



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
City of Texarkana, Arkansas
216 Walnut Street
Minutes - Monday, February 07, 2022 - 6:00 PM

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

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

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager E. Jay Ellington, City Attorney George Matteson, City Clerk Heather Soyars and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation given by Director Barbara Miner.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Bi-State Building Manager Kristine Barron.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Phyllis Haynes, 1915 Dudley, wanted to voice her concerns regarding the Animal Care and Adoption Center (ACAC). She thought the director of the (ACAC) was a dog breeder and said that should be a conflict of interest for someone in that position.

Director Laney Harris spoke about the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit Day of Action. *Statement is attached*

Christina Tutt, president of the Texarkana Animal Coalition Team, offered her seven-step road map to get the Animal Care and Adoption Center where it needed to be.

Amy Stanley, Passion for Pouches, said she would like more transparency between the Animal Care and Adoption Center and the citizens. She stated she wished both Texarkana's would collaborate together to help with the animals.

Carol Silvey, Texarkana Humane Society Spay and Neuter Program, said she wanted a response from the email she sent City Manager Mr. Ellington last week.

Jane Gann, member of the Animal Care and Adoption Center focus group, said many of the complaints brought forward from the citizens were addressed in the focus group meeting last week.

PRESENTATION(S)

1. Presentation of the City of Texarkana, Arkansas Employee Service Awards. (CCD)

Christopher Manley Bi-State

25 Years

Patrick Nelson	Bi-State	25 Years
Jason A. Cherry	TAFD	20 Years
Montri Jones	TAFD	30 Years
Kristopher Bocox	TAPD– Computer Services Tech	20 Years
Michael Lynch	TWU	5 Years
David Mills, Jr.	TWU	15 Years
Michael Sorrell	TWU	20 Years

2. AR-TX REDI Video presentation. (Admin)
3. Audit Presentation given by Cynthia Burns, BKD, LLP. (FIN)

Cynthia Burns, BKD, LLP, gave a brief Audit Presentation on year end 2020.

CONSENT

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

4. The minutes of the rescheduled regular meeting January 18, 2022. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
5. Resolution No. 2022-4 rescheduled the Juneteenth City Holiday and the Board of Directors' second meeting in June. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
6. Resolution No. 2022-5 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract for the US Highway 82 East 8" Sewer Main Extension Phase I. (TWU) Interim Executive Director Gary Smith
7. Resolution No. 2022-6 authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the City of Texarkana, Texas for Police Criminal Investigation Division (CID) services. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson
8. Resolution No. 2022-7 authorized the City Manager to purchase a Ford Edge for Narcotics Task Force Operations. (TAPD) Captain Bobby Jordon
9. Resolution No. 2022-8 authorized the City Manager to purchase a New Holland TS6.110 Tractor for the Public Works Department Streets Division. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards
10. Resolution No. 2022-9 authorized the City Manager to purchase a John Deere Mini Excavator for the Public Works Department Streets Division. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards
11. Resolution No. 2022-10 authorized the City Manager to purchase a Used Water Truck for the Public Works Department Streets Division. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards
12. Resolution No. 2022-11 authorized the City Manager to purchase a Used Pneumatic Roller for the Public Works Department Streets Division. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards
13. Resolution No. 2022-12 amended the FY2022 General Fund Budget to Include the Reallocation of the FY2021 General Fund Budget funding for Nix Creek Improvements. (PWD)

REGULAR

14. Resolution No. 2022-13 accepted the year end 2020 Audit Report. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson

Director Harris made the motion to adopt the resolution, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

No one came forward.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

15. Resolution No. 2022-14 authorized the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement on behalf of the Texarkana Regional Airport with Flight Solutions, LLC, for the construction of 3 aircraft hangers. (Airport) Airport Director Paul Mehrlich

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

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

No one came forward.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

16. Resolution No. 2022-15 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Spears Engineering Company for the design of the US HWY 71 North 42" Water Main Relocation Project. (TWU) Interim Executive Director Gary Smith

Director Hart made the motion to adopt the resolution, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

No one came forward.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

17. Ordinance No. 3-2022 for the updating and repair of the City's Storm Siren System. (TAFD) Chief David Fletcher

Director Harris made the motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its first reading in abbreviated form, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

The motion carried 7-0 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 Hart.

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

The motion carried 7-0 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 Brewer, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Hollibush.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the ordinance was read the third and final time in abbreviated form.

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

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

No one came forward.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

An emergency clause is requested. 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.

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

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

No one came forward.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause enacted.

18. Ordinance No. 4-2022 authorized the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Miller County for housing Municipal Prisoners at the Miller County Detention Center. (Admin)

Director Brewer made the motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its first reading in abbreviated form, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

The motion carried 7-0 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 Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Seconded by Director Harris.

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

The motion carried 7-0 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 Brewer, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the ordinance was read the third and final time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Hart, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Hollibush.

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

No one came forward.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

An emergency clause is requested. 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.

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

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

No one came forward.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause enacted.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Director Hart thanked TyRhonda Henderson and the Finance Department for their hard work preparing for the audit.

Director Brewer also wanted to thank the Finance Department for a job well done and their attention to detail.

Director Miner wanted to let citizens know about the ribbon cutting for the Rec Center on February 17, 2022, and the grand opening of the Rec Center on February 19, 2022.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager E. Jay Ellington gave the following report:

- He and the City Clerk went to a Leadership Texarkana strategic doers training session last week.
- He met with a focus group concerning the Animal Care and Adoption Center.
- He made a presentation to the Advertising & Promotion Commission regarding the downtown festival area.
- He said the City was still discussing the Juvenile Detention Center agreement and it would be brought before the Board in the future.
- The City hired a consult to help with the redistricting of the wards.

- He said the dumpster cleanup campaign was scheduled for March 5, 2022. Mr. Ellington said the dumpsters would be available on the first Saturday of the month.
- He mentioned the Rec Center ribbon cutting set for February 17, 2022, and the grand opening on February 19, 2022.
- He wanted the Board to know he would be attending Leadership Texarkana and Police Citizens Academy this week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director Harris requested an Executive Session.

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:12 PM.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:17 PM.

No action was taken.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 22, 2022

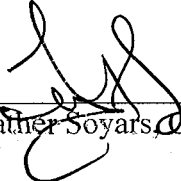
ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Director Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

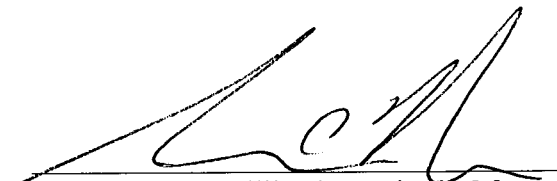
Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Miner, and Director Hart.

The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

APPROVED this the 22nd day of February 2022.



Heather Soyars, City Clerk



Steven Hollibush, Assistant Mayor

February 7, 2021

On February 4, 2022 I received Information for call to action for state and local leader from the Biden Administrative thru the American Recues Plan (ARP) Implementation Team, The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs stating that Tuesday, February 8 is Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit Day of Action – and we are calling on state and local leaders to ensure residents are aware of and accessing these critical dollars to help make ends meet. “You may consider taking action by launching email and text campaigns to your residents, partnering with local agencies and VITA sites to ensure residents access these important benefits, and raising awareness through social media and more.”

Beside stating about this, this evening. This morning I went to Cheatham Tax Services at 501 East 9th St, Texarkana, Ar 71854 and share with her business about tax filer and non filer . Even though Mrs. Michelle Cheatham was well verse on the information of Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit. I left some flyers for her to post at her business.

Next I went to Sandflats Community Center and explain I was there on behaved of The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs stating that Tuesday, February 8 is Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit Day of Action then I went to Iron Mountain Community Center and stated the same and left a flyers also.

These are the key point I needs to states about the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit Day of Actions are:

- The new Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit are bigger than ever.
- The Child Tax Credit was increased and expanded in 2021 by the American Rescue Plan, and most families are eligible to receive the

credit for their children. For families with kids, the 2021 Child Tax Credit is \$3,000-\$3,600 per kid, based on their age.

- This year, for the first time, the Earned Income Tax Credit can be worth up to \$1,500 for some workers without kids at home — nearly triple the credit in 2020 because of changes made by the American Rescue Plan.
- Filing a tax return is the best way to receive the full Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit.
- Many families received about ½ of their CTC in monthly payments in 2021. Families will get the rest of the CTC they are owed by filing taxes this year. [ChildTaxCredit.gov](https://www.childtaxcredit.gov) can help.
- Free tax help is available to file tax returns – go to [ChildTaxCredit.gov](https://www.childtaxcredit.gov) to learn more.

I will end if a members of the ARP Implementation Team of The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is watching or see this, tell Mr. President Biden Thanks! for caring about the poor, the disenfranchise, and the under representative.

Laney Harris, City Director, Ward 2
City Texarkana, Arkansas 71854