



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, February 06, 2023 - 6:00 PM

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

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

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Jay Ellington, Interim City Attorney Joshua Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation given by Reverend Donald Tyler, guest of Director Laney Harris.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Police Chief Michael Kramm.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Ledell Robertson, wanted to voice his concerns regarding the constant noise at Tri-State Iron and Metal.

Courtney Blair voiced her concerns with the 18-wheelers traveling in and out of the neighborhood around Tri-State Iron and Metal. She also stated the noise was all day from Sunday to Sunday, and there were many people in the area who were sick from the chemicals in the air at Tri-State.

PRESENTATION(S)

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

Tyler Richards	Public Works	5 Years
Danny Russell	TAPD	10 Years
Travis Deel	TAFD	25 Years
Jeannie Sanders	TWU	5 Years
Justin Harwell	TWU	5 Years
Dustin Griffin	TWU	5 Years
Roberto Vazquez	TWU	20 Years
Sally McAllister	TWU	35 Years

CONSENT

Director Harris wanted to make a correction to the previous minutes. He wanted his vote regarding the Interim City Attorney to be changed to abstain instead of nay.

Director Hart made the motion to adopt the Consent agenda with the correction to the previous minutes, Seconded by Director Hollibush. The motion carried and the following items were approved:

2. Approval of the minutes of the rescheduled regular meeting January 17, 2023. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
3. Resolution No. 2023-5 approved the reimbursement of \$15,000.00 to the Texarkana Regional Airport from American Rescue Act Funds. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson
4. Resolution No. 2023-6 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 and Police Chief Michael Kramm
5. Resolution No. 2023-7 reappointed City staff to the Personnel Policy Committee. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

REGULAR

6. Resolution No. 2023-8 appointed Joshua Potter as Interim City Attorney. (BOD)

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hart, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Roberts.

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

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

7. Resolution No. 2023-9 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract for the Front Street Plaza Improvement Project. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Brewer.

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

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

8. Resolution No. 2023-10 authorized the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Turkey Creek Farms for the construction of a fence enclosing Front Street Plaza. (PWD) Parks and Recreation Director Adam Dalby

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hart, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Roberts.

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

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

9. Ordinance No. 5-2023 confirmed, updated, and corrected the annexation of certain territory to the City of Texarkana, Arkansas (Franks). (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards

After a brief discussion, the motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its first reading in abbreviated form made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, 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 Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, 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 Hollibush, Seconded by Director Hart.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the ordinance was read the third 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, Assistant Mayor Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, 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 Hart, 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, Assistant Mayor Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Hart.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Assistant Mayor Roberts thanked Texarkana Water Utilities Executive Director Gary Smith for keeping him updated on the boil warning that effected his Ward. He also asked City Manager Mr. Ellington if the Tri-State issue would be assigned to a particular department.

City Manager E. Jay Ellington said the issue would be sent to the Texarkana, Arkansas Police Department, and the Public Works Department.

Director Harris said he thought the ordinance would need to be changed before anything could happen with Tri-State. He said when he drove around the Carmichael Hill and College Hill area, he noticed curbs were stopped up with mud and asked what Public Works was doing now since they were not cutting grass. Director Harris said he thought the City's personnel person would be qualified to help in the process of finding a new City Manager instead of hiring a go between like the City did last time. He also stated all interviews should be handle at City Hall, not at another location.

Director Hollibush wanted to remind citizens about the upcoming Mardi Gras parade on February 18, 2023. He stated he would schedule a meeting with Tri-State and the community at the Iron Mountain Center. Director Hollibush said there was an issue with rainwater on 14th Street around the train tracks. He said the railroad had the right-of-way and the City would need permission before anything could be done. He said they were still trying to reach someone at the railroad to see if the City could fix the problem. If the railroad could not be reached, then he would reach out to the State Representative and the State Senator.

Director Brewer wanted citizens to know he was working to have lights installed on the walking trail.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager E. Jay Ellington gave the following report:

- He wanted to let the Board know he was meeting with the transition team every week to discuss the upcoming changes.
- He said there were continued meetings between the City and Miller County to work together on what the State was wanting regarding the 9-1-1 center.
- He said since the closing of the Juvenile Detention Center, the City still looked for options on where to house the juveniles.
- He hoped the Plaza projects would be completed by this spring and activities could be scheduled.
- He said there would be three documents to come forward within the next six weeks: one with 1894, Crossties, and a lease arrangement.
- He wanted to remind citizens about the 150 years celebration of our City that would happen later in the year.
- He said the Airport Authority scheduled a tentative joint city meeting on April 27, 2023.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 21, 2023

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 6:46 PM.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:06 PM, and the following action was taken:

- 10. Resolution No. 2023-11 made appointments to various boards and commissions. [Airport Authority; Historic Commission; Library Board and Planning Commission.] (CCD)

Airport Authority	Robin Hickerson	05/14/2022----2025
Historic District Commission	Greg Gallagher	01/17/2021----2025
	David Ellison	01/17/2023----2026
	M. Carmen Mauldin	01/17/2023----2026
Library Board	Pamela Johnson	01/15/2023----2029
Planning Commission	Randall Hickerson	05/06/2022----2025
	Anderson Neal, Jr.	05/06/2022----2025

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Assistant Mayor Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush. Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Hart.

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

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 21, 2023

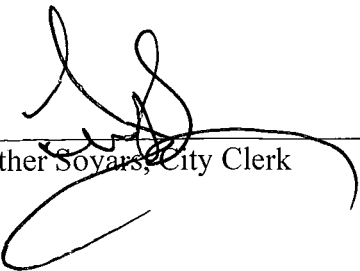
ADJOURN

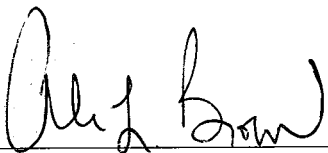
Motion to adjourn made by Director Hart, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.

APPROVED this the 21st day of February 2023.


Heather Soyars, City Clerk


Allen L. Brown, Mayor