



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

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

**Minutes - Monday, December 18, 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 Robert Thompson, City Attorney Joshua Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation given by Pastor Solomon Phifer of Polly Chapel Baptist Church, a guest of Director Ulysses Brewer.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Texarkana Water Utilities Executive Director Gary Smith.

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Boots Thomas, 5807 Deerwood, said East 50<sup>th</sup> Street/Relator Avenue needed sidewalks for pedestrians that walk up and down the street.

Ricky Holder, 12 Downing Drive, said there was a house purchased in his neighborhood that would be used as a transition house for a drug rehab facility.

### **PROCLAMATION(S)**

1. Proclamation declaring December 31, 2023 as Steve "Spanky" Anderson Day. (Admin)

### **CONSENT**

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

2. Approval of the minutes of the rescheduled regular meeting December 5, 2023. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
3. Resolution No. 2023-100 authorized the Depository Board to execute the 2024 depository agreement with Commercial National Bank. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson
4. Resolution No. 2023-101 authorized the purchase of (2) two 2024 Toyota Rav 4 vehicles from Robbins Toyota located in Nash, Texas. (TAPD) Police Chief Michael Kramm

5. Resolution No. 2023-102 authorized the City Manager to enter into Change Order No. 1 with Francis Excavating, LLC., for County Avenue Rehabilitation Project. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards

**ACTION ITEM(S)**

6. Resolution No. 2023-103 approved the FY2024 budget. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution 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 Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

7. Ordinance No. 40-2023 established rural water and sewer infrastructure fees for all residential and commercial customers outside the city limits and for all Union and Mandeville customers both inside and outside the city limits; dedicating collected revenues from such fees to infrastructure replacement and depositing into the Arkansas Infrastructure Fund maintained by Texarkana Water Utilities. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith

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

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.

### **DISCUSSION ONLY ITEM(S)**

8. Resolution No. 2023-104 approved a Conditional Use Permit allowing construction of additional mini warehouses located at 3120 East 9th Street. (Ward 3) (PWD-Planning) City Planner Jamie Finley

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution 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 Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Harris asked TWU Executive Director Gary Smith if there were any updates on the projects from the previous workshop.

Director Brewer said each Board member had a flyer before them regarding Texarkana, Arkansas, Bright Futures. The Texarkana, Arkansas School District developed this program to help increase the reading levels of the children in the schools.

Assistant Mayor Roberts said he wanted to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Mayor Brown wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Robert Thompson said it had been an exciting year for him and he looked forward to 2024. He wanted to thank everyone for the help with breakfast with Santa and he was impressed with how well the community worked together.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 2, 2024**

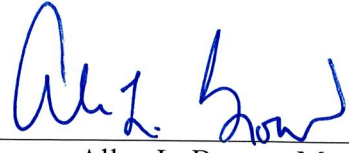
### **ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn made by Director Hart, 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 meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

**APPROVED** this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2024.



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Allen L. Brown, Mayor



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Heather Soyars, City Clerk