



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, November 20, 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 and Pledge of Allegiance given by Assistant Mayor Terry Roberts.

Invocation given by Pastor Chris Owens, guest of Director Laney Harris.

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Manager Robert Thompson.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

PRESENTATION(S)

1. Proclamation declaring November 25, 2023, as Small Business Saturday. (CCD)

CONSENT

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

2. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting November 6, 2023. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

ACTION ITEM(S)

3. Resolution No. 2023-98 rescheduled the December 4, 2023, Board of Directors meeting. (ADMIN)

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution 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.

4. Ordinance No. 39-2023 amended Chapter 6. Aviation of the *City of Texarkana, Arkansas, Code of Ordinances*. (AIRPORT) Airport Director Paul Mehrlich

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 Assistant Mayor Roberts.

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

Voting Nay: Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-1 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.

Voting Nay: Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-1 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Hart, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Roberts.

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.

NON-ACTION ITEM(S) - None

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Director Hart said citizens have asked him questions regarding the Four States Parkway where the red-light pole was hit by a truck. Presently there were temporary stop signs and he requested flashing lights on top of the signs to attract drivers' attention. He said he spoke with Public Works Director Tyler Richards and the new pole should be delivered the first week of December.

Director Harris said Amtrack officials told him there was a groundbreaking ceremony on November 17th for the new terminal building. He also asked about 24-hour streaming video of the city.

Assistant Mayor Roberts thanked the Public Works Department for removing some of the speed bumps on Broad Street.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Robert Thompson said he would provide the Board with weekly updates of his actions. He said the monthly department reports would also continue. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, December 5, 2023

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn 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 meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.

APPROVED this the 5th day of December 2023.



Allen L. Brown, Mayor



Heather Soyars, City Clerk