
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:30 pm
July 11, 2017

On this date the City Council of the City of Conway, Arkansas met in regular session. The following members being a quorum were present and acting: Alderman Hawkins, Alderman Grimes, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderwoman Isby, Alderwoman Smith, Alderman Jones, and Alderman Ledbetter. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Clerk Michael Garrett and City Attorney Chuck Clawson. Alderman Pruitt was not present.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael O. Garrett

Minutes: June 27, 2017

Alderwoman Smith motioned to approve the **June 27, 2017** minutes as submitted. Alderwoman Isby seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed 7-0.

1. Report of Standing Committees:

A. Community Development Committee (Planning, Zoning, Permits, Community Development, Historic District, Streets, & Conway Housing Authority)

1. Resolution supporting Federal and State legislation to ensure the proper assessment and collection of sales taxes from all internet/online sales.

R-17-26

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A1 to the Council. Mayor Castleberry elaborated on the Resolution, stating that it is to show support for the collection of internet and online sales taxes to benefit the City. Alderwoman Smith moved to accept the Resolution and Alderman Hawkins seconded it. The Resolution passed 7-0.

2. Ordinance to rename a portion of Highway 25 from the Old Morrilton Highway (US64W) to the intersection with Friendship Road.

O-17-76

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Alderman Ledbetter made a motion to rename the portion in question as Bell Valley Road to avoid naming the road after a particular person or family living in the area. Alderwoman Smith agreed that it would be difficult to choose a family to name the road after, as there are many deserving families in the area. Alderman Grimes stated that to continue using the name Friendship Road would be less confusing to motorists unfamiliar with the area, but since the post office had indicated that continuing the name Friendship Road was undesirable, he was in agreement with the Bell Valley Road suggestion. Bryan Patrick of the Planning Department was present and addressed the Council stating that to his knowledge the post office had not expressed this sentiment and did not disapprove of extending the use of the name Friendship Road. He suggested that since the new portion of Highway 25 will have to be named anyway, that a reasonable solution from a post office standpoint, would be to take that section of Highway from Old Morrilton highway to New Salem Road and give the parcels four digit numbers and a new name which would affect roughly a dozen addresses. Mayor Castleberry called for a second to the motion made to rename the road Bell Valley Road. No one seconded the motion. Alderwoman Isby made a motion to continue the name of the portion of road in question Friendship Road, and Alderwoman Smith seconded it. Matt Bell was present to address the Council stating that he lives on the portion of Highway 25 in question and has submitted a number of names to the Council for consideration. He commended the Council for making the effort to use public input in

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this matter. He stated that it is his feeling that the name chosen should reflect the community as a whole and not just one family. He suggested that Friendship Road or even New Friendship Road would be desirable. Alderman Jones stated that from a post office standpoint adding "New" to the old name would not matter. It is still a different name than the rest of the road. Mayor Castleberry stated that he is aware that the residents of the current Friendship Road were concerned that their house numbers would change and that they did not want that. The Mayor called for a vote naming the portion of Highway 25 in question Friendship Road. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderman Ledbetter, Alderman Hawkins, Alderwoman Isby, Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Grimes, Alderwoman Smith, and Alderman Jones. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

3. Consideration to approve an annual patrol and condition assessment of all hard surface local roadways for the Street and Engineering Department.

Alderman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Finley Vinson was present to address the Council. He referred to the contract with Greenber Farrow provided and asked for approval of the contract for assessment. Alderman Grimes stated that he felt the assessment last year was of great benefit but asked if there is enough change in one year's time to warrant an annual assessment. Mr. Vinson answered that initially the plan was to assess one Ward each year but the costs associated with the plan and engineering fees charged by Asset Management to implement the pavement management system was comparative to Greenber Farrow's costs to assess the entire city, since there are no engineering services provided. Mr. Vinson stated that he wanted the engineering tasks done by the Department in the future. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to approve the contract and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. Alderman Jones expressed concern that large amounts of money was being spent on such assessments instead of repairing the potholes and sidewalks that citizens are concerned about. Mayor Castleberry stated that there are plans in the works to deal with street and sidewalk issues and that CDGB funds have been allocated for use in lower income areas for sidewalk and street repair. The motion to approve the Contract with Greenber Farrow passed 7-0.

B. Public Service Committee (Sanitation, Parks & Recreation & Physical Plant)

1. Resolution to obtain a matching grant from the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism Outdoor Recreation Grant.

R-17-27

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B1 to the Council. Candy Jones, Grant Administrator was present to address the Council. She explained that the LWCF Grant is for the Laurel Park 3000 square foot Splashpad, and the application is due on August 25th. The budget for this project is \$330,132 so we will be asking the State for \$165,066. The project has been environmentally cleared and the application with budget information is ready to be submitted upon approval of the Council. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to approve the Resolution and Alderwoman Mehl seconded it. The Resolution was approved 7-0.

2. Ordinance approving the bid and appropriating funding for the construction of a tennis facility at Laurel Park.

O-17-77

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B2 to the Council. Steve Ibbotson, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department was present and stated that the seven bids received for the project were very close in amount. He asked the Council to approve the bid from Corco and to appropriate 2.5 million dollars for the project. Alderwoman Smith made a motion to waive the three readings and Alderwoman Isby seconded it. The motion passed 7-0. Alderwoman Smith motioned to approve the Ordinance and Alderwoman Isby seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Alderwoman Mehl, Alderman Grimes, Alderman Ledbetter, Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Isby, Alderwoman Smith and Alderman Hawkins. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

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C. Finance

1. Consideration to accept the proposal from Arvest Bank for procurement card services of the City of Conway.

Mayor Castleberry presented Item C1 to the Council. Jamie Brice, Purchasing Manager was present to address the Council. It was stated that the use of procurement cards streamlines the purchase of goods and services while still tracked by a purchase order system. Alderman Hawkins asked who will have use of the procurement cards and Ms. Brice stated that the Department Heads will appointed users in their respective departments. Alderwoman Smith motioned to accept the proposal and Alderwoman Mehl seconded it. Keith Zollicoffer, with Arvest Bank addressed the Council stating that the procurement cards offer a higher level of control by the ability to set limits and restrictions. Alderman Grimes asked if the balances on the cards would be paid off each month to which Ms. Brice stated that they would and that no credit amounts would be carried, and that the City would also receive rebates. The motion to approve the consideration was passed 6-0, with Alderwoman Isby abstaining due to her serving on the Board at Arvest Bank.

D. New Business

1. Discussion of the towing service rotation for the City of Conway.

Mr. Bill Helton was present and addressed the Council with his concerns that several towing companies submitted application packets listing insurance amounts lower than what is required per the City Ordinance. He asked that the four towing companies in question be taken off the City rotation because of their lack of qualification. Chuck Clawson, City Attorney stated that all of the companies were checked for compliance and were deemed sufficiently compliant with the conditions of the Ordinance and that the City rotation is working smoothly. Jody Spradlin, Chief of Police was present and addressed the Council stating that when Major Hearn was appointed to oversee the wrecker rotation by former Chief of Police A.J. Gary, he was instructed to work with the wrecker companies in order to foster relationship and cooperation. He stated that when Mr. Helton pointed out the insufficiencies in insurance, the issues were corrected immediately and all wrecker companies in the rotation are in compliance.

There was no further discussion. The meeting was adjourned.

Adjournment

PASSED this 11th day of July 2017

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett