MINUTES

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. February 17, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Charles Boyd, Pastor of the First Missionary Baptist Church.

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 – Alderwoman Roberts moved for approval of the minutes from the February 2, 2009 meeting, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderwoman 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:

Items No. 1 thru 10 will be completed.

We have one item to add to the agenda and it's "a resolution adopting revised policy 1001 for the Pine Bluff Police Department" and it takes unanimous consent to do so. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add the item to the agenda, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. and we have two budget adjustments to consider the first one is from the Finance Department for $57,648.66. Reason required is to budget the city's share of election cost for the November 4th general election and November 25th runoff. This amount will be taken from the undesignated fund balance. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

The other budget adjustment is from the Fire Department for $6,300.00. Reason required is to provide an account to properly record the Stamp Out Smoking Grant and additional fire prevention spending funded by the grant. 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 Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported: there has been no new activity pertaining to the Downtown Entertainment District since the last update dated 2/2/2009. A copy of this report has been filed with the City Clerk. The Community Development Committee met 2/11/09 at 4:35 p.m. Committee members present were Alderwoman Walker and Alderman Brown. Also present was 4th Ward Alderman Stepps. The minutes are very lengthy and a copy is on file with the City Clerk and available to the public. Alderwoman Robert read a letter of apology in reference to a letter that was mailed out from **Jefferson County Community Development Inc.**

Alderman Boyd, Chairman of Public Health & Welfare Committee reported: no report

Alderwoman Walker Chairperson for Public Works Committee reported: no report

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: the committee met on Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. with all members present. The committee recommended a do pass to the full council on two ordinances, one is on the amendment of part II on the flood damage prevention code and the other one is the rezoning of certain territory. There were three names recommended to the committee

for removal from the abatement list, two of them have purchased permits. Each council member was provided a copy of that list and this will be handled during the presentation of ordinance and resolutions.

Alderman Brown, Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee reported: no report

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: no report, there will be a committee meeting before the next council meeting.

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: the committee met today at 4:00 p.m. with all members present. The Police Department asked for a do pass on resolution number eleven. And the Fire Department talked about several issues, one was an arson reduction seminar they wanted to have and educational programs of the fire department. There will be another meeting on March 2, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

(1) AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE PINE BLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on 3rd and final reading, seconded by

Alderman Brumett and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART II OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS AND PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION CODE FOR THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on 3rd and final reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(3) AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE 75 FEET OF EAST 13TH AVENUE AND OF AN UNNAMED RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED SOUTH OF EAST 13TH AVENUE, BOTH BEING LOCATED 550 FEET EAST OF INDIANA STREET IN LEROY'S ADDITION (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule

and place the ordinance on 3rd and final reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(4) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 29 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW HD-1 5TH AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT ZONE AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE REZONING OF CERTAIN TERRITORY IN THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS TO SAID HD-1 ZONE (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and referred to the Planning & Development Committee.

(5) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS WITH PINE BLUFF NATIONAL BANK TO ACQUIRE TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AND ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE PINE BLUFF STREET DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (up for the 1st reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place ordinance on the 2nd reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman

Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on 3rd and final reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption of the Emergency Clause, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

(6) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH FORD MOTOR CREDIT COMPANY TO OBTAIN A VEHICLE FOR THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (up for the 1st reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on 2nd reading, seconded by Alderman Stepps and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on 3rd and final reading, seconded by Alderman Stepps and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-1 with Alderwoman Walker voting no.

Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption of the Emergency Clause, seconded by Alderman Stepps and after a roll call the vote was 7-1 with Alderwoman Walker voting no.

(7) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO CONTRACT WITH CORPORATE EXPRESS / STAPLES, INC. FOR THE PROVIDING OF OFFICE SUPPLIES was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.

(8) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO CONVEY REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1007 EAST 10th STREET THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(9) A RESOLUTION RENAMING A PORTION OF 19th AVENUE LOCATED BETWEEN LEE STREET AND TAFT STREET TO LOGAN LANE was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(10) A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN HOUSES, BUILDINGS AND / OR STRUCTURES AS NUISANCES AND ORDERING THEIR ABATEMENT was heard. Alderman Easterly moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett. During discussion Alderman Easterly moved for an amendment and stated he move for the two names on the list be removed and everything else stay as is, seconded by Alderman Brumett.

This recorder did not clearly hear the vote, however the Mayor stated the vote was 6-2, and there was discussion as to who voted yes and who voted no, Alderwoman Walker requested a roll call, the Mayor denied it by stating he heard the vote. Alderman Stepps stated he, along with Alderwoman Walker and Alderwoman Holcomb voted no and he thought Alderwoman Roberts voted no. The Mayor stated that would make the vote 4-4 and the chair votes yes making the final vote 5-4. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Brumett and after a roll call the vote was 4-4-1. Voting yes were Aldermen Brumett, Easterly, Boyd and Brown. Voting No were Alderwomen Holcomb, Roberts, Alderman Stepps and Alderwoman Walker, the Mayor broke the tie and voted yes. The motion carried 5-4.

(11) A RESOLUTION ADOPTING REVISED POLICY 1001 FOR THE PINE BLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

Announcements

The following announcements were made:

UAPB will celebrate Daisy Bates Day with the opening of a photographic exhibit entitled "Daisy Bates: In Her Own Words". The exhibit is housed in the Hathaway Howard Fine Arts Center on the UAPB campus and will run through March 16th. It is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9:0 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The 22nd Annual Chancellor's Benefit for the Arts will be held Saturday, February 21, 2009 at the Pine Bluff Convention Center. The reception and silent auction will begin at 6:30 p.m., dinner and entertainment begins at 8:00 p.m., tickets are $75 per person.

St. Peters Catholic School will host the 16th Annual Mardi Gras Celebration at 9:00 p.m., Saturday, February 21st. The event will be held at the St. Peter's Catholic School gym.

"Big Read", an event held in honor of Black History month, will feature President Barack Obama's book, "The Audacity of Hope." Patrons

are encouraged to read the book and then come to the book review and discussion @6:00 p.m. at the Arts & Science Center. A reception will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Alderman Brumett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Boyd and the motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments