MINUTES

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. June 15, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Lloyd Holcomb Jr.

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 Stepps moved for approval of the minutes from the June 1, 2009 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 & 2 up for the 3rd and final reading

Item No. 3 up for the 2nd reading but will be completed

Item No. 4 has been tabled

Items 5 thru 10 will be heard and completed.

ADD TO AGENDA Alderman Holcomb stated we have one item to add to the agenda that was recommended by the committee and it takes unanimous consent to do so and it's "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FINNEGAN AND COMPANY TO SUBMIT FIRE STATION CONSTRUCTION GRANT FOR UP TO $2 MILLION". Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add this item on tonight's agenda, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb stated this resolution will be item number eleven on tonight's agenda.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met prior to the meeting tonight and we have two **budget adjustments.** The first one is from the Police Department for $4,000. The reason required is to fund time and materials fees for preparing application for $400,000.00 Federal Appropriation to the Police Department. Method of financing - none is required because the Police Department has it within their budget which will come from the unused salaries account. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

The next budget adjustment is from both the Police and Fire Departments. The reason required is to fund costs for creation of new Civil Service exams for the new Battalion Chief position in the Fire Department and as a result of regulation changes impacting the Sergeant position in the Police Department. Method of financing - none is required due to both departments having funds within their departments. The Fire Department will take $4,700.00 from the salaries account and the Police Department will take $2,350.00 from jail fees for a total of $7,050.00. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of 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 Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported: there has been no new activity pertaining to the Downtown Entertainment District since the last update dated June 1, 2009. Alderwoman gave a status report on the Jefferson County Community Development Corporation which is preparing to construct its third housing unit in the University Park Neighborhood. They are requesting the $82,500 in CHDO funds that have been set aside for the development of this unit and appropriated by the Community Development Committee.

Funding for the construction project will be dispersed by approved draws as phases of the construction are completed during the construction process. Alderwoman Roberts moved to accept the set aside of the $82,000 and operating costs of $5,000 for the Jefferson County Community Development Corporation, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 8-0. Alderwoman Roberts stated that a report on the status of the Stimulus Package is available to any citizen who desires a copy.

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

Alderwoman Walker, Chairperson for Public Works Committee reported: the Public Works Committee met concerning some losses for Parks and Recreation Department to the Merrill Building because of some flooding. The committee approved $3,900 to defray costs incurred in making repairs. The Parks & Recreation director has been asked to obtain bids for the repair of the gutters on the south side of the building and Wastewater has made some suggestions as to how the problem may be solved. The grass has not been cut in the area of the Merrill Center. Alderwoman Roberts stated that the grass at Bryant Street Park is also badly in need of cutting. The committee also met with the directors of the

Street Department and Wastewater Utility regarding street repairs after cutting. A follow up meeting will be scheduled.

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: the committee met and during the meeting a contractor discussed work that is being done on a house at 204 East 25th belonging to Mr. William Kelley and they requested the property be removed from the condemnation list.

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

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: no report but the committee will meet Tuesday June 16, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m. in reference to an Inspection Department position.

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: no report

(1) AN ORDINANCE WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR ENGINEERING STUDY (up for the 3rd and final reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 6083 TO INCREASE FINES FOR MISDEMEANOR OFFENSES AND VIOLATIONS TO DEFRAY COSTS OF INCARCERATING PRISONERS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (up for the 3rd and final reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption of the emergency clause, seconded by Alderman Brumett and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

(3) AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE A PORTION OF ALABAMA STREET LOCATED NORTH OF EAST 12th AVENUE (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on the 3rd and final reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.

(4) A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION was PULLED BY THE SPONSOR.

(5) A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO JEFFERSON COUNTY was pulled by the sponsor..

(6) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING KAMI MAYS HUNT TO THE PINE BLUFF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(7) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MIKE SIZEMORE TO THE PINE BLUFF AVIATION COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(8) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALDERMAN GEORGE STEPPS TO THE SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(9) A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO COMPLETE PAPERWORK FOR FEDERAL GRANT APPROPRIATION FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts

and the motion carried 8-0. The City Attorney stated for the record it should be noted the budget adjustment passed earlier tonight should be attached to this resolution.

(10) 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 stated there is a list of properties to be removed from the list and we have one more that needs to be removed which is 204 E. 25th Ave, property of William J. Kelly Jr., seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(11) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FINNEGAN AND COMPANY TO SUBMIT FIRE STATION CONSTRUCTION GRANT FOR UP TO $2 MILLION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Announcements

The following announcements were made:

The Pine Bluff Farmer's Market Festival will be held June 20th at Saracen Landing. Although the Farmer's Market is open from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, this special day will offer entertainment, cooking demonstrations, and as usual, lots of fresh vegetables provided by our local growers.

The Arts & Science Center will offer a Mixed Media Collage workshop for children, ages 8 to 18 on June 22-26 from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, call the Center at 536-3375.

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff's Economic Research and Development and Development Center presents "Summer Biz Camp '09" for grades 9-12, July 27-31 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Business Support Incubator. This camp is for any youth who wants to learn more about starting and operating a business. For more information, including costs, call 575-8030 or email them at erdc@uapb.edu.

There will be a plant show and competition among Arkansas growers at the Delta Rivers Nature Center on June 27, 2009 from 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments