



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

City of Texarkana, Arkansas  
216 Walnut Street

**Minutes - Tuesday, February 20, 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, and Ward 5 Director Danny Jewell.

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager Robert Thompson, City Attorney Joshua Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

ABSENT: Assistant Mayor Ward 6 Jeff Hart.

Invocation given by citizen from the audience, Vance Thornton.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson.

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Vance and Cylestine Thornton, 6608 Harris Lane, spoke about an issue they had with their water meter shifting and it left them with a very large water bill.

### **PRESENTATION**

1. Presentation of the quarterly numbers for the Texarkana Regional Airport Budget. (AIRPORT) Executive Director of Aviation Paul Mehrlich

### **CONSENT**

Director Jewell requested Item 3. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Purchase Agreement with Texarkana New Holland for one (1) Tractor/Loader with a Bush Hog Cutter. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards, be removed from the Consent agenda.

Director Harris requested Item 5. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Steitler Properties for the production of a concert at Front Street Festival Plaza. (PARKS) Parks & Rec Director Adam Dalby, be removed from the Consent agenda.

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

2. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting February 5, 2024. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
4. Resolution No. 2024-13 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Belt Construction for the Nix Creek Sewer Improvements. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith

### **REGULAR**

3. Resolution No. 2024-14 authorized the City Manager to enter into a Purchase Agreement with Texarkana New Holland for one (1) Tractor/Loader with a Bush Hog Cutter. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards

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

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

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

5. Resolution No. 2024-15 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Steitler Properties for the production of a concert at Front Street Festival Plaza. (PARKS) Parks & Rec Director Adam Dalby

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

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

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

6. Ordinance No. 3-2024 approved the franchise agreement between the City of Texarkana, Arkansas, and Ritter Communications Holdings, LLC. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson

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 Roberts.

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

The motion carried 6-0 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, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-0 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 Brewer.

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

The motion carried 6-0 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Roberts, 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, Director Roberts, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

Voting Nay: Director Harris.

The motion carried 5-1 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 Roberts, 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, Director Roberts, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

Voting Nay: Director Harris.

The motion carried 5-1 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause enacted.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Harris said he would like the Parks Department to work on another five-year plan and asked if they would go to the neighborhoods where the parks were located to get the citizens input.

Director Brewer said the Black History Parade would be this Saturday, February 24, 2024.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Robert Thompson said the Fire Department completed their training for emergency medical technician and basic life support in January. He said the Police Department obtained a warrant and arrested the capitol murder suspect from the incident on Ash Street. Mr. Thompson said the Public Works Department used 70 tons of asphalt last week, and the new playground for the Rec Center would be installed in March.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, March 4, 2024**

**ADJOURN**

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

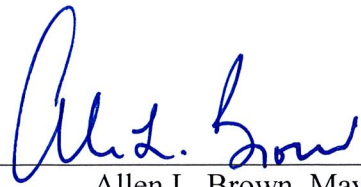
Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

**APPROVED** this the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.



  
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Jenny Narens, Deputy City Clerk

  
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Allen L. Brown, Mayor