



APRIL 13, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 13, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Via Zoom (In person option available)

MINUTES

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87904196361?pwd=YzU0dzVKdDUyaWdZdXNnWjd6aUw0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 879 0419 6361

Passcode: 766030

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present were Council Member Bill Burnett, Council Member Bob Fant, Council Member Angela Perea, Council Member John Wright, Council Member Katherine Hudson, and Council Member Dan Cross. Also present were City Clerk Treasurer Jennifer Allen, City Attorney Justin Eichmann, Assistant Fire Chief Todd Andrews, and Building Official Clay Wilson. Aalyiah Perea was in attendance for class credit.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve March 9, 2021 City Council Minutes
Motion made by Council Member Hudson, Seconded by Council Member Fant.
Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

2. POLICE DEPARTMENT
Mayor Keeney stated 15 CID cases were opened, 12 of those have been closed. Three new officers have been hired since the last meeting: 2 are still in the FTO Program and one has been released and is on patrol. The PD has been getting several calls from citizens thanking the PD for their work and checking on businesses and homes. Unit 1701 hit during the ice storm is back from Bob Maloney and still needs some striping by Sign*a*rama, but it is back in service. Back in January council approved purchase of 2 Tahoes - turns out they are not available until August. Mayor Keeney asked for approval to spend \$57,225.00 to get a new 2021 Tahoe not on state bid from Superior Chevrolet in Siloam Springs that is available in 30 days. After discussion, City Attorney Justin Eichmann said he can bring back an ordinance to wave the competitive bid process but said the Council can proceed with a voice vote tonight.
Motion to order the new Tahoe was made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Wright.
Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT
The FD had 28 Calls (18 EMS) and 165 training manhours. Timothy Smyser is attending EMT school at AFTA Camden and should complete his testing next week. Jonathan Brown attended Tactical Air Monitoring at Springdale FD. Fire hydrants will be tested next week. Next month Jon Brown going to national fire academy for plan review.
4. PUBLIC WORKS
Paving on Main Drive completed and striped. Mowing but can't go fast enough. Limb pick up. Increase in graffiti on signs on the trail - please let PD know if anything is noticed.
5. BUILDING OFFICIAL
Building Permits: 1 (Residential addition), Mechanical Permits: 12, I completed MS4 inspections after rain events, attended planning commission meeting, attended meeting on the new sign ordinance updates, inspected all traffic light battery backup all (passed), prepared PC packets and delivered them and inspected the asphalt overlay on Main drive. Vehicle maintenance rebuilt motor for 1601.
6. SPECIAL COMMITTEES
Dan Cross lengthy meeting - 7 variances. In general PC is very resistant to any variance that doesn't have a legal basis. New standards in place, variances are usually no.
7. CITY CLERK/TREASURER
State Turnback has been received, but Property Tax and Sales Tax have not. Looking forward to May bump in Property Tax due to March real estate tax payments.
\$79,605 was paid from the Street Fund for the Main Drive overlay and striping; there is still contingency money left.
2 CDs were cashed in the amount of \$340,730.45 due to incredibly low interest rates; they are shown below future CD Investments.
Act 833 received second quarter funding in the amount of \$5,363.97.
8. CITY ATTORNEY
General session - special election bill was passed. limited to quarterly basis for special elections. Goes into effect Jan 1 2022 won't effect this year. FOIA on condemnation for development in major cities that doesn't really apply to us. In the State of AR uses condemnation mostly for road right of way or other public capital projects.
9. MAYOR
The cost for Phase A of the Wilkerson and Main Project: All of Wilkerson and the intersection with Main is \$6.3 million total estimated cost (right of way acquisition not included in pricing.) The intent is to put out a 25-year bond for with a value of \$7.3 million. Cassie Elliott, who the City has used before, is good at right of way acquisition and the cost of her services is \$24,300 for 18+ parcels and the cost of appraiser Stewart Sanders totals \$38,700. Kevin Faught of Stephens, Inc. and Ryan Bowman of Friday, Eldredge and Clark will both be attending the May meeting and the ordinances will be ready at that meeting to schedule a July election. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to move forward with hiring Cassie & Stewart to begin right of way appraisal and if the bond passes the acquisition of the right of way.
Motion made by Council Member Cross, Seconded by Council Member Wright.
Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross.
The pothole at Wilkerson is scheduled to be repaired by Tomlinson once their schedule clears.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

NEW BUSINESS

10. CITY NAMED VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR BY THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

“For outstanding civic engagement initiatives to the People of Arkansas during Covid19 Health Crisis”

- 11. ORDINANCE 2021-03:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-05 IN ITS ENTIRETY AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION BY REFERENCE OF SIGN REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF JOHNSON, ARKANSAS, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION THEREOF AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to read ORDINANCE 2021-03 by title only waiving the second and third readings. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Wright. Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross. ORDINANCE 2021-03 was read by City Attorney Eichmann. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve this reading. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the reading of the emergency clause. Motion made by Council Member Perea, Seconded by Council Member Burnett. Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross. City Attorney Eichmann read the emergency clause. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the emergency clause. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Burnett. Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross. **ORDINANCE 2021-03 was approved.**

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Motion made by Council Member Hudson, Seconded by Council Member Fant.

Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion made by Council Member Burnett, Seconded by Council Member Fant.

Voting Yea: Council Member Burnett, Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Allen CMC, CAMC
City Clerk/Treasurer

Chris Keeney, Mayor