

January 5, 2009

The council meeting was opened with a swearing-in ceremony of city elected officials. Oath of office was administered by the newly elected Court of Appeals Judge Waymond Brown, and newly elected Juvenile Judge Earnest Brown Jr.

Mayor – Carl Redus Jr.
City Clerk – Loretta Whitfield
Alderwoman – Irene Holcomb
Alderman – George Stepps
Alderman – Charles Boyd
Alderman – Glen Brown
Treasurer – Christopher Castoro

MINUTES

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m.

January 5, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Mike Tinker, Chaplin of the Pine Bluff Police Department.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Redus.

Roll Call – Answering present were Alderwoman Holcomb, Aldermen Brumett, Easterly, Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman Stepps, Alderwoman Walker, Alderman Boyd and Alderman Brown.

Approval of Minutes – Alderman Stepps moved for approval of the minutes from the December 15, 2008 meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderswoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Ordinances and

Resolutions Committee reported: the committee met prior to the Pine Bluff City Council meeting and recommended taking the following actions on the agenda:

Item No. 1 up for the 3rd and final reading

Items No. 2 thru 8 will be heard and completed.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met today prior to this meeting and we have two (2) budget adjustments to consider. The first **Budget adjustment** is from the Executive Department for \$600.00. Reason required is to provide office space for the City Treasurer through renting space and equipment from the Community Foundation. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Easterly, after discussion there was a roll call and the vote was 3 yes and 5 no. Voting yes were Aldermen Brumett, Easterly and Brown. Voting no were Alderswomen Holcomb and Roberts, Alderman Stepps, Alderswoman Walker, and Alderman Boyd and the budget adjustment fail for lack of support.

The second **Budget adjustment** is for the Grants department for \$17,812.50. Reason required is to provide new accounts to record Grant Revenue and Expenses for Arkansas Game and Fish grants to construct a

dock at Regional Park, and this will not impact the general fund.

Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderman Brumett moved to pay the bills owed by the city, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported: no report. Alderwoman Roberts stated she have an announcement and a request. She requested that all campaign signs please be picked up as soon as possible. There are signs still out in the community and they need to be removed as soon as possible. Alderwoman Roberts introduced the newly elected Juvenile Judge, Earnest Brown Jr., he was asked to come forth and introduce his staff. Judge Brown thanked the council for allowing him to do so.

Alderwoman Walker, Chairperson of Public Health & Welfare Committee reported: no report

Alderwoman Walker report for Public Works Committee: no report
Mayor Redus recognized Stated Representative, James Word and Newly elected County Clerk, Patricia Johnson and allowed both a moment to speak.

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning

Committee reported: no report

Alderman Boyd, Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee

reported: No report

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee

reported: the committee met 12/30/08 at 2:00 p.m. and we dealt with the

veto. We have three considerations for the council. First is the City

Clerk's raise, the committee brought it out and the recommendation was

for a \$5,100.00 raise to the City Clerk and I'd make that in the form of a

motion, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0. The

second thing we took up was the Network Technician for the Police

Department. The salary ranges from \$30,545 to \$45,817 and a mid range

of \$38,181 hopefully we'll be able to hire someone at the starting range

and if that's not the case it'll be open for how ever much experience and

education they have to determine part of their salary. This was the

recommendation from the Administration Committee and I'd like to put

that in the form of a motion, seconded by Alderman Brumett after

discussion there was a roll call and the vote was 4 voting yes and 4 voting

no. Voting yes were Aldermen Brumett, Easterly, Boyd and Brown.

Voting no were Alderwoman Holcomb, Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman

Stepps and Alderwoman Walker, making it a 4-4 vote the chair voted yes breaking the tie and the motion carried 5-4. The last thing was the Administration Assistant – Secretary III / Financial Officer position. They were trying to create a new position for the Administration Assistant and it needs to let the Human Resources and the Mayor go through the Johanson Group get the salary survey for a whole salary and a job description and we should have that this week and have it for the next council meeting. There were several questions on this issue and the Human Resources Director was asked to answer those questions. After which Alderman Easterly stated that's the end of his report.

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: the committee met today at 4:00 p.m. and the Fire Department gave a presentation. Chief Horton was allowed to speak on that presentation. There was nothing from the Police Department at this time. District Court II had a security issue and that's under advisement. District Court I have an issue with levelizing clerk's salaries in both courts and that's being forwarded to the Administration Committee.

- (1) AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE THE ALLEY LOCATED BETWEEN MAIN AND STATE STREETS AND BETWEEN 2ND AND 3RD AVENUES (up for the 3rd and final reading) was

read by the Assistant City Attorney, Joe Childers. Alderwoman

Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

- (2) A RESOLUTION OVERRIDING THE MAYOR'S VETO OF CERTAIN LINE ITEMS IN THE 2009 CITY BUDGET AS ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION NO. 3127 was heard.

Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts after discussion there was a roll call and the vote was 5 voting yes which were Alderwoman Holcomb, Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman Stepps, Alderwoman Walker and Alderman Boyd. Two voting no which Aldermen Brumett and Easterly, and 1 abstained which was Alderman Brown and the resolution failed for lack of support because it takes a 2/3 majority for the override.

- (3) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN JACOB TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS ARTS AND SCIENCE CENTER was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

- (4) A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CHARLOTTE ENGLAND TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS ARTS AND SCIENCE CENTER was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.
- (5) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAROL JONES TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS ARTS AND SCIENCE CENTER was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.
- (6) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING LES MIZELL TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS ARTS AND SCIENCE CENTER was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.
- (7) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING WILLIAM DETMERS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS ARTS AND SCIENCE CENTER was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(8) A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PLACEMENT OF COSTS OF CORRECTING CERTAIN NUISANCES ON TAX BOOKS AS DELINQUENT TAXES AND COLLECTED AS SUCH was heard. Alderman Easterly moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and during discussion, Alderman Stepps made a motion for an amendment and stated there is a list of six (6) properties that need to be removed from the list because payment has been made, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

Announcements

The following announcements were made:

Due to the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, the next City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

The Pine Bluff Rotary Club will meet next Tuesday, January 20th at the Pine Bluff Country Club.

The Special Olympic Polar Bear Plunge 09' will be held January 17, 2009 at Lake Saracen, for more information call Travis Chisom at 534-2126.

Alderman Brumett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by

Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments