



## CITY OF TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS MINUTES

### **Rescheduled Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

**Tuesday, January 22, 2019 - 6:00 PM**

Mayor Allen L. Brown called the meeting to order.

PRESENT: Mayor Allen Brown, Assistant Mayor Linda Teeters, Director Laney J. Harris, Director Steven Hollibush, Director Travis Odom, Director Barbara S. Miner and Director Terri Peavy.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dr. Kenny Haskin, City Attorney George Matteson, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Director Steven Hollibush.

#### **PRESENTATION(S)**

1. Presentation by of the Arkansas Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. (TAPD) Chief Bob Harrison and ALEAP Board of Director J.R. Wilson

Chief Bob Harrison introduced ALEAP Board of Director J.R. Wilson who gave a brief presentation about this program. He said ALEAP was a voluntary process where police agencies in Arkansas prove their compliance with Arkansas Law Enforcement's current Best Practices or Standards. Being accredited meant the agency met or exceeded all the Standards for Arkansas Law Enforcement Agencies. These Standards cover all aspects of law enforcement operations including use of force, protection of citizen rights, pursuits, property and evidence management, and patrol and investigative operations. While being accredited did not guarantee an agency would not make a mistake, it did ensure the agency had carefully thought about these critical issues, and developed policy and procedures to address them and had systems in place to identify and correct problems. There were several benefits to becoming an accredited police agency. Police officers exercise government's most awesome powers – the power to stop and question a citizen, the power to arrest a citizen, to seize his person and property, and the power to use force in that process. Officers often operate alone without direct supervision. Police agencies direct and control their officer's activity through supervision, training, and written policies and procedures. Since supervisors cannot always be present, the training and the policies and procedures of an agency were critical to ensure proper performance. Appropriate equipment was also necessary. The Programs ensure an agency had addressed the most critical law enforcement issues in both policy as well as actual operation. The Programs did not tell an agency what their policy must be, but rather it ensured the policy, procedure, or operation and addressed all the critical aspects of an issue. The Accreditation and Recognition Programs assured both City Management and the citizens of a

city that their Police Department was operating in a manner that reflected the current best practices of Law Enforcement. It reduced both officer and agency risks. It could provide citizens with reassurance and improve community cooperation – and could also lead to improved performance of the department.

Chief Wilson presented the accreditation award to Mayor Brown, City Manager Dr. Haskin and Chief Harrison.

2. Partnership for the Pathway Presentation.

Public Works Director Tyler Richards introduced John and Julie Ray Harrison and Partnership for the Pathway President T.J. Davidson. Mr. Richards said the TAP Grant projects for sidewalks on Pinson, East 42<sup>nd</sup>, East 50<sup>th</sup> Street and the SRTS project on Pearl Street had been constructed and they issued a check to the City in the amount of \$32,242 on August 17, 2018. He also said the RTP Grant project was for a trail extension from the existing trail at the Boys and Girls Club at Jackson Street. A check in the amount of \$14,443.81 would be issued once those projects had been completed.

Julie Ray Harrison said Partnership for the Pathway's desire was to have a safe pedestrian and bicycle trail within the Texarkana community. She said their major fundraiser was from the Run the Line half marathon that traveled between both cities. Ms. Harrison also spoke about the runners who were from all over the country.

Assistant Mayor Teeters said she wanted to showcase Partnership for the Pathway at the next Arkansas Municipal League (AML) meeting so they could receive statewide recognition for this phenomenal project.

John Harrison said how great the city of Texarkana, Arkansas, and staff were to work with. He said they liked the City to be clean and ready to showcase when the marathon runners came to town and the City staff helped them out tremendously with this effort.

## **CONSENT**

Director Harris requested item 8 Adopt a Resolution to accept the 2018 Audit Engagement Letter prepared by the accounting firm BKD, LLP. (FIN), be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Regular Agenda for discussion.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by Director Teeters, Seconded by Director Odom.

The motion carried unanimously, and the Mayor declared the Consent Agenda approved. The items approved were:

3. Approval of Minutes of the regular meeting January 7, 2019. (CCD)
4. Resolution No. 2019-2 appointed Media Manager Eric Ethridge, Fire Administrative Assistant Marian Holder and City Manager Executive Assistant to the Personnel Policy Committee. (CCD)
5. Resolution No. 2019-3 authorized the Depository Board to execute the 2019 depository agreement with Commercial National Bank. (FIN)
6. Resolution No. 2019-4 approved amending the current Continuing Disclosure Policy. (FIN)
7. Resolution No. 2019-5 authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the City of Texarkana, Texas for police CID services. (FIN)

## **REGULAR**

8. Resolution No. 2019-6 accepted the 2018 Audit Engagement Letter prepared by the accounting firm BKD, LLP. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson

Director Harris asked how long the City had used BKD, LLP, and did the City receive any bids from other accounting firms.

Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson said BKD, LLP, had audited the City since 2010. The City also sent out Request for Proposals (RFPs) and BKD, LLP, was the only firm to apply.

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Miner, Seconded by Director Odom. Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Teeters, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Odom, Director Miner, Director Peavy.

Mayor Brown declared the resolution adopted by a vote of 7-0.

## **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

No one came forward.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:31 PM.

Director Harris left the Board Room at 6:31 PM.

The Board reconvened at 6:38 PM.

Director Harris returned to the Board Room at 6:38 PM.

9. Resolution No. 2019-7 appointed David Jones to the Historic District Commission and Linda Register to the Library Board.

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Miner, Seconded by Director Odom. Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Teeters, Director Hollibush, Director Odom, Director Miner, Director Peavy.

Voting Abstaining: Director Harris.

The Mayor declared the resolution adopted by a vote of 6-1.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, February 4, 2019**

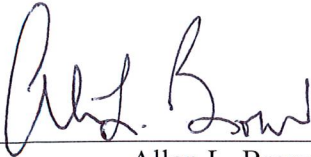
## **ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn made by Director Odom, Seconded by Director Peavy.

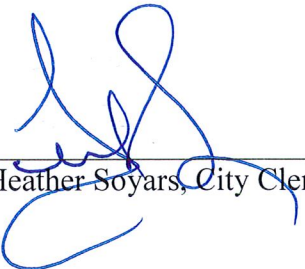
Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Teeters, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Odom, Director Miner, Director Peavy.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.

**APPROVAL** of the minutes on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.



Allen L. Brown, Mayor



Heather Soyars, City Clerk