



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 09, 2024 at 6:00 PM

City Hall

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Bob Fant called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present were Council Member Dan Cross, Council Member Sean Engle, 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, City Planner Korab Vranovci, and City Attorney Justin Eichmann. Mayor Chris Keeney was absent.

Council Member Fant welcomed City Planner Korab Vranovci and had him introduce himself.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Fant asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion made by Council Member Cross, 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. DECEMBER 12, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Member Fant asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 City Council Meeting. Motion made by Council Member Hudson, Seconded by Council Member Engle. 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:

Based on community complaints, Officers enforced speed and distracted driving violations

throughout the city. JPD enforced Truck Route violations of prohibited truck traffic on Wilkerson St, Elmore St, and Main Dr.

Grants:

JPD applied for the DPS Public Safety Equipment Grant in August of 2023. We were notified that JPD will be awarded funding in the amount of \$43,327.43. Funds will be applied towards the purchase of a new server and body cameras.

Personnel update:

Have several applicants being reviewed for further background investigation. Currently advertising for two vacant Police Officer position. Utilizing Facebook, Instagram, Interview Now and Indeed for advertising.

Qualification/Training:

Continued defensive tactics training with our in-house instructor in December.

An annual report showing the Police Department activity for 2023 was given to the Council.

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Community Events: 3 Station Tours

Employment update: Fully Staffed

Fleet Update: Ladder 1 – Waiting on a slot to repair.

Training: Completed 417 hours of combined Training.

Misc: Scheduled ESO scheduling and permits to be implemented in Incident reporting software.

Received 2023 ACT 833 Funding in full in December.

Received quotes for Rescue Air Bags and Rescue Struts for MVA incidents.

Brush 1 – Waiting on Smart Ford Malvern for State bid approval.

An annual report showing the Police Department activity for 2023 was given to the Council.

Chief Wright highlighted the work of Captain Tyler Zoll. The items Zoll built for the department for training purposes and storage are outsourced by bigger departments and he did a tremendous job saving the department a huge amount of money.

Apparatus overview: Running into more issues with the Ladder truck. It has been down roughly 6 months in 2023. Waiting on crew from OK to come here to fix it. It is a continuous issue despite daily and preventative maintenance. Waiting to hear back on the brush truck approved for purchase. Engine 2 is great; Engine 1 is the backup and is not sustainable if Engine 2 goes down. Council Member Perea asked that knowing there is a need for a truck, what is the time frame from order to delivery? Chief Wright said the process is to sign an intent to purchase and go through the apparatus design process to determine needs and build it out for sustainability in the future, goes off to the manufacturing plant to be approved by engineers before it goes into production. There is currently a 700 day build time. Council Member Engle clarified that it takes 2-3 years to get a truck. Chief Wright said no money is paid until the truck is received.

4. BUILDING OFFICIAL

Building Permits: 2 (pool and remodel) - 40 building permits were issued in 2023.

Mechanical Permits: 8 - 106 mechanical permits were issued in 2023.

Inspections: 25 - 503 total inspections were completed for 2023

Final Inspections: 3 (all new homes) Final inspections of 10 new homes and 4 new commercial

permits were completed for 2023

Completed 94 MS4 inspections for 2023

Multiple meetings with developers and engineers, attended yearly storm water class, posted pc signage, prepared and delivered pc packets and finished installing all new batteries in the traffic lights battery backups.

In 2023 a Large Scale Development called Oros By Sultura was approved. This LSD will have 247 single- and two-family units along with 2.5 acres of commercial. This development is located at Joyce Blvd. and Wilkerson Rd. and is getting ready to break ground.

Vehicle maintenance:

Police department: 1 oil change.

5. PUBLIC WORKS

6. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Council Member Dan Cross said the Planning Commission met and Erika volunteered to be secretary. An interesting working session is scheduled next week for a large-scale development on Elmore.

Council Member Cross said he has emailed with the Mayor and spoken to The Police and Fire Chiefs and with Council Member Perea about the need for personnel committee to take on a long-range plan that would help both departments with retention and long-term needs. Information would be brought back to the City Council for support. Next month we will bring back more of a formal proposal.

7. CITY CLERK/TREASURER

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

The first of 2 Ventracs ordered for the Public Works Department arrived on Thursday, right before Friday's snow. Cost was \$81,617.59 which was budgeted in the Street Fund.

Over \$48,000 was spent on the first of the year annual expenses out of the General Fund.

Since Council is early this month, several of the monthly bills have not been received or paid yet.

8. CITY ATTORNEY

Officer West has paid the outstanding Stipend in whole + legal fees so that is taken care of. Working on planning issues for the Hendrix Heights project.

The Municipal League conference is this week, and he will bring back any new information and insight.

9. MAYOR

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

10. RESOLUTION 2024-01: A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2023 GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR ACTUAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE CITY OF JOHNSON, ARKANSAS.

Council Member Fant asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-01. Motion made by Council Member Engle, Seconded by Council Member Wright. Voting Yea: Council Member Cross, Council Member Fant, Council Member Hudson, Council Member Perea, Council Member Wright, Council Member Engle.

11. ORDINANCE 2024-01: AN ORDINANCE TO VACATE A 10-FOOT UTILITY AND DRAINAGE EASEMENT AND A 15-FOOT UTILITY AND DRAINAGE EASEMENT LOCATED AT TRACT 1 (PARCEL NOS. 785-18012-000 AND 785-18013-000) OF HENDRIX HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF JOHNSON, ARKANSAS.

Council Member Fant asked for a motion to read Ordinance 2024-01 by title only, waiving the second and third readings. 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. City Attorney Justin Eichmann read the ordinance by title only. Council Member Fant asked for a motion to approve the reading. Motion made by Council Member Wright, 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION TO PAY BILLS

Council Member Fant asked for a motion to pay the bills. Motion made by Council Member Hudson, 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

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

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Allen CMC, CAMC
City Clerk/Treasurer

Chris Keeney, Mayor