
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS

Conway, Arkansas
Tuesday, 6:00 pm
May 9, 2023

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: Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Jones, Councilman Hawkins, and Councilwoman Isby. Also, present and acting: Mayor Bart Castleberry, City Clerk Michael Garrett, and City Attorney Charles Finkenbinder. Councilwoman Webb was not present.

Call to Order: Mayor Bart Castleberry

Roll Call: Michael Garrett, City Clerk

Minutes: April 25, 2023

Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted and Councilman Hawkins seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

Report of Standing Committees:

Councilman Grimes made a motion to suspend the rules to waive the three readings for the Ordinances presented in the meeting. Councilwoman Mehl seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0. Councilman Grimes made a motion to waive the three readings and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

A. Community Development Committee (Airport, Community Development, Code Enforcement, Permits, Inspections, & Transportation, Planning & Development)

1. Ordinance appropriating funds for the Public Art Advisory Committee.

O-23-38

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A1 to the Council. Felicia Rogers told the Council that the Public Art Advisory Committee would like to do some small projects throughout the year, including coloring books, and art walks with UCA, etc. and are asking to do one appropriation for the year for these projects and have the money available when it is needed. She added that any large projects over \$10,000 would come before the Council for approval. Councilwoman Mehl made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. Councilman Grimes noted that all of the funding for the Public Art Board comes from the Parks & Recreation Voluntary Tax. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Grimes, and Councilman Jones. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

2. Ordinance approving an amendment to the Conway Municipal Code for an update to the mechanical code for the Permits & Inspections Department.

O-23-39

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A2 to the Council. Cecil Corning explained to the Council the amendment to the requirements and limitations for the use of Flex Duct. Councilman Hawkins asked if it was possible for a contractor to misrepresent the test results and Mr. Corning stated that it would be possible but would be discovered during inspection by himself. He added that the equipment itself reported the measurements and would make it difficult to misrepresent. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Grimes, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Isby, and Councilman Hawkins. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

3. Resolution to approve the professional services agreement with FTN for a feasibility study for Centennial Creek for the Transportation Department.

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R-23-23

Councilman Hawkins presented Item A3 to the Council. Kirk Jones of the Transportation Department told the Council that the City was awarded a FEMA Brick Grant in the amount of \$115,520 to study drainage issues along Centennial Creek due to flooding in the area. He said that statements of qualification were solicited from engineering firms which were scored and reviewed by the selection committee and the committee chose FTN based on their evaluation. Councilman Hawkins made a motion to adopt the Resolution and Councilwoman Isby seconded it. A vote was called, and the Resolution passed 7-0.

B. Public Safety Committee (District Court, Department of Information Systems & Technology, Animal Welfare, Communication Emergency Operations Center, Police, Fire, & Office of the City Attorney)

- 1. Ordinance approving the purchase of firearm equipment from Teeco Safety for the Conway Police Department.**

O-23-40

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B1 to the Council. Chief Tapley told the Council that placing red dot sights on their handguns would improve accuracy and stock placement and is a benefit to the officers. They said they were proposing to purchase 106 as well as the plates to attach them. He added that the City has a credit with Teeco in the amount of \$44,307 so he was asking to waive the bid process and make the purchase from Teeco. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilman Jones, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Hawkins, Councilman Grimes, Councilman Ledbetter. The Ordinance passed 7-0.

- 2. Ordinance approving the purchase of vehicles for the Conway Police Department.**

O-23-41

Mayor Castleberry presented Item B2 to the Council. Chief Tapley told the Council that they had found three vehicles and asked them to waive the bid process in order to not lose the opportunity to purchase the vehicles. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with the emergency clause and Councilwoman Mehl seconded it. The Clerk called the roll with the following voting "Aye": Councilman Ledbetter, Councilman Hawkins, Councilwoman Isby, Councilwoman Mehl, Councilwoman Tucker, Councilman Jones, and Councilman Grimes. The Ordinance with the emergency clause passed 7-0.

Chief Tapley gave a brief report on the return of the Crime Suppression Unit.

C. New Business

- 1. Consideration to approve a schedule change for City Council meetings.**

Mayor Castleberry asked the Council to consider meeting one time each month during June, July, and August. This would in effect cancel the fourth Tuesday of the month meeting. Councilwoman Isby made a motion to approve the schedule change and Councilman Hawkins seconded it. The motion carried 7-0.

Adjournment-----

PASSED this 9th day of May 2023

APPROVED:

Mayor Bart Castleberry

City Clerk Michael O. Garrett