



## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**October 11, 2022 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 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. Council Member Dan Cross was absent.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. **SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 City Council Meeting. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Fant. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Engle, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright.

#### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

2. **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Community Policing:

Patrols were conducted of residential and business areas daily.

Night shift found unlocked doors after hours on a few businesses.

Officers continued to respond to citizen complaints of speeding on Johnson Mill Blvd inside the 25 MPH zone.

JPD enforced Truck Route violations of truck traffic coming off Wilkerson and onto Main Dr. Multiple warnings and citations were issued in response to these complaints.

Fleet Update:

The two 2022 Ford PIUs that were ordered earlier in the year were received last week.

1 Chevy Tahoe engine was installed in Unit 1601. Vehicle will be assigned to Patrol, once the break-in period is over.

Grant update:

Per Howard Technology, the remaining equipment is scheduled to ship October 4, 2022.

Installation and training will begin once all equipment is received.

Personnel update:

Currently advertising for 2 vacant Police Officer positions.

1 officer resigned in September.

Training:

1 officer attended training and is now a certified defensive tactics instructor (40-hour course).

1 officer completed Homicide Investigation training in Russellville.

Reinstituted the non-lethal program (bean bag)

All officers are undergoing de-escalation training.

### 3. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Community Events:

Sent Engine 5 and Ladder 1 Wilkerson to show support for the Razorback Run.

Completed Tree Trimming on Main Drive.

Employment update:

Offered P/T Firefighter Jordan Womack Full Time Position. He accepted and is now the 5<sup>th</sup> full timeline staff member.

Fleet Update:

E-2 Still months out from being repaired. Fire Master has stated that they are waiting for parts before they schedule the build of the new chassis.

Received Engine 15 from Fayetteville indefinitely until Engine 2 returns.

Training:

1 Firefighter Completed Firefighter 1 & 2

186 Hours of Training Completed

Chief Wright & Captain Wooden traveled to Emmitsburg, Maryland to the National Fire Academy and completed Special Operations Program Management. This was a 48-hour Class.

16 brand new air packs were received from the County. All personnel have been through training available and once a final module for training is in place, training will be completed.

### 4. BUILDING OFFICIAL

Building Permits: 7 (1 commercial build out); Mechanical Permits: 16; Inspections:

53; Finals: 8 Inspected all traffic light battery backups (all passed), multiple phone calls and emails with developers and engineers, reviewed new construction house plans. Started generators, held a TPR meeting and put rezoning signs out and attended a pc meeting.

Vehicle maintenance:

Police vehicles: installed a battery, 2 oil changes, installed the new engine in 1601, set of front struts, upper and lower control arms, rear brakes, rear rotors, one tie rod and rear shocks in unit 1102

Next week pre-construction meeting with Springdale Water and Circle K

### 5. PUBLIC WORKS

Speed limit signs being installed for the changes the Council approved last month.

Clearing the creeks of debris deposited in the flood before the rainy season begins again.  
Fourth full time employee was hired in September.

6. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Planning Commission hopes to have the mobile food trucks ordinance ready for next month.

7. CITY CLERK/TREASURER

No State Turnback, Property Tax or Sales Tax have been received due to the early date of this month's meeting directly following a holiday.

The 2 PD Explorer PIUs that we have been waiting for have arrived. One was paid for out of the General Fund and the other out of Act 988. Each came in at the expected price of \$34,822.96.

Still waiting on gutter completion and final payment/paperwork to apply for our roof depreciation reimbursement from this spring's storm damage.

All local businesses, save one, are caught up on their Park A&P tax due. The short-term rental we have been receiving payment from has been identified and they have completed the necessary paperwork and inspection to receive their Business License.

8. CITY ATTORNEY

City Attorney Justin Eichmann has been working on the food trucks project and other Planning Commission items.

Recent statistics: 2020 census showed the population of NWA to be 530,000. It is increasing by 887 per month or 29 per day. At this rate, the population could increase to 1 million by 2045. Estimated within a 5-mile buffer of I-49 will be 78% of the population and 90% of the jobs.

9. MAYOR

For the Main and Wilkerson Project, working on a request for qualifications (RFQ) for an appraiser to identify the legal aspect of acquiring the property along Wilkerson. Springdale water made a few alterations and needs a bit more space. AT&T will start relocation soon. Johnson Mill Boulevard dip has been corrected and waiting on hot mix to get it filled in. November we will receive the property tax bump.

Trunk or Treat will be on 10/31/2022 from 6-8 PM at Main and River Run.

Doing well as a city and continue to move forward with what was envisioned in years past.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

10. VACANT COUNCIL MEMBER POSITION - WARD 1 POSITION 1

Mayor Keeney announced last month that there is a Vacancy on the City Council. Sean Engle has expressed interest in filling the position and serving the city. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to affirm Mr. Engle's appointment to the City Council. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Engle, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright. Mayor Keeney swore Engle in, and he was seated on the council.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 11. RESOLUTION 2022-10: A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE NORTHWEST ARKANSAS RAZORBACK GREENWAY OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT PLAN IN THE CITY OF JOHNSON, ARKANSAS.** Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to accept Resolution 2022-10. This is a modification to the Greenway Operations Plan approved in 2009, more uniform with stronger requirements. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Perea. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Engle, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright.
  
- 12. RESOLUTION 2022-11: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RATE OF PROPERTY TAX FOR THE CITY OF JOHNSON, ARKANSAS FOR THE YEAR 2022 TO BE COLLECTED IN 2023.** Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to accept Resolution 2022-11. This is an annual resolution to determine the millage charged for property tax received on behalf of the City for 2023. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Perea. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Engle, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright.
  
- 13. ORDINANCE 2022-13: AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A PORTION OF A 25 FOOT REAR UTILITY AND DRAINAGE EASEMENT LOCATED AT 4488 CLEAR CREEK BLVD WITHIN THE CITY OF JOHNSON, ARKANSAS.** Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to read Ordinance 2022-13 by title only waiving the second and third readings. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Engle, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright. 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 Fant, Seconded by Council Member Wright. Voting Yea: Council Member Engle, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

## **MOTION TO PAY BILLS**

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

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

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

Meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jennifer Allen CMC, CAMC  
City Clerk/Treasurer

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Chris Keeney, Mayor