



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

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

**Minutes - Monday, October 07, 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 Tyler Richards, City Attorney Josh Potter, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

ABSENT: Assistant Mayor Ward 6 Director Jeff Hart and City Clerk Heather Soyars.

Invocation given by Mayor Allen Brown.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Thomas Bohon, 1807 Highland Street, spoke about the damage made from City workers on the property located at 115 Jackson Street.

Pastor Chris Owens, 3614 Garland Avenue, wanted to remind everyone about the lunch for the first responders at the Rec Center on October 19, 2024.

### **PRESENTATION(S)**

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

Deanne Grider	IT Department	5 Years
Daniel Williams	TWU	5 Years
Jared McCreery	TWU	15 Years

### **PROCLAMATION(S)**

2. Presented a proclamation declaring October 13th – 19th, 2024, as Black Restaurant Week. (BOD)

At the request of the City Manager, Mayor Brown pulled item 10 from the Consent agenda. Adopt a Resolution amending the FY2024 Budget (Resolution No. 2023-103) and the Public Works

Budget to include funding from Public Works Fund Balance. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee

## **CONSENT**

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

3. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting September 16, 2024, and the special called meeting September 30, 2024. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
4. Resolution No. 2024-75 rescheduled Board of Directors meetings in 2025 that conflict with certain holidays. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars
5. Resolution No. 2024-76 authorized the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Texarkana Regional Airport, Texarkana College Police, Texarkana, Arkansas Police, and the City of Texarkana, Arkansas. (TAPD) Interim Police Chief Ed Chattaway
6. Resolution No. 2024-77 amended Resolution No. 2023-94, to correct the parcel number for 514 Ferguson to 1590060. (Ward 2) (PWD) Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas
7. Resolution No. 2024-78 amended Resolution No. 2023-97, to correct errors for parcel numbers and addresses. (Ward 2) (PWD) Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas
8. Resolution No. 2024-79 amended Resolution No. 2024-23, corrected the parcel number for 709 Cleveland Street to 1610520. (Ward 2) (PWD) Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas
9. Resolution No. 2024-80 amended Resolution No. 2024-71 to correct the parcel number for 2218 Selma to 4850490. (Ward 1) (PWD) Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas
11. Resolution No. 2024-81 authorized the City Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Texarkana, Texas, to apply for a Brownfields Assessment Grant. (PWD) Interim Public Works Director Tracie Lee

## **REGULAR**

12. Consider the following action concerning the clean-up of thirty-eight (38) nuisance properties.  
Conduct a Public Hearing to receive comments regarding certification of certain delinquent taxes.

Mayor Brown opened the Public Hearing.

Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas gave a brief presentation regarding the nuisance properties.

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

Director Harris asked how the property owner could dispute a lien placed on their property by the City.

City Attorney Josh Potter said you would need to file an appeal with the circuit court.

Director Hollibush asked what the difference between the liens for condemned houses and nuisance properties.

Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas said with the condemned houses, last year the City decided not to file a lien if the City tore down the structure, and if Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money was used to take down the structure a lien had to be filed.

Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-82 certified amount to be put on tax books as delinquent and collected accordingly. (PWD) Interim Assistant Public Works Director Roger Douglas

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Roberts, 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.

13. Ordinance No. 22-2024 rezoned property located at 710 Phillips Lane, from R-3 Low Density Residential to A-1 Limited Mixed Use Rural for the purpose of operating a hobby farm. (Ward 1) (PWD-Planning) City Planner Jamie Finley

City Planner Jamie Finley gave a brief presentation.

After a brief discussion, the motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its first reading in abbreviated form made by Director Roberts, 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 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 Roberts, 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 third time in abbreviated form.

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

The motion carried 6-0 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 Roberts, Seconded by Director Harris.

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 Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

The motion carried 6-0 and the Mayor declared the emergency clause enacted.

14. Ordinance No. 23-2024 amended Ordinance No. L-180 to reflect the minimum area of a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to be two (2) acres. (PWD-Planning) City Planner Jamie Finley

City Planner Jamie Finley gave a brief presentation.

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 Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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 Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

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

15. Ordinance No. 24-2023 amended Ordinance No. L-61 to add the word “overlay” after each occurrence of the term “R-1 Rural Residential” in Section 28-75. Temporary secondary dwelling units of the *City of Texarkana, Arkansas, Code of Ordinances*. (PWD-Planning) City Planner Jamie Finely

City Planner Jamie Finely gave a brief presentation.

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 Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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 Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, and Director Jewell.

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

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Harris said he received a phone call about the overgrowth of Community Street and Roberts Street and wanted to see if it could be taken care of. He also asked if the City had a representative with the Housing Authority because several playgrounds and basketball courts had been removed.

Director Hollibush mentioned a Food Truck Festival at Bobby Ferguson Park on October 26, 2024.

Director Brewer wanted to say thank you to Rodney Sullivan and Sara Meredith for always picking up the trash in Ward 4. He also said the investigation with Swepeco was still ongoing.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Tyler Richards said he spoke with the Texas-side City Manager about Texarkana Water Utilities (TWU) IT Department, and they decided to separate the IT Department from TWU and promote Brandon Uselton to Chief Information Officer. He said Brandon would report directly to the two City Managers. City Manager said the National Night Out last week was a huge success and thanked the Police and Fire Departments for their involvement. He also said he spoke with a new vendor to provide a modernized website for the City.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, October 21, 2024**

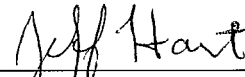
### **ADJOURN**

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


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

The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.

**APPROVED** this on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 2024.



Jeff Hart, Assistant Mayor

  
Jenny Narens, Deputy City Clerk