



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 14, 2022 at 6:00 PM

City Hall

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Keeney called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present were Council Member Bob Fant, Council Member Angela Perea, Council Member John Wright, Council Member Dan Cross, Council Member Bob Bova and Council Member Katherine Hudson. 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 amend the agenda to add the acceptance of a right-of-way and utility easement to new business. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Bova.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. May 10, 2022 City Council Minutes

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the May 10, 2022 City Council Minutes. Motion made by Council Member Hudson, Seconded by Council Member Fant.

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

2. May 25, 2022 Special City Council Minutes

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the May 25, 2022 Special City Council Minutes. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Wright.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

3. POLICE DEPARTMENT

Community Policing:

Patrols were conducted of residential and business areas daily. JPD continued to respond to citizen complaints of speeding on Johnson Mill Blvd in front of Johnson Square.

JPD enforced violations of truck traffic coming off Wilkerson and onto Main Dr.

JPD enforced red light violations at S 48 St/Interstate off ramps/Johnson Mill Blvd.

Multiple warnings and citations were issued in response to these complaints.

Employment update:

The vacant Police Officer position has been filled. Officer will start Field Training on June 7.

100% staffing.

Fleet Update:

2021 Ford PIU has been upfitted and deployed to Patrol.

No timeline for delivery yet for the two 2022 Ford PIUs that have been ordered.

No update for delivery of the three (3) Chevy Tahoe engines that have been ordered.

Grant update: Howard Technology has shipped most of the computer and installation equipment for the Ecrash grant. Awaiting mounting brackets, scheduled to arrive in July.

Training: 1 Police Officer successfully completed the Field Training program and has been deployed to Patrol, effective May 31, 2022.

3 officers attended the State ACIC (Crime Information Center) training in Bentonville. 4 more officers will attend in July.

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Hired Jake Wooden as the new C-Shift & training Captain

4th Full-Time employee resigned, staying part-time

Engine-2 Update: It was not totaled, received insurance check, waiting on slot for production Maintenance on Ladder 1 - just went down 3 days ago with an air intake problem. Must have a piece refabricated. In the process of replacing water hose from pump to tank as well the dash gauges, as the speedometer and fuel gauge are inoperable.

Attended the Arkansas State Fire Conference in Hot Springs

New Dodge Ram 1500 vehicle available at Steve Landers in Little Rock. Requested City Council's approval to purchase the available truck with a few additions. This item is budgeted. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the purchase of \$42,168 for the Dodge Ram 1500. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Cross.

Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. The truck will be picked up soon and the additional items will be ordered.

New fire code coming from the state.

Dan Cross congratulated Chance on being officially named Chief.

5. BUILDING OFFICIAL

Building Permits: 5 (commercial buildout, 2 new homes and 2 residential remodels);

Mechanical Permits: 11

Inspections: 83

Finals: 4 (remodel, commercial remodel and 2 new homes)

Completed MS4 inspections after rain events, all traffic light battery backups (all passed), multiple phone calls and emails with developers and engineers, reviewed new construction house plans. Held a meeting with future developers. Started generators and installed two solar speed signs.

Held a planning commission work session and had a meeting with Juliet Richey on food trucks.

Vehicle maintenance:

Police vehicles: 1 oil change, 1 set of rear brakes and rotors.

Public works: Ordered a front wheel hub assembly for the 2000 dodge ram, had a hydraulic hose made and ordered a new battery for a lawn mower.

6. PUBLIC WORKS

Mayor Keeney said the City is getting the permits to get in the creeks to remove the gravel from the recent flooding.

Trying to get a total estimate on replacement of the guardrail on the Mud Creek bridge on the trail. No fencing company is interested.

Bid documents should be here by the end of the week for repair of the sink hole on Johnson Mill Boulevard at Elmore.

Two of the digital speed signs are out on Great House Springs Road. They will run for 30 days and look at data.

Backhoe needs repair along with the 4wd tractor. Expensive to repair, it needs to be replaced. The City is getting bids on the roof replacements from the hailstorm. Tough to find metal roofs.

7. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Hoping to make progress with Johnson Square. Anxious to see where food truck project goes. Ozark Bagel going in on the end of the Truesdale Building in Johnson Square. Circle K will go in front of TownePlace Suites.

8. CITY CLERK/TREASURER

State Turnback and Property Tax have been received, but Sales Tax has not.

May Sales Tax was the highest ever received by the City. County sales Tax was \$75,654.33 and City Sales Tax was \$101,624.81.

The State has sent first and second quarter payments for Act 833 to Washington County, but it has not been passed on to the City yet.

Insurance checks were received for the following:

Buildings for storm damage = \$171,865.85

PD Fleet for storm damage = \$ 27,109.88

Fire Truck damage = \$266,500.00

We are still behind on the receipt of Park A&P tax receipts. City Attorney Eichmann has sent a letter to businesses that are behind in their payment. One high volume business got caught up and is current. Two of the businesses we are most concerned about have reached out and are in the process of getting caught up. A few more have been clarified as not qualifying.

Election packets are available in my office. They must be signed for when they are picked up. Council Members in Position 1 are up for election this year. The first day to file is August 3, 2022 and the final day is August 10, 2022 at 12:00 noon.

9. CITY ATTORNEY

A lot of time was spent on flooding issues. Worked with Chief Kelley on police reporting issues. There were a few Planning Commission matters. Going to ARML Conference this week.

10. MAYOR

Wilkerson and Main project 4 weeks behind because of franchise utilities. Should be able to gain the time back at property acquisition stage.

The City was awarded State Aid for Streets funding. Waiting for final amount to come in from the state.

Working with ARDOT: pursuing \$1 million available for *off system improvement for the Ball Street bridge. (*off ARDOT bridge system).

Main Drive Park project is moving forward, pricing for play equipment alone has gone up almost \$200,000. Not going to get any cheaper.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. DISCUSSION OF 90 DAY TEMPORARY MORATORIUM

On May 25th, 2022, a Special City Council Meeting was held to impose a moratorium on building permits for flood affected properties off Hewitt St. Hitting brick walls with every inquiry and request for assistance. Properties are in the 500-year flood plain, so there is no money available from any resource to mitigate any losses or buy back any of the properties. City Attorney Justine Eichmann said the purpose of moratorium was for the City to have time to explore all options. Possible reporting requirement for Landlords so tenants know there is a flooding issue in that area. Going forward, flood way applications will need to be put through the Flood Plain Coordinator. No programs available for any assistance currently.

12. **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-04: A RESOLUTION TO REPEAL RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03 WHICH ESTABLISHED A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM IN THE CITY OF JOHNSON, ARKANSAS.**

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to accept Resolution 2022-04 to repeal Resolution 2022-03 which established a temporary moratorium in the City of Johnson, Arkansas. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Bova.

Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. A required itemized repair list for the Flood Plain Administrator will be ready tomorrow.

NEW BUSINESS

13. **ORDINANCE 2022-10: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 14.04.05(A) AGRICULTURAL, OPEN SPACE, AND RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS-GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CHAPTER 14.04 ZONING ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO ADOPT DISTRICT DEFINITIONS OF THE JOHNSON**

MUNICIPAL CODE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve reading Ordinance 2022-10 by title only waiving the second and third readings. Motion made by Council Member Perea, Seconded by Council Member Fant. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. Ordinance 2022-10 title was read by City Attorney Eichmann. Mayor Keeney then asked for a motion to approve this reading of Ordinance 2022-10 by title only waiving the second and third readings. Motion made by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to read the emergency clause. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. 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 Perea. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova.

14. **ORDINANCE 2022-11: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 14.04.05 DISTRICT REGULATIONS OF CHAPTER 14.04 ZONING ORDINANCE IN ORDER TO UPDATE TABLE 1 – ZONING DISTRICT LAND USES OF THE JOHNSON MUNICIPAL CODE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve reading Ordinance 2022-11 by title only waiving the second and third readings. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Bova. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. City Attorney Eichmann read ordinance 2022-11 title. Mayor Keeney then asked for a motion to approve this reading of Ordinance 2022-11 by title only waiving the second and third readings. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Hudson. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to read the emergency clause. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Fant. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova. City Attorney 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 Fant. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova.

The right-of-way and utility easement dedication is located on Ball Street where Modern Storage is going. This has to do with filing at the County Clerk's office and a dispute about whether plats should be accepted & filed. City Attorney Justin Eichmann is working on making this process easier. Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to approve the acceptance of this right-of-way and utility easement. Motion made by Council Member Wright, Seconded by Council Member Bova. Voting Yea: Council Member Fant, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Cross, Council Member Bova.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion made by Council Member Cross, Seconded by Council Member Hudson.

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mayor Keeney asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Council Member Fant, Seconded by Council Member Hudson.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Allen CMC, CAMC
City Clerk/Treasurer

Chris Keeney, Mayor