



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

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

**Minutes - Monday, November 04, 2024 - 6:00 PM**

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

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

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager Tyler Richards, City Attorney Josh Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Assistant Mayor Ward 6 Jeff Hart

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Edward Lewis, 270 MC 141, read a brief statement about an event named Dream Cruise. (Statement attached.)

### **PRESENTATION(S)**

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

Bobby Forte

TAPD

5 Years

Brian Nolte

PWD

15 Years

2. Texarkana Regional Airport 3rd Quarter Budget Briefing. (AIRPORT) Executive Director Paul Mehrlich

### **PROCLAMATION(S)**

3. Proclamation declaring November 30, 2024, as Small Business Saturday. (ADMIN)

### **CONSENT**

Mayor Brown requested Item 5. Adopt a Resolution authorizing a study to determine if an Environmental Assessment was necessary to develop four maintenance repair and overhaul hangers. (AIRPORT) Executive Director Paul Mehrlich and Item 7. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Airport Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Tatum Excavating for general aviation apron expansion. (AIRPORT) Executive Director Paul Mehrlich be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Director Harris made the motion to adopt the Consent agenda, Seconded by Director Roberts. The motion carried and the following item was approved:

4. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting October 21, 2024. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
6. Resolution No. 2024-91 authorized the Airport Executive Director to enter into an agreement with HiLite for runway edge restriping. (AIRPORT) Executive Director Paul Mehrlich

## **REGULAR**

5. Resolution No. 2024-92 authorized study to determine if an Environmental Assessment was necessary to develop four maintenance repair and overhaul hangers. (AIRPORT) Executive Director Paul Mehrlich

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

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

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

7. Resolution No. 2024-93 authorized the Airport Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Tatum Excavating for general aviation apron expansion. (AIRPORT) Executive Director Paul Mehrlich

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

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

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

8. **TABLED** - Adopt an Ordinance to rezone parcels 00193600 and 00193601, from C-4 Crossroads Business Park to a Planned Unit Development for the purpose of constructing seven (7) single family homes. (PWD-PLANNING) City Planner Jamie Finley

After a brief discussion, motion to table the resolution for the redesign of the plat made by Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution tabled for the redesign of the plat.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Harris read the attached proclamation from Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders.

Director Brewer said citizens of Ward 4 had a meeting scheduled for December 10, 2024, at 5:30 PM at the Texarkana Recreation Center.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Tyler Richards said the Finance Department was hard at work on preparing the budget and hoped to present it in the second half of November. He also announced the new Police Chief Ed Chattaway.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, November 18, 2024**

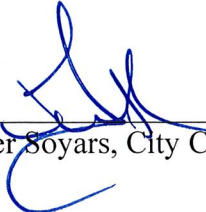
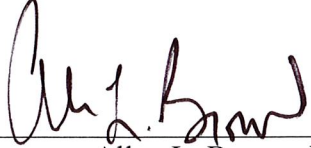
### **ADJOURN**

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

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

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

**APPROVED** this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Soyars, City Clerk  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Allen L. Brown, Mayor

Texarkana and the surrounding area have a great family of classic car owners. There are clubs and there are individuals. They represent both sides of the city and they love their classic cars and look forward to telling the story of their Dream Car. I have witnessed a Dream Cruise in the city of Pontiac Michigan, where their cruise strip is 24 miles long and the cars were bumper to bumper both sides of the road. Their Dream Cruise is a huge economic success for the community and the classic owners.

I am asking that we, the citizens of Texarkana USA, host the first annual "Texarkana Dream Cruise" in Texarkana on the weekend of Memorial Day Weekend. It consists of classic cars cruising Stateline Avenue to the downtown area from August 29, 2025, 5 p.m. until Sunday August 31, 12 Noon for the Labor Day weekend.

The cars will cruise Stateline Ave from the downtown area where all of our civic events are held, to the Racetrac gas station on Stateline Ave, being built. The downtown area is where the owners can show off their classics and speak to onlookers and enthusiasts. Vendors would be welcome to participate in this community event, to be set up in the downtown area. If the future of this event is so great in turnout, we can possibly use the parking lot of Beach Street Baptist church to show the cars. (just a thought).

One of the largest and most important factors to make this event a success and a continued success is that Both Texarkana, Arkansas and Texas, allow these vehicles to be paraded during this weekend with no registration. As some of these classics are trailered everywhere they go for shows. Yes, there will be outbursts of Exhibitions of speed and power; Very simple to correct. TAPD and TTPD are cruising the strip also. In the event someone is driving excessively the officers are to pursue them, turning their lights on and when the ESP stops the officers turn their lights off and proceed, without pulling them over.

This is a great way to promote Texarkana by classic car enthusiasts. I know that this would be a great economic promotion for our hotels, retail stores, fuel stations and local vendors. And it being on Labor day weekend would be a huge success.

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**  
**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

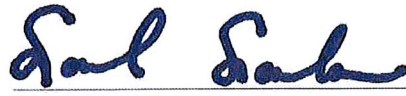
- WHEREAS:** The State of Arkansas and our citizens recognize and greatly appreciate the contributions of local businesses and industry to the overall strength, character, and well-being of our state;
- WHEREAS:** Residents and visitors greatly benefit from the variety of services, products, agriculture & forestry, aerospace, manufacturing, mining, technologies and other accommodations provided by businesses and industry sectors throughout the Natural State;
- WHEREAS:** Our local businesses and industry provide employment, wages, benefits, and economic stability to thousands of employees and their families;
- WHEREAS:** Arkansas citizens continue to benefit from the charitable acts and support for community projects and non-profit programs;
- WHEREAS:** Arkansas celebrated a new investment, through the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), which has approved Arkansas' Initial Proposal for the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program; and
- WHEREAS:** This enables Arkansas to access funding and begin implementation of the BEAD program. Arkansas was allocated over \$1 billion to ensure that everyone has access to reliable, affordable, high-speed Internet service.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim November 2024 as

**"BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY APPRECIATION MONTH IN ARKANSAS"**

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 28th day of October, in the year of our Lord 2024.



  
Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Governor

  
John Thurston, Secretary of State