



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

City of Texarkana, Arkansas  
216 Walnut Street

**Minutes - Tuesday, June 04, 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 Robert Thompson, City Attorney Joshua Potter, City Clerk Heather Soyars, and Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens.

Invocation given by Pastor Chris Owens.

Pledge of Allegiance led by City Clerk Heather Soyars.

### **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

No one came forward.

### **PRESENTATION(S)**

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

Timothy Hicks	TAFD	5 Years
Joseph Redden	TAPD	15 Years
Karen Reed	Courts	25 Years
Caleb Herring	TWU	5 Years
James Smith	TWU	25 Years
Jon Smithpeters	TWU	25 Years

### **CONSENT**

Director Hollibush made the motion to adopt the Consent agenda, Seconded by Director Brewer. The motion carried and the following item was approved:

2. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting May 20, 2024. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

## REGULAR

3. Resolution No. 2024-43 authorized the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with R & W Electric, Inc., for Interstate 30 High Mast Light LED Upgrade. (PWD) Public Works Director Tyler Richards

After a brief discussion, the 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.

4. Resolution No. 2024-44 authorized the City Manager to enter into a contract with Holistic Utility Solutions for the Review of Unbilled or Misbilled Utility Services and Water System Loss Audit Project. (TWU) Executive Director Gary Smith

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

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

Voting Nay: Director Harris.

The motion carried 6-1 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

5. Resolution No. 2024-45 approved the Texarkana Regional Airport 20-year Master Plan. (AIRPORT) Airport Director Paul Mehrlich

After a brief discussion, the motion to amend the resolution to state eminent domain would not be utilized, made by Director Harris.

The motion failed for lack of a second.

The motion to adopt the resolution made by Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Roberts.

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

Voting Nay: Director Harris.

The motion carried 6-1 and the Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

6. Resolution No. 2024-46 approved the sale of 8.197 acres of land located adjacent to Arkansas Boulevard to Harvest International Ministries. (AIRPORT) Airport Director Pual Mehrlich

After a brief discussion, the motion to adopt the resolution 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 Mayor declared the resolution adopted.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' COMMENTARY**

Director Harris asked if the City would restart the housing program it had a couple of years back. He also asked if the City could install the big pipes used for sewage to help with the drainage problem when it rains.

Director Roberts said it was good to see the Texarkana, Arkansas Police Department attend the meeting.

Assistant Mayor Hart said thank you to the Yates family for all they did for the Texarkana Reginal Airport, and he thanked Rob Sitterley for the outstanding job he had done.

Director Hollibush said last weekend the Big Damn Water Park opened and over 2900 people came out to the park.

Director Brewer said the power outaged investigation from 19<sup>th</sup> Street to 22<sup>nd</sup> Street was ongoing regarding the power issues.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Directors entered Executive Session at 6:45 PM to discuss appointments to the City Beautiful Commission and the Miller County Equalization Board.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:27 PM and the following action was taken.

7. Resolution No. 2024-47 appointed Melinda Vammen to the City Beautiful Commission. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

After a brief discussion, the 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.

The motion was made to accept City Manager Robert Thompson's resignation effective at the end of the pay period made by Director Roberts, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

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

Voting Nay: Director Harris and Director Brewer.

The motion carried 5-2 and the Mayor declared the motion adopted.

8. **TABLED** - Resolution appointing Robert Thompson to the Miller County Equalization Board. (CCD) City Clerk Heather Soyars

The motion to table the resolution made by Director Roberts, 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 tabled.

The motion made for Tyler Richards to be the Acting City Manager made by Director Hollibush, Seconded by Director Roberts.

Director Harris stated the Finance Director was always made the Acting City Manager and made a motion for TyRhonda Henderson.

The City Attorney said there was already a motion and second on the table and the Board needed to vote on this before another motion was made.

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

Voting Nay: Director Harris.

The motion carried 6-1 and the Mayor declared Tyler Richards as Acting City Manager.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, June 17, 2024**

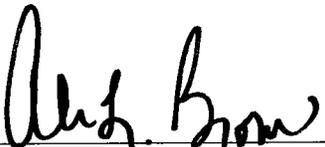
**ADJOURN**

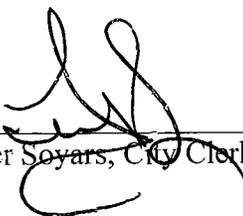
Motion to adjourn made by Assistant Mayor Hart, Seconded by Director Hollibush.

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 7:32 PM.

**APPROVED** this the 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024.

  
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Allen L. Brown, Mayor

  
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Heather Soyars, City Clerk