Mayor Hart closed the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-71 certified the amount to be put on tax books as delinquent and collected accordingly. (PWD) Building Official Roger Douglas

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

Voting Nay: Director Harris.

The motion carried 5-1 and the Assistant Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

6. Ordinance No. 21-2024 prohibited living in any structure designed primarily for the storage of personal property. (PWD-Planning) City Planner Jamie Finley

City Planner Jamie Finley gave a brief presentation.

Building Official Roger Douglas explained the unsanitary and unsafe conditions of living in a shed without electricity or water.

Rachel Burnett, 2020 Beech Street, again spoke in opposition of this ordinance.

After a brief discussion, the motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its first reading in abbreviated form made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the first time in abbreviated form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading in abbreviated form made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, and Director Brewer.

Voting Nay: Director Jewell.

The motion carried 5-1 and the ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third and final reading in abbreviated form made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, and Director Brewer.

Voting Nay: Director Jewell.

The motion carried 5-1 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Brewer.

Assistant Mayor Hart asked if anyone would like to speak for or against this ordinance.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Assistant Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

*The applicant requests an emergency clause. An emergency clause requires a separate and distinct vote of the board and is valid only if there is a two-thirds vote of approval by the board. (Hdbk. Const. Amend 7)*

Motion to enact the emergency clause made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Assistant Mayor Hart asked if anyone would like to speak for or against the emergency clause.

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Hollibush, and Director Brewer.

Voting Nay: Director Harris and Director Jewell.

The motion failed 4-2 and the Assistant Mayor declared the emergency clause was not enacted.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Harris asked if the Board of Directors could receive the Planning Commission agendas.

City Planner Jamie Finley said yes.

Director Brewer said he had a meeting with the citizens in his ward during January, and he would inform them of the second meeting once it was scheduled.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 7:03 PM to discuss appointments to various Boards and Commissions.

The Assistant Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:11 PM and the following action was taken.

7. Resolution No. 2024-72 accepted the contract for Tyler Richards as the new City Manager. (BOD)

The motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Brewer.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

Voting Nay: Director Harris.

The motion carried 5-1 and the Assistant Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

8. Resolution No. 2024-73 made an appointment to the Airport Authority. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

The motion to appoint Kyle Bass to the Airport Authority made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Assistant Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, October 7, 2024**

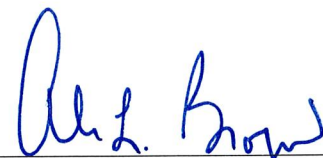
#### **ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

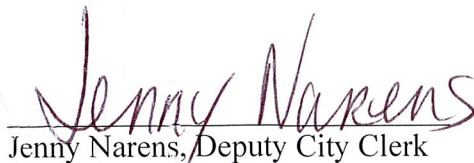
Voting Yea: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.

**APPROVED** this the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024.



Allen L. Brown Mayor



Jenny Narens, Deputy City Clerk