



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, March 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 Mayor Allen Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance led by TWU Executive Director Gary Smith.

Mayor Brown said he was instructed by the Interim City Attorney Item 4. Public Hearing concerning a Resolution of support for a request to be made to the Arkansas Highway Department (ARDOT) asking that the Highway 71S viaduct be named the Reverend Londell Williams Overpass, would be tabled tonight due to another request to consider an additional name.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

No one came forward.

PRESENTATION(S)

1. Presentation of the City of Texarkana, Arkansas Employee Service Awards. (ADMIN)
2. Presentation of the proposed Municipal Auditorium HVAC System. (Admin) City Manager E. Jay Ellington

PUBLIC HEARING

3. Public Hearing concerning an Ordinance to rename a section of right of way that was cut off by Interstate 49 from Preston Street to Magee Drive. (Ward 3) (PWD-Planning) City Planner Mary Beck

NO ACTION to be taken by the Board of Directors at this meeting.

This ordinance would be presented to the Board of Directors as an ACTION ITEM on March 20, 2023.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing.

City Planner Mary Beck gave a brief presentation regarding the renaming of the road.

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

No one came forward.

Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing.

4. ***TABLED*** Public Hearing concerning a Resolution of support for a request to be made to the Arkansas Highway Department (ARDOT) asking that the Highway 71S viaduct be named the Reverend Londell Williams Overpass. (PWD-Planning) City Planner Mary Beck
NO ACTION to be taken by the Board of Directors at this meeting.

This resolution would be presented to the Board of Directors as an ACTION ITEM on March 20, 2023.

CONSENT

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

5. Approval of the minutes of the rescheduled regular meeting February 21, 2023. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
6. Resolution No. 2023-16 approved the reimbursement of \$14,000.00 to the Texarkana Regional Airport from American Rescue Act Funds. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson
7. Resolution No. 2023-17 authorized the City Manager to purchase one (1) M2-106 Freightliner Conventional Cab. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith
8. Resolution No. 2023-18 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Plummer Associates, Inc., to develop a Master Plan of the water distribution system serving the Cities of Texarkana, Arkansas, and Texarkana, Texas. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith

REGULAR

9. Resolution No. 2023-19 accepted the 2022 Public Facilities Board Annual Report. (Admin) City Manager E. Jay Ellington

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

10. Ordinance No. 8-2023 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Springbrook Software for the purchase of financial software. (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 Director Hart, Seconded by Director Harris.

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 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 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.

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 Assistant Mayor Roberts.

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.

11. ***TABLED*** Adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 24 – Subdivisions of the *City of Texarkana, Arkansas Code of Ordinances*, to delete Ordinance No. L-227 permanently and set limits on road guarantee renewals. (PWD-Planning) City Planner Mary Beck

After a brief discussion, the motion to table the ordinance made by Director Harris, Seconded by Director Jewell.

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 tabled.

12. Ordinance No. 9-2023 rezoned a tract of land located at 4000 E. 9th Street, from R-2 Single-family residential to C-3 Open display commercial zoning in order to build a retail business. (Ward 3) (PWD-Planning) City Planner Mary Beck

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 Director Harris.

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 Assistant Mayor Roberts, Seconded by Director Harris.

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 Hollibush, Seconded by Director Harris.

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Director Harris asked when the City would get more asphalt for potholes. He also wanted to know if the street sweeper worked.

Director Hollibush said last Thursday night there was a community meeting regarding Tri-State Iron and Metal, and it was a huge success.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager E. Jay Ellington gave the following report:

- He said he continued to work on his project list.

- He said he was having a series of exit interviews with the staff as well as the Board.
- He was working on a letter to give to the employees regarding the City's health benefits.
- He stated his last day in the office would be March 21, 2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 6:41 PM.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:07 PM, and the following action was taken:

Motion to appoint Joshua Potter as the new City Attorney 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 Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, March 20, 2023

ADJOURN

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

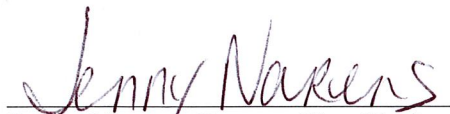
Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Director Hart.

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

APPROVED this the 20th day of March 2023.



Allen L. Brown, Mayor



Jenny Narens, Deputy City Clerk