

April 19, 2010

MINUTES

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. April 19, 2010 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Redus.

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

Approval of Minutes – Alderman Brown moved for approval of the minutes from the April 5, 2010 meeting, seconded by Alderman Stepps 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 6 up for the 2nd reading

Item No. 7 up for the 1st reading

Items No. 8 & 9 will be heard and completed.

ADD TO AGENDA Alderwoman Holcomb stated that there is one (1) item to add to the agenda that was recommended by the committee and it requires unanimous consent of the council to be placed on the agenda tonight. That item is "A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING WANDA NEAL TO THE PINE BLUFF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION". Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add this resolution to the agenda, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb stated that this will be Item 10 on the agenda.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met prior to the meeting tonight and we have **five budget adjustments** that were in the packet. The **first budget adjustment** is from Capital Projects, Transit and Community Development Departments for \$37,713.66. The reason required is for additional software and hardware required to achieve full productivity gains from the New World System, funded through allocation of New World acquisition cost to Transit, Community Development and from Capital Projects Fund balance. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment,

seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-1 with Alderwoman Roberts voting no.

The **second budget adjustment** is from the Grants and Transfers Department for \$14,933.33; the reason required is to fund reserve for Kelvin Hadley lawsuit settlement; fund city match and grant writing fees for SAFER and AFG grant awards to the Fire Department; reserve for 3rd year commitment to employ 6 fire fighters funded in year 1 and 2 through the SAFER grant; and budget revenue for change to Centerpoint Energy Franchise Grant payment from annually-in-arrears to monthly payment. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.

The **third budget adjustment** is from the Grants Department for \$12,481.00; reason required is to budget the Internet Crimes Against Children grant. There is no impact to the general fund. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

The **fourth budget adjustment** is from the City Attorney's office for \$6,000.00 for legal fees; reason required is due to high number of lawsuits filed this year the budget for Legal Fees is depleted. The additional monies will be taken from Undesignated Funds. Alderman

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

The **fifth budget adjustment** from the Grants Department in the amount of \$160,125.32; reason required is to budget Convention Center portion of bond payment and payment to city under Continuing Funding Agreement. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderman Brumett stated that there is one additional budget adjustment which has been referred to the Public Safety Committee and will be brought before the council at the next city council meeting.

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

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported: no report but there will be a meeting of the committee on May 4, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. at the conference room in the Economic and Community Development office at 716 Georgia Street.

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

Alderman Walker, Chairperson for Public Works Committee reported: Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility received recognition in a national magazine called WE&F for their Boyd Point facility.

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: the committee met on Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. Several property owners come before the committee requesting permits and several properties remain on the demolition list.

Alderman Brown, Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee reported: the committee met on April 13, 2010 at noon. A presentation on the master plan for the airport was presented. Alderman Brown encouraged everyone to visit the renovated restaurant at the airport which is open Monday through Friday, from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: the committee met regarding a grievance from Willie Grant of the Street Department regarding a one-day suspension. The committee recommends the council grant a new salary of \$26,582.40 Alderman Easterly moved to adjust his salary at the level of \$12.78 per hour, seconded by Alderman Holcomb and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: no report but allowed Interim Police Chief Hill to make a

presentation. Chief Hill stated that the Police Department wishes to recognize two volunteers who assisted with the first annual baseball camp which was held on March 24-26, 2010 at the Regional Park Softball Complex. Cortez Lee was head coach for the camp and the other volunteer was Skip Perkins, athletic director at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

- (1) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING HOURS OF OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH PERMIT CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON THE PREMISES (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.
- (2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4-3 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, RESPECTING THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF PRIVATE CLUBS AND OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS LICENSED TO SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.
- (3) AN ORDINANCE RE-DESIGNATING THE POSITION OF DEPUTY CHIEF OF FIRE OPERATIONS AS DEPUTY

CHIEF OF THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT; EXCLUDING THE POSITION FROM CIVIL SERVICE COVERAGE; AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO APPOINT OR REMOVE THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT; AND AMENDING SECTION 10-28(a)(2) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar

- (4) AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR REGULAR PUBLIC INFORMATION FORUMS TO BE CONDUCTED BY CITY GOVERNMENT (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.
- (5) AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING CONCERNING THE ASSIGNMENT OF POLICE UNITS TO OFFICERS WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE CITY (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and pulled by the sponsor.
- (6) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 5 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS,

REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(7) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13-86 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS REGARDING DELINQUENT OCCUPATION TAXES (up for the 1st reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(8) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY TO DONALD DAVIS (lot 14, block 6, Eureka Heights Addition #3) was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(9) A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN HOUSES, BUILDINGS, AND/OR STRUCTURES AS NUISANCES AND ORDERING THEIR ABATEMENT was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly. During discussion, Alderman Stepps moved for an amendment, stating there is a list of six (6) properties to be removed from the resolution; each council member has a copy of the list. Alderman Brown seconded the motion and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

- (10) A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING WANDA NEAL TO THE PINE BLUFF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

Announcements

The following announcements were made:

- The 3rd annual Harbor City Festival takes place on April 23-24, 2010 at Saracen Landing Pavilion on Lake Saracen in downtown Pine Bluff. This event will include a Gumbo and Chicken Cook-off. For additional information contact Susan at 870-536-0920.
- Meet and Greet with the Chief will be held on April 29, 2010 at Bethany Chapel Church from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments