



Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

City of Texarkana, Arkansas

216 Walnut Street

Minutes - Monday, June 03, 2019 - 6:00 PM

Mayor Allen Brown called the meeting to order.

PRESENT: Mayor Allen Brown, Ward 1 Assistant Mayor Linda Teeters, Ward 2 Director Laney J. Harris, Ward 3 Director Steven Hollibush, Ward 5 Director Barbara S. Miner, and Ward 6 Director Terri Peavy.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dr. Kenny Haskin, City Attorney George Matteson, City Clerk Heather Soyars and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Ward 4 Director Travis Odom was absent

Director Barbara S. Miner gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION(S)

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

Mayor Brown presented an award and pin to Karen Reed for 20 years of service with Municipal Courts.

Mayor Brown said John Murphy, James Smith and Jon Smithpeters were not able to attend tonight's meeting and each would receive an award and pin for 20 years of service with Texarkana Water Utilities.

2. Presentation of the Budget Variance Report by Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson. (FIN)

Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson gave a brief report on the Budget Variance for the General Fund for January through March 2019. She said the City was at 22% of the budget for revenue and the City should be at 25% for the first quarter of the year and total expenditures were at 22% and it should be 25% of the budget. She said all departments except the Board of Directors were at 25% of the budget and this was due to the travel expenses that were paid in January.

Mayor Brown asked how much more the City made up in April due to the large sales tax.

Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson said on a cash basis the City was at 34% on sales tax. She said the City was right on target for where it needed to be.

Assistant Mayor Teeters asked if the sales tax included the internet sales tax.

Finance Director TyRhonda Henderson said yes. She said there were two reasons for the increase in sales tax revenue; the online sales tax and the change in the way the state calculated the tax on the sale of motor vehicles.

CONSENT

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Assistant Mayor Teeters.

The motion carried unanimously, and Mayor Brown declared the Consent Agenda approved. The items approved were:

3. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting May 20, 2019. (CCD)
4. Resolution No. 2019-22 rescheduling the first Board of Directors' meeting in December, from Tuesday, December 3, 2019, to Monday, December 2, 2019. (CCD)

REGULAR

5. Ordinance No. 12-2019 rezones property located at the 400 Block of 49th Street, from R-4 Medium Density Residential to C-3 Open Display commercial for business development. (PWD-Planning) (This item recommended for Board approval by the Planning Commission)

City Planner Mary Beck said the property was right behind El Chico's restaurant and had 2.5 acres of undeveloped land. She said the property owner wanted to build office spaces for contractors and storage for their vehicles and materials. City Planner Mary Beck said there was no opposition from the other property owners nor the public.

Director Miner asked if the land had a building on it.

City Planner Mary Beck said no, it did not have a building on it and it used to be a wooded area.

Director Peavy asked if there would be fencing requirements.

City Planner Mary Beck said yes.

Motion to read the ordinance the first time in abbreviated form made by Assistant Mayor Teeters, Seconded by Director Peavy.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Teeters, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Miner and Director Peavy.

The motion carried 6-0. 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 Peavy, Seconded by Director Miner.

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Teeters, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Miner and Director Peavy.

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

Motion to further suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third and final reading in abbreviated form made by Director Miner, Seconded by Director Peavy.

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

Voting Nay: Director Harris

The motion carried 5-1. The ordinance was read the third and final time in abbreviated form.

Motion to adopt the ordinance made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Miner.

Director Harris said he was not opposed to this ordinance, but he was opposed to the process of having three readings in one night. He said he wanted to give citizens enough time to voice any concerns they had on this rezoning.

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

Voting Nay: Director Harris

The motion carried 5-1. The Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Rick Hall, 2020 Beech Street, City Beautiful Commission, brought forth an urban design plan for Stateline Avenue that may be helpful at the Joint City Meeting on June 11, 2019, at which Stateline Avenue would be the topic. He said the plan had real value and could be an economic benefit for Texarkana.

Ina McDowell, MainStreet Texarkana, gave a brief update saying there had been a courthouse square initiative and both cities submitted funds for the design of the courthouse square. She thanked everyone who helped with the MainStreet contest. Texarkana did not win but it was in the top 5 of 230 cities that were nominated. Ms. McDowell said with the help of City Beautiful, MainStreet was able to add new planters to both sides of Broad Street. She said May was Historic Preservation Month and they had the Imagine the Possibility tours like they have for the past 4 years. Ms. McDowell said it was done differently this year and posters were on each building giving all the sale details of the buildings and it was a huge success. She said she knew of 1 building that had been sold and 2 more that were in the process of being sold. Ms. McDowell said they had been working with Dr. Pepper and City Planner Mary Beck regarding a national campaign of murals and Texarkana's mural would be on the side of TLC Burgers.

Mayor Brown announced the next meeting date Monday, June 17, 2019, and the Grand Opening of Gateway Farmers Market on June 15, 2019.

Director Hollibush announced that he would not be attending the next Board meeting because he would be on a mission trip with Heritage Church in Jamaica.

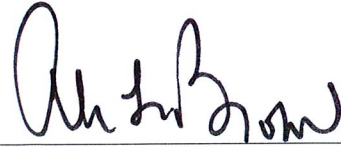
ADJOURN

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Brown, Assistant Mayor Teeters, Director Harris, Director Hollibush, Director Miner and Director Peavy.

The motion carried 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

APPROVAL of the minutes on this 17th day of June, 2019.



Allen L. Brown, Mayor



Heather Soyars, City Clerk