

**MINUTES**

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. May 5, 2008 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

**The Invocation** was given by Rev. Jesse Turner

**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** – Alderwoman Roberts moved for approval of the minutes from the April 21, 2008 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 we have two items which require unanimous consent to place on the agenda. The first one is in the form of an ordinance and we will call it (1-A) and it is AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND

SECTIONS 29-37(a) (4), 29-37 (a) (6-B), 29-37 (b) (5-b) and 29-37 (b) (7-B) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add this item to the agenda, after a roll call the vote was 6 yes and 2 no, with Alderwomen Roberts and Walker voting no. Alderwoman Holcomb stated it will not be added to tonight's agenda due to lack of unanimous consent.

Alderwoman Holcomb stated the next item we need to add to the list which will be item #10, and it is A RESOLUTION TO REMOVE HOUSES FROM A CONDEMNATION LIST. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add this item to the list, seconded by Alderman Stepps and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

Alderwoman Holcomb stated;

Item No. 1 will be completed

Items 2 thru 5 will be read for the 1<sup>st</sup> time

Items 6 thru 10 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 considered item #1 which is an ordinance revising and amending ordinance No. 4882 and 3959 section 9 of the City of Pine Bluff, Arkansas providing for a change in the methodology of calculating the franchise tax to be paid to the

City of Pine Bluff by Entergy. The committee heard a presentation from Entergy concerning this and we recommend a do pass to the full council.

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: the committee will meet on May 13, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers if the Mayor's Conference room is not available. Alderwoman Roberts read the Downtown Entertainment District Update report and filed a copy with the City Clerk's office.

Alderwoman Walker, Chairperson of Public Health & Welfare Committee reported: no report. Alderwoman Walker asked Mayor Redus to present a proclamation to Jerri James, proclaiming May 12<sup>th</sup> as Fibromyalgia Awareness Day.

Alderman Smith, Chairman for Public Works Committee reported: no report

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: there was a notice of a meeting placed in the aldermen's mailbox, of which I am not sure of the location; however I did talk with a citizen wanting to remove their property from the abatement list. I've gone out and viewed the property and I've spoke with Mitzi Ruth

of the Inspection and Zoning Department and they recommend removing that property from the abatement list. *Note: action will be taken on the aforementioned with resolution #10 on tonight's agenda.*

Alderman Boyd, Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee reported: the Traffic Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room.

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: the committee will meet on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room.

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: the committee met today at 4:00 p.m. with all committee members present. Alderwoman Holcomb allowed Deputy Chief Susie Powell to speak in reference to resolutions #7 & 8 on tonight's agenda.

The Fire Department made a presentation of the new Fire & Life Safety Program. Jesse Turner presented a report in reference to the Weed & Seed Central Park area.

- (1) AN ORDINANCE REVISING AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4882, AND ORDINANCE NO. 3959, SECTION 9 OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN THE METHODOLOGY OF

CALCULATING THE FRANCHISE TAX TO BE PAID TO THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS BY ENTERGY ARKANSAS, INC., DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES (up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place ordinance on second reading, seconded by Alderman Brumett and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to further suspend the rule and place ordinance on 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

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

(2) AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 6240 AND 6242 AND AMENDING SECTIONS 202.1 AND 202.4 OF THE NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK FOR THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS (up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading)

was read by the City Attorney and referred to the Administration Committee.

- (3) AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF CERTAIN TERRITORY IN THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS (1224-1230 N. Willow Street) up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.
- (4) AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF CERTAIN TERRITORY IN THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS (4001 W. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.) up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, was read by the City Attorney and referred to the Development and Planning Committee, which will meet on Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference room.
- (5) AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE CERTAIN STREETS AND ALLEY LOCATED BETWEEN 8<sup>TH</sup> AND 11<sup>TH</sup> AVENUES AND BLAKE AND FIG STREETS up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading, was read by the City Attorney and referred to the Development and Planning Committee.
- (6) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING STACY CARPENTER FOR OBTAINING STATE CLASS IV WASTEWATER LICENSE

was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(7) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A LEASE FOR POLICE VEHICLE was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett, after discussion no vote was taken and this resolution was referred to the Public Safety Committee.

(8) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH HOLLY GROVE LAND COMPANY was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

(9) 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 the motion carried 8-0.

(10) A RESOLUTION TO REMOVE HOUSES FROM CONDEMNATION LISTS was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0. NOTE: Alderman Stepps stated they were

given 60 days to bring their property up to code or it will be placed back on the list and torn down.

### **Announcements**

Mayor Redus made the following announcements:

Smoke on the Water will be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of May 2008

The Character trait for the month of May 2008 is WISDOM.

Alderman Smith moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by

Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments