

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas 216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, May 15, 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: Acting City Manager/Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson, City Attorney Joshua Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

*Director Brewer arrived at 6:01 PM. *

Invocation given by Mayor Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance led by David Carlton, Troop 86 Senior Patrol Leader.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

The following persons spoke about the flooding problem on Savannah Circle, not only in the yards but also in the street.

- Juanita Ardwin, property owner on Savannah Circle.
- Lynn Lawson, 4214 Savannah Circle.
- Delbert Henry, 4218 Savannah Circle.

Christina Tutt, spoke about the problems she had with the Animal Care and Adoption Center.

Mr. Hollis spoke with regards to the parking lot on Arkansas Boulevard by the Nix Creek Walking Trail.

Sherry Hurley, 1709 Pearl Street, wanted to let the Board know about the water flooding problem and road conditions in the College Hill area.

Director Harris gave a presentation regarding the road conditions in his Ward.

Fire Chief David Fletcher wanted to advise the Board of Directors that at the next meeting, Katie Hardy with Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District (SWAPDD), would give a presentation regarding the hazardous mitigation plan.

PROCLAMATIONS

- 1. Proclamation presented to Chief Michael Kramm for Police Appreciation Week, May 14-20, 2023. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
- 2. Proclamation presented to Public Works Director Tyler Richards for Public Works Appreciation Week, May 21-27, 2023. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

PRESENTATION

- 3. Public Works Update. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards.
- *Assistant Mayor Roberts left the Board Room at 7:11 PM and returned at 7:14 PM. *

CONSENT

Director Harris requested Item 8. Adopt a Resolution declaring Public Works equipment surplus and authorizing disposal in accordance with Arkansas Law. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards, be removed from the Consent agenda.

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

- 4. Approval of the minutes of the special called meeting at 12:00 PM on April 27, 2023, the regular meeting at 6:00 PM on May 1, 2023, and the special called meeting at 5:00 PM on May 8, 2023. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
- 5. Resolution No. 2023-39 approved the reimbursement of \$10,335.33 to the Texarkana Regional Airport from American Rescue Act Funds. (FIN) Acting City Manager/Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson
- 6. Resolution No. 2023-40 authorized the Acting City Manager to enter into a contract with Artex Electric for the purchase and installation of poles and LED lighting at Field 1 of the Pondexter Sports Complex. (PARKS) Parks and Recreation Director Adam Dalby
- 7. Resolution No. 2023-41 authorized the Acting City Manager to enter into a Purchase Agreement with Ledwell & Son Enterprises, Inc., for a 2,000 Gallon Water Truck. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards
- 9. Resolution No. 2023-42 authorized the Acting City Manager to enter into a Construction Contract with Jack Yates Drywall, Inc., for the Rehabilitation of City Hall Restrooms. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards

REGULAR

8. Resolution No. 2023-43 declared Public Works equipment surplus and authorized disposal in accordance with Arkansas Law. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards

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. Resolution No. 2023-44 approved the Airport Authority to enter into an agreement with the Yates Foundation, LLC., to name the new terminal the "Jim E. Yates Terminal". (AIRPORT) Airport Director Paul Mehrlich

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.

11. Resolution No. 2023-45 accepted the proposed redistricting wards map. (ADMIN) Acting City Manager/Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Assistant Mayor Roberts, 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 Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

12. Ordinance No. 18-2023 authorized the Board of Directors to amend Section 17-4 of the *City of Texarkana*, *Arkansas*, *Code of Ordinances* and provide for certain new fees for the rental and use of Front Street Festival Plaza. (PARKS) Parks and Recreation Director Adam Dalby

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, 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 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 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.

The applicant requests an emergency clause. 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. (Hdbk. Const. Amend 7)

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Director Brewer told the residents of Savannah Circle he would be in touch with them and hoped to resolve the water problem.

Director Hart thanked the Yates Foundation, LLC.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 7:58 PM.

*Assistant Mayor Roberts left the Board Room at 8:09 PM and returned at 8:11 PM. *

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 8:15 PM, and no action was taken.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, June 5, 2023

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Director Hart, 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 meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

APPROVED this the 5th day of June 2023.

Allen L. Brown, Mayor

Jenny Narens Deputy City Clerk