

WARD CITY COUNCIL

November 14, 2016

MINUTES

6:30 P. M.

Call to Order

Mayor Brooke called the meeting to order. Rev. Mike Sipe led the council in prayer. Attorney Clint McGue led the council in the Pledge to the American Flag.

Roll Call

Mayor Brooke asked for roll call. Bill Moon-present, Jim Wier-present, Jeff Shaver-excused, Gary Matheny-present, Ron Bissett-present, Don Howard-present, Mayor Brooke-present, and Clerk Barclay-present. A quorum was present.

Minutes

Mayor Brooke asked for a motion to approve the October 10, 2016 regularly scheduled meeting minutes. Ron Bissett motioned; Don Howard seconded. On voice vote all approved. Next the mayor asked for a motion to approve the October 25, 2016 Special Council Meeting minutes. Jim Wier motioned; Ron Bissett seconded. On voice vote all approved.

Department Reports

Mayor Brooke asked for a motion to approve the October 10, 2016 department reports. Don Howard motioned; Gary Matheny seconded. On voice vote all approved.

Commission Reports

The Ward Planning Commission held a public hearing for the revision of the rezoning regulations to include the freestanding signs along Highway US 67/167. There being no comments the commission approved the revision. The next item on their agenda was the Final Plat for Oakland Park. After considerable discussion the mayor asked for a motion to accept the plat on the condition that determination is made that extra territorial jurisdiction of the city for planning purposes doesn't extend outside the city limits for this development only. Jim Wier motioned; Ron Bissett seconded. On voice vote all accepted the condition. Mayor Brooke then asked for a motion to accept the Planning Commission report. Ron Bissett motioned; Bill Moon seconded. On voice vote all approved.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brooke asked Mr. Lemons to come forward and address the council on the current project update for the city. Projects being worked are Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, Safe Route to Schools-Phase III, Recreational Trails Project-Industrial Drive Sidewalk, and Highway 319/367 Intersection Improvements. If you have any questions please consult your handout.

The mayor then introduced the Arkansas Municipal League 2017 Municipal Officials Accidental Death and Dismemberment Plan for Elected Officials and Department Heads and asked for a motion to accept and approve the plan. Don Howard motioned; Gary Matheny seconded. On voice vote all approved.

Mayor Brooke informed the council that a budget meeting is set for November 15, 2016 at 1630 hours (4:30 P.M.) in the Civic Room. All council members are asked to be there.

The next item for discussion was the Outdoor Weather Warning Sirens System. Mayor Brooke asked Chief Randy Staley to come forward and address the council. He told the council that these sirens are/were only to warn those individuals who are outside and in earshot. The chief said that at least one of the sirens has been struck by lightning and the others do not rotate as they should. He said that the quote from SafetyCom, Inc. is \$12,045.00 to repair the system. Members as well as the Fire Chief and the Police Chief discussed other systems which are available to the residents at no cost. After discussing the situation it was decided that it would not be feasible to throw good money away on the current system. Mayor Brooke asked for a motion not to expend the funds for repairs. Ron Bissett motioned; Jim Wier seconded. On voice vote all approved.

Mayor Brooke then asked Chief Benton to come forward and discuss surplus police equipment that he would like to utilize in the training of his officers. The chief informed the members of his desire to provide a vehicle which has surpassed its usefulness for law enforcement functions and other equipment items to ALETA (Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy) to aid in training officers. The academy, as established by the General Assembly for the purposes of training and instructing state, county, municipal, and other law enforcement officers, is opening another facility which will be located at Camp Robinson and it will need several items to aid in training. This new facility will be utilized by the Police Department and because of its proximity will benefit the City in terms of cost and convenience currently associated with officer training. With the help of Ward and other nearby departments, this new training facility will be a great benefit and provide a valuable service to the City and its' citizens. Before the items are provided ALETA, the chief will furnish a list all of which is outdated and surplus equipment. Mayor Brooke asked for a motion to allow the chief to provide the items. Jim Wier motioned; Ron Bissett seconded. On voice vote all approved.

FYI-Everyone has been furnished a copy of the rules for the new computer library which was previously approved.

Mayor Brooke asked Dustin Stock, Aristotle representative, to come forward and address the council. The mayor informed Mr. Stock that the contract had been reviewed and only a few suggestions were found. Mr. Stock informed the mayor that he had brought a revised contract with him this evening. He informed the council that his goal was to bring affordable vast internet service to the city. Mayor Brooke informed Mr. Stock that he is in favor of the service but that our attorney had questions and suggestions which need to be addressed before he enters into the contract with the council's preapproval. Location and placement or attachment of the antenna is the two major items to be agreed upon. The agreement is to place the antenna on the existing tower. In exchange for that, there will be a base rate plus a rate per subscriber. As new subscribers are added the city receives \$1.00 per subscriber per month. So there will be a \$100.00 tower rental fee per month plus the subscriber fee. With the council's approval the city will enter into the contract which is for 3 (three) years with 3 (three) 3 (three) year renewals. Before the city enters into an agreement with Aristotle all the final provisions must be met and then a resolution must be signed. The resolution should be finalized by the next council meeting.

Old Business

New Business

Mayor Brooke introduced resolution R-2016-11 (A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING PAYMENT OF YEAR END BONUSES TO QUALIFIED EMPLOYEES) and asked that it be placed on its first and final reading. Ron Bissett motioned; Don Howard seconded. Roll call and voting are as follows: Bill Moon-yea, Jim Wier-yea, Gary Matheny-yea, Ron Bissett-yea, Don Howard. Resolution R-2016-11 has passed. Mayor Brooke then introduced ordinance O-2016-08 (AMENDING ORDINANCE No. O-1595, CITY OF WARD ZONING REGULATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES) and asked that it be placed on its first reading. Gary Matheny motioned; Ron Bissett seconded. Roll call and voting are as follows: Bill Moon-yea, Jim Wier-yea, Gary Matheny-yea, Ron Bissett-yea, Don Howard-yea. Ordinance O-2016-08 has passed its first reading. Then the mayor asked that the rules be suspended and that ordinance O-2016-08 be placed on its 2nd/3rd reading. Rob Bissett motioned; Jim Wier seconded. Roll call and voting are as follows: Bill Moon-yea, Jim Wier-yea, Gary Matheny-yea, Ron Bissett-yea, Don Howard-yea. Ordinance O-2016-08 has passed its 2nd/3rd reading. Next the mayor asked that the rules be suspended and that ordinance O-2016-08 be placed up for

adoption. Jim Wier motioned; Ron Bissett seconded. Roll call and voting are as follows: Bill Moon-yea, Jim Wier-yea, Gary Matheny-yea, Ron Bissett-yea, Don Howard-yea, Ordinance O-2016-08 has been adopted.

Announcements

Next city council meeting December 12, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.
Planning Commission meeting November 28, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.
Seniors meet every Thursday at noon
LWPWA meting December 6, 2016
Chamber of Commerce meeting December 6, 2016

Adjournment

Mayor Brooke asked for a motion to adjourn. Jim Wier motioned; Ron Bissett seconded. On voice vote all approved.

APPROVED DATE: December 12, 2016

Carl Brooke
MAYOR

ATTEST:

John E Barclay
CLERK

CITY SEAL

