



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, September 19, 2022 - 6:00 PM

Mayor 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 Hart.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Public Works Director Tyler Richards.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Henry C. Hollins, 3809 Eastwood Drive, expressed his concern about the public parking lot for Nix Creek Trail behind his residence. He said he was disturbed by the car noise, music, and people talking and would like time restrictions on the parking lot.

Director Harris read a press release regarding \$280 million in American Rescue Act funding approved to address statewide water needs, copy attached.

PROCLAMATION(S)

1. Proclamation presented to IT Director Brandon Uselton for IT Professionals Day, September 20, 2022.
2. Proclamation presented to Personnel Administrator Rachel Hopkins for Personnel/Human Resources Day, September 26, 2022.

PRESENTATION(S)

3. Presentation given by Public Works Director Tyler Richards. (PWD)
4. Presentation given for the Texarkana Water Utilities FY2022-2023 Budget. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith and TWU Finance Director Tricia Briggs

5. Presentation given for the FY2023 Airport Budget. (Airport) Airport Finance Director Shannon Elliott

CONSENT

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

6. Approval of the minutes of the rescheduled regular meeting September 6, 2022. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

REGULAR

7. Resolution No. 2022-60 authorized and directed the City Manager to submit a grant application for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for Nix Creek Water Quality Improvements to the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards

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

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

No one came forward.

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

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

8. Resolution No. 2022-61 adopted the Texarkana Water Utilities (TWU) FY2022-2023 Budget. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith and TWU Finance Director Tricia Briggs

After a brief discussion, the 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 Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Miner, and Director Hart.

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

9. Resolution No. 2022-62 adopted the FY2023 Airport Budget. (Airport) Airport Finance Director Shannon Elliott

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

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

No one came forward.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, and Director Miner.

Voting Nay: Director Harris and Director Hart

The motion carried 4-2 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

10. Ordinance No. 28-2022, amended Ordinance No. 26-2022, for the prerequisite municipal approval of a private club application on behalf of David Peavy for the 1923 Banana Club located at 105 Olive Street. (CCD)

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 Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Miner, and Director 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 Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Miner, and Director 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 Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Miner, and Director 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 Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Miner, and Director Hart.

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

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 Director Roberts.

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, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Miner, and Director Hart.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY

Director Harris said there would be a Stop the Violence Rally at Bramble Park on Saturday, September 24, 2022.

Director Hart said he was pleased Monjunis restaurant was coming back to Texarkana, Arkansas.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager E. Jay Ellington gave the following report:

- He said there were thirty-nine applicants for the Texarkana, Arkansas Police Chief position and it was down to the final four.
- The Animal Care and Adoption Center would host their Grand Opening September 30, 2022, at 4:00 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board entered Executive Session at 7:30 PM to discuss the City Manager evaluations

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:51 PM, and said no action would be taken tonight.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, October 3, 2022


ADJOURN

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

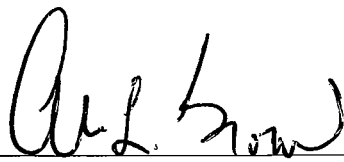
Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Director Roberts, Director Harris, Assistant Mayor Hollibush, Director Miner, and Director Hart.

The motion carried 6-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

APPROVED this the 3rd day of October 2022.



Jenny Narens, Deputy City Clerk



Allen L. Brown, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 9/16/2022

\$280 Million in American Rescue Plan Act Funding Approved to Address Statewide Water Needs

LITTLE ROCK, AR – Funding of \$280 million was approved today to help address statewide water needs. The approved funding includes \$270 million to address water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure projects and \$10 million to assist areas in Eastern Arkansas with the transition from groundwater to surface water and help preserve the Sparta and Alluvial aquifers.

Last year, Governor Hutchinson created a Water and Other Infrastructure Working Group to assist the Arkansas American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Steering Committee in identifying water infrastructure projects. The working group conducted a needs survey that identified more than \$5 billion in water, wastewater, and stormwater needs across the state. The working group made a subsequent funding proposal which was approved by the Steering Committee in August and by the Arkansas Legislative Council today.

“In January, I laid out my W.I.N.S. in 2022 initiative. One of those initiatives was infrastructure, and I am delighted the Arkansas Legislative Council has approved \$280 million to improve our state’s water infrastructure,” Governor Hutchinson said. “I appreciate the Department of Agriculture, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, ARPA Steering Committee, and members of the General Assembly who have worked diligently to secure this funding for a critical need in our state.”

The \$270 million in one-time grant funding for water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure projects will be administered by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture through the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission. Projects will be determined for eligibility consistent with the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

(SLFRF) Final Rule. Funding will be limited to a maximum of \$5 million per entity for each project type.

Eligible entities must apply for the grant funding by Friday, November 4, 2022. Applications and additional information on the grant program can be found at:

A series of virtual and in-person meetings will be held across the State during the application period to assist entities in completing applications for funding under this program. The date, time, and location of the meetings are as follows:

- September 21, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Harvey Jones Conference Center, Springdale
- September 29, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Arkansas Municipal League, North Little Rock
- September 29, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Arkansas Municipal League, North Little Rock
- October 4, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Dumas Community Center, Dumas
- October 19, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Forrest L. Wood Crowley's Ridge Nature Center, Jonesboro
- October 26, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hope Community Center, Hope
- November 1, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., Virtual Meeting

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation. Visit *agriculture.arkansas.gov*.