MINUTES

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. May 7, 2007 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Tommy Breamsey of the First Baptist Church of Dewdrop.

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 16, 2007 meeting, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts 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:

Item No. 1 up for the 2nd reading

Item No. 2 up for the 1st reading

Items No. 3 thru 7 will be completed.

Alderman Brumett, Chairperson of the Ways & Means Committee reported; we actually had two Ways & Means Committee meetings we had one prior to this meeting at 5:00 p.m. and we have three budget adjustments. One was in your packet it's for $35,000.00 in the Street Fund. The reason required is City Matching Funds for Federal-aide Highway Administration Bridge replacement and Rehabilitation Funds to rehabilitate bridge Number 19212 over Imbeau Bayou on 11th Avenue. This project will be funded with 80% Federal Funds and 20% non-federal funds this is in the Street Department and the $35,000.00 will come from their unused salaries. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0. The next budget adjustment is from the Police Department for $39,669.88 to lease five (5) Ford Crown Victoria Police Patrol Cars to replace high mileage units that have become unreliable and this will be in the 2007 budget. The total is $39,669.88 which will be moved to the Auto Purchase account from undesignated general fund balance. Alderman Brumett moved to accept the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts

and the motion carried 8-0. The next budget adjustment is for $19,144.00 to purchase a new vehicle for the Police Department to replace a high mileage unit that has become unreliable. This is to come from salaries-proceed from billing to Municipal League settlement. Alderman moved to accept the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

The Ways & Means Committee met May 3rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference room. Committee members present were Alderman Easterly, Alderwoman Roberts and I along with representation from the Finance Department, Human Resources, City Collector, the Mayor's office and the City Clerk's Office as well. We discussed the following three items.

One was the retirement of Daniel Moses. The committee reviewed the unused sick leave for Mr. Moses in the amount of $24,991.20. Alderman Brumett moved to accept this final settlement with former Police Chief, Daniel Moses in the amount of $24,991.20 to cover unused sick leave, upon verification seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 7-1 with Alderwoman Walker voting no.

Alderman Brumett stated we've also authorized the Finance Director to send a bill to the Arkansas Municipal League for $51,089.75 for their

50% share of the settlement agreement for Daniel Moses. Alderman Brumett moved to authorize a bill is sent to Municipal League for 50% of the settlement of the Daniel Moses case, in the amount of $51,089.75, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Funding of the city health insurance plan was discussed. It was brought to our attention that there is a deficit of about $4,000.00 per month due to participation changes in the plan. The budget reflected 309 single members and 171 families; however we have 260 single and 176 families in the plan at this time. Several options were discussed and it was agreed upon to watch this from month to month and make adjustments as needed to keep the plan solvent.

Funding increases from the salary survey project was discussed and it was recommended that we pursue bringing all employees who are under their minimum salary to their minimum salary level. This would require additional revenues of about $288,085.00. Several options to accomplish this goal were discussed and the committee will meet again to review the results of this evaluation when it is prudent and then come to the council with a formal recommendation.

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

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported; the committee will meet Tuesday, May 8, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. in the council chambers. Alderwoman Roberts commended Mr. Moon and the Downtown Revitalization committee for their interest in the downtown area, and request that this resolution be pulled until several concerns and questions could be answered.

Alderwoman Walker, Chairman of Public Health & Welfare Committee reported; no report, but asked the mayor present a proclamation to Ms. Carol Scott with the Goodwill Industries of Pine Bluff.

Alderman Smith, Chairperson for Public Works Committee reported; no report.

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

Alderman Boyd Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee reported; the committee met April 25, 2007 we have one item that requires council approval and that is 13th Avenue between Cedar Street and Hickory Street, the committee recommends installing "No Parking" signs on the south side of 13th Avenue. Alderman Boyd moved for approval of the recommendation, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of Administration Committee reported; no report

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported; the committee met today at 3:00 p.m. with only one committee member present, myself. Chief Howell made a presentation on the cars that were needed and that has been done through a budget adjustment. Chief Parsley made concerns about ordinance number one, however we did not come to any conclusion and we didn't have a quorum and could not vote on anything. Judge Brown from District Court II was there to discuss having to vacate that building by the end of the year. Rev. Turner was there to discuss several locations where loitering was taking place. There will be a committee that will be working on this to determine what you can and can not do on private property.

(1) AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PINE BLUFF UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES CODE REPEALING ANY OTHER ORDINANCE IN CONFLICT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(2) AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE THE NORTH 120 FEET OF THE ALLEY BETWEEN 8TH & 9TH AVENUES AND OHIO AND

PENNSYLVANIA STREETS (up for the 1st reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(3) A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A CONTRIBUTION OF REAL PROPERTY FROM GRACIE COLEMAN (Lot 10, 11 block 8, M.J. Scull's addition, 1821 S. Laurel Street) was heard, Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(4) A RESOLUTION ADJUSTING THE SALARIES PAID THE ACTING DEPARTMENT HEAD AND ACTING CHIEF INSPECTOR OF THE INSPECTION AND ZONING DEPARTMENT was heard, Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts, during discussion Alderman Easterly moved to make the pay for both positions retroactive back to February 5, 2007, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(5) A RESOLUTION PRESCRIBING CITY GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE REVITALIZATION OF DOWNTOWN PINE BLUFF was heard, Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and after a roll call the vote was 5 yes and 3 no.

Voting yes were Alderwoman Holcomb, Aldermen Brumett, Smith, Easterly and Boyd. Voting no were Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman Stepps and Alderwoman Walker, and the motion carried 5-3.

(6) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION IN ADDITIONAL BOND ON COLLECTION SERVICES was heard, Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 5 yes and 3 no. Voting yes were Alderwoman Holcomb, Aldermen Brumett, Smith, Easterly and Boyd. Voting no were Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman Stepps, Alderwoman Walker and the motion carried 5-3.

(7) A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO LEASE NEW VEHICLES AND ACQUIRE EQUIPMENT. Alderwoman Holcomb stated there's no need for resolution #7, it was taken care of in the form of a budget adjustment.

Mayor Redus stated, on Resolution #5 on the agenda which states in part, section 2-E (designation of an internal coordinator for the city to act as the point person in handling the proposed downtown entertainment district; and provide the city council with updates at each of it's meetings

hereafter on the progress in the downtown entertainment district project, Mr. Donald Sampson will be that person.

Announcements

Mayor Redus read a Proclamation for Public Servants. The Character trait for the month of May 2007 is Boldness

Alderwoman Roberts announced Silver Day will start on May 8th at 7:00 a.m. at the Convention Center all senior citizens are invited.

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments