Ward City Council Meeting Minutes – 01-21-2019

I. Call to order: Meeting called to order by Mayor Gastineau at 6:30pm

   a. Prayer: by Tim Lemons
   b. Pledge of Allegiance: by Mayor Gastineau

II. Roll call: by City Clerk, Ruble. JoAnn Barrentine – Present, Jim Wier – Here, Robin Hefner – Present, Chasity Scott – Present, Jimmy McMinn – Present, Art Brooke – Present. We have a Quorum

III. Council Introductions:

IV. Review/approval of December 2018 minutes & January 1, 2019 Minutes:

The December 2018 minutes were approved with a motion by Mr. Brooke and second by Mr. McMinn. Discussion: Corrections were made to include the following, addition of “four” candidates instead of “three” and by adding Don Howard to this list of interested candidates for city council. All voted yes with a voice vote.

The December 20, 2018 Minutes were approved with a motion made by Mr. Brooke and second by Mr. Wier. All voted yes with a voice vote.

The January 1st, 2019 Minutes were approved with a motion made by Mrs. Barentine, second Mr. Wier. All voted yes with a voice vote.

V. Department Reports:

Department reports were approved with a motion by Mr. Brooke, and seconded by Mr. Wier. All voted yes with voice vote.

VI. Planning Commission Report:

Mr. Meadows, Chairman, made announcement that Huntington place subdivision has redesigned the sub streets in this development because the land did not become available next to them. Mr. Lemons came forward to explain how they redesigned the streets and curbs in this development to making it copasetic with the 911. The Planning commission report was approved with a motion from Mr. Brooke and Second by Mrs. Hefner. All voted yes with a voice vote.
VII. **Engineers Report:**

Mr. Lemons presented Mr. Art Brooke and Mr. Barclay with a citation.

Mr. Lemons reported that the Waste Water Treatment plant is up and operational. The clarity of the water coming out is far better than it has been in the past. Our Sidewalk project, we have completed the 65% for the ARDOT requirement. Mr. Lemons shared a map with the Council showing them how the waste water service area has changed from 2000 to 2011. This map has shown how much our town has grown.

VIII. **Unfinished Business:**

Mayor Gastineau let the council know that the previous Mayor Art Brooke had vetoed the Parking Ordinance. No motion was made to override this veto.

Assignment of Committees: Mrs. Hefner made a motion to table the assignment of committees indefinitely, seconded by Mr. Brooke. Motion passes. All voted yes by voice vote.

IX. **New Business:**

a. Resolution R-2019-01 (RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF WARD TO ENTER INTO A CREDIT CARD AGREEMENT) was read by City Clerk Courtney Ruble. Discussion. It was asked what the rate of the credit card is and if we should shop around. It was determined that we do not carry credit and we pay these balances off every month. Motion to adopt by Mr. Wier, second by Mr. Brooke. Motion passes with a Roll Call vote of 6-0

b. Resolution R-2019-02 (RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF CREDIT CARDS TO CERTAIN POSITIONS IN THE CITY OF WARD AND SETTING THEIR MONTHLY SPENDING LIMITS) was read by City Clerk Courtney Ruble. Discussion. With the addition of City Clerk in the Amount of $5,000.00 and Street Department in the Amount of $2,500.00. Discussion. It was determined that these are not monthly allowances and our city procedures do not allow anybody to make any purchase over $500.00 without being approved by the Mayor first. Motion to adopt by Mr. Wier, second by Mr. Brooke. Motion passes with a Roll Call vote of 6-0

c. Resolution R-2019-03 (RESOLUTION ADOPTING A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EMPLOYEES AND REQUIRING WRITTEN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CODE OF CONDUCT A CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT WITH THE CITY OF WARD, ARKANSAS) was read by City Clerk Courtney Ruble. Discussion. It has been determined that this will be included in the employee hand book which is being rewritten. This Code of Conduct will also be signed by each employee every year thereafter. Motion adopted by Mr. Wier, second by Mrs. Barrentine. Motion passes with Roll Call Vote of 6-0
d. Resolution R-2019-04 (RESOLUTION ADOPTING ELECTED OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT BY THE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF WARD) Motion to adopt made by Mr. Wier, second by Mr. McMinn. Discussion. Motion FAILED with a Roll Call Vote of 3-3. Mrs. Barrentine- Yea, Mr. Wier– Yea, Mrs. Hefner– Nay, Mrs. Scott– Nay, Mr. McMinn– Yea, Mr. Brooke– Nay. Mayor did not vote to break the tie.

e. Resolution R-2019-05 (RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LONOKE COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF WARD IN LONOKE COUNTY ARKANSAS) was read by City Clerk Courtney Ruble. Discussion. Motion adopted by Mr. Brooke, seconded Mrs. Hefner. Motion passes with Roll Call Vote of 6-0

X. **Mayor’s Report:**

Mayor made contact with Grass Roots, a company who has an approved application to bring a Marijuana Dispensary to Ward. He has not heard back from them at this time.

367/319 intersection this is being re-engineered. Mayor will be having a meeting this next week to hopefully get started on this project and there is funding available.

Mayor and Mr. Lemons are going to discuss getting rid of the entire vacuum system and what it will cost. They will be looking for funding as well for this project.

While at the conference, the Mayor made contact with various water meter companies. He will be doing a study on what it would cost to change the type of meters we have and see what else is available.

Ward beautification plan. We have a spring cleaning in April. The Mayor has assigned a few employees to help promote this project and how we can get volunteers to help with spring clean up including volunteer with trailers willing to go help pick things up for people who can’t.

Mrs. Hefner made a motion to make April 27th, 2019 the day for Ward City Cleanup, second by Mr. Wier. Motion passes. All voted yes with a voice vote.

Ward Central is the only school outside of the Cabot city limits. We as city are going to get more involved with the school and go have lunch with the kids. We need to own that school as a city and take care of it.

Mayor is rewriting the employee manual.

Census Prep for the 2020 Census we will establish a Complete Count Committee. This will help educate the citizens on how they need to make sure they get counted for our census. This is mandated by the US Constitution. More information will be coming out about this.

XI. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** None
XII. **Announcements:**

Planning Commission Meeting: January 28th, 7pm  
Ward Chamber of Commerce: February 5th, 7pm  
City Council Meeting: February 11th, 6:30

XIII. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with motion by Mr. Brooke, second Mrs. Hefner. All voted yes with a voice vote.

We, the undersigned Mayor and City Clerk for the City of Ward, do hereby verify the foregoing to be true and correct record of proceedings of the City of Ward Regular Meeting held on Monday, January 21, 2019 at 6:30pm.

APPROVED DATE: **February 11, 2019**

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CLERK

CITY SEAL