



## Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, May 02, 2022 - 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, Assistant Mayor Ward 3 Steven Hollibush, Ward 5 Director Barbara Miner and Ward 6 Director Jeff Hart.

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager E. Jay Ellington, City Attorney George Matteson, City Clerk Heather Soyars and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

ABSENT: Ward 4 Director Ulysses Brewer

Invocation given by Director Terry Roberts.

Pledge of Allegiance given by Public Works Director Tyler Richards.

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Jon Carnes, 3317 East Street, wanted to know if the City would allow a residential burn permit.

Rocky Murray, 3037 Pleasant Grove Road, said he had nuisance problems with the tenants living at 704 Artesian Street and wanted to know the City's ordinances regarding nuisance abatement.

### **PRESENTATION(S)**

1. Proclamation declaring the week of May 9 through May 13, 2022, as Economic Development Week. (Admin)
2. Presentation of the City of Texarkana, Arkansas Employee Service Awards. (CCD) Heather Soyars

William Greer	PWD	15 Years
Allen Johnson	TAPD	10 Years
Zachary White	TAPD	15 Years
Christopher McKinney	TWU	10 Years
David Gauldin	TWU	25 Years

Debbie Nolte was recognized for her retirement after 27 years of service as Chief Probation Officer at the Bi-State Justice Building.

## **CONSENT**

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

3. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting April 18, 2022. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

## **REGULAR**

4. Resolution No. 2022-33 approving the reimbursement of \$37,900 to the Texarkana Regional Airport from American Rescue Act Funds. (FIN) Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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

5. **TABLED INDEFINITELY** – Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Solid Waste Specialists, LLC, to prepare and procure documents required to solicit proposals for commercial and residential waste collection. (Admin) City Manager E. Jay Ellington

Director Roberts said he had a problem with the cost of the contract being \$44,000. He said with an elected Board and a Solid Waste Committee, they were smart enough to decide and save the \$44,000.

Mayor Brown said he was not in favor of it due to the cost and he did not know the scope of the study. He said he would like to wait and not spend the money right now due to unknown expenses coming up in the next year.

Director Hart said he would recommend the resolution to be pulled and have a discussion first.

Director Harris asked what would happen to the two local trash haulers who picked up the trash now. He said he did not think the citizens wanted a change in pick-up times and price.

Mayor Brown said he thought the City was in a good place with the haulers right now and he would like to see this postponed until there was more information.

Director Roberts said it would be hard to support other haulers since the two the City used were local and have the best pricing. He said local people should have priority from the Board.

Motion to table the resolution made by Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

The motion was tabled.

6. Ordinance No. 16-2022 authorizing the City Manager to purchase Comfort Isle Skid Restrooms from AMS Global, for Festival Plaza. (Admin) City Manager E. Jay Ellington

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 Hart.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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 Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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 Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Assistant Mayor 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 Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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

7. Ordinance No. 17-2022 to rezone a tract of land located in the 6000-6100 block of East Broad Street of land from R-1 Rural residential to C-3 Open-display commercial. (Ward 6) (PWD) 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 Roberts, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Hollibush.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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 Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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 Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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

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

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

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

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

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Miner said she wanted to thank the nice teenage boy that stopped and helped her make the corner of the 2500 Block of 24<sup>th</sup> Street look better.

Mayor Brown said there was a workshop on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 4:00 PM and the First Responders' Day was Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

Assistant Mayor Hollibush said in February, Texarkana Water Utilities (TWU) competed in a drinking water contest held in Hot Springs, Arkansas. On May 1, 2022, they announced the winner, and Texarkana, Arkansas won first place.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager E. Jay Ellington gave the following report:

- He said there would be a Solid Waste Committee meeting on Thursday, May 26, 2022, at 4:00 PM.
- The Texarkana Water Utilities (TWU) rate study workshop would be held around May 17, 2022.
- He said he had a meeting with the quorum court on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, regarding the proposal the City had put forward about the Juvenile Detention Center.
- He said he was very pleased with the turnout for the Comprehensive Plan meeting, and he received great input from people who attended.
- He would be attending the Neighborhood USA Conference with Texarkana, Texas City Manager David Orr this week and they would be speaking about collaborating on how the two states work together.

- The City received recognition from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for being a Competitive Community.
- He said the Farmer's Market would open Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 7:00 AM.
- The Rec Center would host a job fair on Tuesday, May 17, 2022.
- He said the Rec Center held an Ageless Grace class on Mondays, and it was free to the public.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 6:50 PM.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:02 PM and no action was taken.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, May 16, 2022**


### **ADJOURN**


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

Voting Yea: Mayor Allen Brown, Director Terry Roberts, Director Laney Harris, Assistant Mayor Steven Hollibush, Director Barbara Miner and Director Jeff Hart.

The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

**APPROVED** this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2022.

  
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Jenny Narrens, Deputy City Clerk

  
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Allen L. Brown, Mayor