

May 3, 2010

MINUTES

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. May 3, 2010 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 and Easterly, Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman Stepps, Alderwoman Walker, and Aldermen Boyd and Brown.

Approval of Minutes – Alderwoman Roberts moved for approval of the minutes from the April 19, 2010 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 7 will be heard and completed

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met prior to this meeting and we have three budget adjustments for which the committee recommends a do pass. The first budget adjustment is from the Fire Department for \$9794.09. The reason required is to convert the Emergency Management Coordinator position from Non-Uniformed to Uniformed Lieutenant position within the Fire Department. The funds will come from within the department. Alderman Brumett moved to approve the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

The second budget adjustment is from Grants in the amount of \$4,500.00; the reason required is to budget accounts for SEAEDD GIF Grant for grading and landscaping improvements at the Boone-Murphy House. Alderman Brumett moved to approve the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0

The third budget adjustment is from Grants in the amount of \$2,350.00; reason required is for environmental assessment on property donated by the City for CASA New Construction. This adjustment 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.

Alderman Brumett stated that the committee heard from the City Collector's office regarding Ordinance No. 6 on tonight's agenda and recommends a do pass on that ordinance.

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: the committee cancelled its recently scheduled meeting. The meeting will be rescheduled at a later date. Alderwoman Roberts stated that the Downtown Entertainment District update is quite lengthy; it regards two issues –the Barraque Street area, outdoor food court plaza and the Saturday event series. A copy of the report will be filed in the City Clerk's Office and will be available to the public. Lori Walker-Woolfolk with the Economic & Community Development Department was invited to speak regarding the report. Ms. Walker-Woolfolk stated that the Saturday Event Series will start on May 15, 2010 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Barraque Street. This is part of the initiative to generate activity in the downtown area and will take place every Saturday from May through October.

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

Aldерwoman Walker, Chairperson for Public Works Committee reported: no report.

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: no report

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

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: at the last committee meeting, the salary of Willie Grant of the Street Department was adjusted but based on the salary survey, a mistake was made. Alderman Easterly moved to raise the salary to 40 cents more, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.

Aldерwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: the committee met at 4:00 p.m. today with all committee members present. The Police Department presented their monthly report: crimes are down. A copy of the report has been provided to all council members. The committee discussed Ordinances Nos. 1 and 2 on tonight's agenda and recommends a do pass on Ordinance No. 1. Two members of the committee have reservations about Ordinance No. 2. The Police Department is actively recruiting additional police officers. There are currently 141 and there are 151 slots.

The Fire Department provided their monthly report. The committee discussed Ordinance No. 3 on tonight's agenda and the budget adjustment relating to the Emergency Management Coordinator which was passed tonight.

District Court II was not present.

Animal Control Department has Ordinance No. 5 on tonight's agenda and the committee recommends a do pass on that ordinance.

Rev. Turner of Weed and Seed made a report that the Weed and Seed areas are doing well and he mentioned a concern about the Shot Spotters Program.

During the Public Comments portion of the meeting Mr. Mike Barbarotto expressed his reservations about Ordinance No. 3.

- (1) AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING HOURS OF OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH PERMIT CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON THE PREMISES (up for the 3rd and final reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0
- (2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 4-3 OF THE CODED OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF,

ARKANSAS, RESPECTING THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF PRIVATE CLUBS TO SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES) (up for the 3rd and final reading), was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brown. After discussion, Mayor Redus stated the motion carried 5-3; voting no were Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman Easterly and Alderman Brumett. *After the council meeting ended, Alderman Boyd stated he also voted no. All four of these council members confronted the City Clerk and stated the vote should have been 4-4 because Aldermen Brumett, Easterly and Boyd, along with Alderwoman Roberts all voted no. After discussing this issue with the City Attorney, Carol Billings, the record will reflect that the vote on this piece of legislation was 4-4 and it failed for lack of support. (A copy of a letter from the City Attorney is attached as part of these minutes.)*

- (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 3rd and final reading), was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 6-2 with Alderman Easterly and Alderman Brumett voting no.

- (4) AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR REGULAR PUBLIC INFORMATION FORUMS TO BE CONDUCTED BY CITY GOVERNMENT (up for the 3rd and final reading), was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts. Alderman Easterly moved to amend the ordinance to remove the time and the hour indicated in lines 11, 12 and 13 on page two in Section 6, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0. Alderman Brumett moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 8-0.

- (5) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 5 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, REGARDING ANIMAL CONTROL (up for the 3rd and final reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.
- (6) 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 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on third and final reading, seconded by Alderman Brumett. After a roll call the motion carried 6-2 with Alderwoman Walker and Alderman Stepps voting no. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 6-2 with Alderwoman Walker and Alderman Stepps voting no.
- (7) A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 3264 REGARDING CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENT was heard.

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

Announcements

Mayor Redus made the following announcements:

The Black Pilots of America Memorial Day Fly-In "Operation Skyhook" will be held Thursday, May 27th thru Sunday May 31 at Grider Field Airport. This is the fourteenth year for the Fly-In. Flying competitions, military displays, youth aviation challenge and free aircraft rides are a few of the many activities planned. For additional information please contact Doug Hale at 534-4131.

The Character Trait for the month of May is Discretion vs. simple-mindedness - realizing that everyone is at varying levels of character development.

Dining with the Golden Lions is a benefit dinner to support the 2010 SW Athletic Conference Champion UAPB Men's Basketball Program. It will be held on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at H. O. Clemmons Arena at UAPB. Tickets are \$25.00 each.

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