

MINUTES

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

April 21, 2008 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Alderman George Stepps.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Redus.

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

Approval of Minutes – Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the minutes from the April 7, 2008 meeting, seconded by Alderman Smith 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:

We have one item that needs to be added* to tonight's agenda and it requires unanimous consent to do so. The item is "an ordinance providing for the rezoning of certain territory in the City of Pine Bluff, Arkansas (120 Grider Field Road)". Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add #1-A to the agenda, seconded by Alderman Smith and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb stated items 1 thru 4 will be heard and completed.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. and we have one budget adjustment. It's for the Police Department for \$2,878.00 to pay for an electronic monitoring of scrap metal recyclers, to be funded from the undesignated funds balance. Alderman Brumett moved to accept the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 8-0.

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

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported: no report from the committee, however there is an update report from the Downtown Entertainment District. Alderwoman Roberts read the report in it entirety and submitted a copy to the City Clerk for filing.

Alderman Walker, Chairperson of Public Health & Welfare

Committee reported: no report

Alderman Smith, Chairman for Public Works Committee reported:

The committee met on April 16, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. and we discussed a new roof for the Chester Hines building and where the funding was going to come from. We are still working on it.

Alderman Steps, Chairman of Development and Planning

Committee reported: the committee met on 4/18/08 at 10:00 a.m. There were several property owners in attendance and several properties removed from the list, which will be discussed during the reading of the resolution.

Alderman Boyd, Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee

reported: no report

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee

reported: no report

Alderman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee

reported: no report but we will meet May 5, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

(1-A) AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF CERTAIN TERRITORY IN THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS

(120 GRIDER FIELD ROAD) (up for the 1st reading), was read by the

City Attorney. Alderman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and

place the ordinance on second reading, seconded by Alderman Smith and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to further suspend the rule and place the ordinance on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Alderman Smith 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.

(1) A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2008 CITY BUDGET CREATING THE POSITION OF MECHANIC IN THE PINE BLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO PAY THE COMPENSATION FOR THE POSITION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(2) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DESTRUCTION OF OUTDATED ACCOUNTING RECORDS was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(3) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO PROVIDE LOCAL MATCH FUNDS FOR THE ARKANSAS GAME AND FISH COMMISSIONS APPLICATION TO THE

DEPARTMENTS TRAILS GRANT TO CONSTRUCT PHASE

II OF THE TRAIL AROUND LAKE SARACEN was heard.

Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by

Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(4) 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 Stepps moved for an amendment

stating that nine (9) properties need to be removed from the list.

(NOTE: a copy of that list is attached to the original

resolution), seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried

8-0. Alderman Easterly moved for the original as amended,

seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

Announcements

Mayor Redus made the following announcements:

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff will celebrate it's 135th

Founder's Day. The theme is "Preserving the Heritage: Branch Normal,

AM&N, UAPB." Events will be held April 25-27 and include the Black

and Gold Intra-squad football game, April 26 at 1 p.m.; Memorial Sunrise Service and Breakfast, April 27 at 6:45 a.m.; and Founders' Convocation, April 27 at 3:00 p.m. For more information contact Eva McGee at 575-8945.

The Harbor City Festival and Gumbo Cook-off will be April 26th in Pine Bluff and promises a full day of fun for all ages! Saracen Landing, located on the banks of Lake Saracen will be showcasing this new festival which will feature gumbo samples, children's activities, local bands and fireworks. Live music will be provided all day. Gates open at 10:00 a.m. Admission is \$2.00 and children under 12 are admitted free. For additional information contact Pine Bluff Parks and Recreation Department at 870-536-0920

The Greater Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce Business Expo will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2008 at the Pine Bluff Convention Center. The Small Business Breakfast will be held from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.; Trade Show and JRMC Health Fair from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.; and "Taste of Pine Bluff" from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Live at Five provides live entertainment the first weekend in each month at the Arts and Science Center. To accompany the musical

entertainment, a selection of beverages and light refreshments are served.

The event is held from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. and admission is \$5.00.

The American Cancer Society's Jefferson County Relay for Life will be held on Friday, May 2, 2008 from 6:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. at Saracen Landing. Fore more information contact Jodie Jolly at 870-535-7222

Alderwoman Holcomb moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments