



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

City of Texarkana, Arkansas  
216 Walnut Street

**Minutes - Tuesday, December 03, 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, Ward 5 Director Danny Jewell, and Assistant Mayor Ward 6 Director Jeff Hart.

ALSO, PRESENT: City Manager Tyler Richards, City Attorney Josh Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation given by Ward 1 Director Terry Roberts.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief David Fletcher.

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

Bob Bruggeman, Mayor of Texarkana, Texas, presented Assistant Mayor Jeff Hart an award for his service on the Texarkana Urban Transit Board.

Michele Kegley, 91 S. Valley Drive, asked why City residents paid a 40% road tax to Miller County on their personal property tax. She said no one in the Miller County Courthouse could find the ordinance to reference.

Ramona Flowers, 1217 E. 24<sup>th</sup> Street, let the Board know she was still having trouble with the sewer from the apartment complex near her house.

Cylestine Thorton, 6608 Harris Lane, spoke against the property on Laurel Street being rezoned commercial.

Brinder Bursey, 3720 County Avenue, also spoke against the property on Laurel Street being rezoned commercial.

### **PRESENTATION(S)**

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

Heather Soyars  
Joseph Roberts

CCD  
TAFD

15 Years  
5 Years

Kevin Jefferson  
Elnora Payton

TWU  
TWU

20 Years  
30 Years

## **CONSENT**

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

2. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting November 18, 2024. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

## **REGULAR**

3. Resolution No. 2024-98 accepted the year end 2023 Audit Report. (FIN) Interim Finance Director Laura Cowling

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Hart.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

4. Consider the following action concerning the clean-up of sixteen (16) dilapidated 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 sixteen (16) dilapidated nuisance properties.

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

No one came forward.

Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-99 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 Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

5. Consider the following action concerning the clean-up of fifty-nine (59) overgrown 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 fifty-nine (59) overgrown properties.

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

No one came forward.

Mayor Brown closed the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. 2024-100 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 Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

6. **FAILED** - Adopt an Ordinance to rezone the property located at 805/807/815 Laurel Street, from R-4 Medium Density Residential to C-3 Open Display Commercial for the purpose of operating an automotive shop as a complement to the property owner's adjacent business. (Ward 2) (PWD-Planning) Planning Secretary Velvet Cool

After a brief discussion, the motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its first reading in abbreviated form made by Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Harris.

Voting Yay: Mayor Brown, Director Harris, and Director Hollibush.

Voting Nay: Director Roberts, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Assistant Mayor Hart.

The motion failed 3-4 and the ordinance was read on its first reading in its entirety.

\*Director Roberts left the Board room at 7:00 PM.\*

Motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading in abbreviated form made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Hart.

Voting Yay: Mayor Brown, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Assistant Mayor 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 Harris, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Hart.

Voting Yay: Mayor Brown, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Assistant Mayor Hart.

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

\*Director Roberts came back into the Board room at 7:03 PM.\*

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Brewer, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

Tri-State Auto representative said they wanted to build a designated garage for the vehicles on their lot to potentially be serviced if needed.

Brinder Bursey said once the zoning was changed and businesses came in, the residents would go out.

Voting Yay: Mayor Brown and Director Hollibush.

Voting Nay: Assistant Mayor Hart, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Jewell,

The motion failed 2-4 and the Mayor declared the ordinance did not pass.

7. Ordinance No. 29-2024 rezoned the rear portion of parcels 00187100 and 00187104, located at 4101 East 58th Street from R-1 Rural Residential to C-3 Open Display Commercial for the purpose of constructing and operating an equipment business. (Ward 6) (PWD-Planning) Planning Secretary Velvet Cool

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.

Voting Nay: Assistant Mayor Hart.

The motion carried 6-1 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 Assistant Mayor 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 Assistant Mayor Hart.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

8. Ordinance No. 30-2024 rezoned the property located at 5813 Mt. Olive Drive from C-4 Crossroads Business to R-2 Single Family Residential for the purpose of expanding the current non-conforming residence. (Ward 6) (PWD-Planning) Planning Secretary Velvet Cool

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

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

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

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the ordinance was read the third time in abbreviated form.

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

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, Director Jewell, and Assistant Mayor Hart.

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Brewer wanted to remind residents of Ward 4, the second community meeting would be held at the Rec Center on December 10, 2024, at 5:30PM.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Tyler Richards said the “Shop with a Cop”, was held today and it was extremely successful. He said he was hoping for a budget workshop on December 16, 2024, and apologized it was so late. City Manager Richards said a called meeting would probably be set to vote on the budget.



## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 7:17 PM to discuss appointments with the City Beautiful Commission and the Historic District Commission.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:21 PM and the following action was taken.

9. Resolution No. 2024-101 appointed Velvet Cool to the City Beautiful Commission. (CCD)  
City Clerk Heather Soyars

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

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

10. Resolution No. 2024-102 made an appointment to the Historic District Commission. (CCD)  
City Clerk Heather Soyars

After a brief discussion, the motion to appoint Jeff Brown to the Historic District Commission made by Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

The motion carried 7-0 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, December 16, 2024**

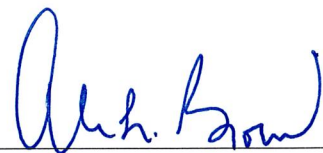
## ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

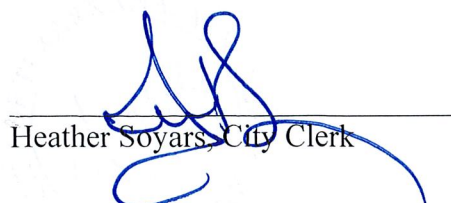
Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Brewer, Director Jewell, and Assistant Mayor Hart.

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

**APPROVED** this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024.



Allen L. Brown, Mayor



Heather Soyars, City Clerk