

MINUTES

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

June 16, 2008 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Jessie Turner of the Elm Grove

Baptist Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Redus.

Roll Call – Answering present were Alderwoman Holcomb,

Aldermen Brumett, Smith, Easterly, Alderwoman Roberts, Alderman

Stepps and Alderwoman Walker. Alderman Boyd was absent.

Approval of Minutes – Alderwoman Roberts moved for approval

of the minutes from the June 2, 2008 meeting, seconded by Alderman

Smith and the motion carried 7-0.

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 3rd and final reading

Items No. 2 thru 7 will be heard and completed

Alderman Holcomb stated we have one item we need to add to the agenda and it requires unanimous consent to do so. It is AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF SECTION 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, REGARDING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. Alderman Holcomb moved to add this item to the agenda, seconded by Alderman Roberts and after a roll call the vote was 7-0.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met this afternoon at 5:00 p.m., and we have four budget adjustments. The first adjustment is for \$513,663.00 to increase the 2008 budget for Community Development Grant funds that were unspent as of the end of 2007. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

The next budget adjustment is for \$700.00 for additional cost to publish ordinance correcting United Water CPI increase in November and include cost in the City Collector's budget from undesignated funds. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Roberts and the motion carried 7-0.

The next budget adjustment is for \$120,000.00 for the Police Department. Reason required is because funds were not included in the 2008 budget for the Police Department's portion of the ADSI loan payments to Simmons Bank and 5 vehicles leased continuation payments and funds requested to purchase 48 bulletproof vests to replace outdated vests and provide vests for new officers. The \$120,000.00 will be taken from the Salary account to cover this.

To be transferred to the Data Processing Services and Supplies account (08-4101 \$59,067.36).

To be transferred to the Auto Lease Payments account (08-4132) \$39,669.88)

To be transferred to the Bullet Proof Vest Grant account (08-4436) \$27,602.40) which was the recommendation from the committee.

Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

The next budget adjustment is for \$150,000.00 from the Fire Department for unscheduled overtime and other expenses for the department. The committee recommends forwarding this to the Public Safety Committee for further review for the next council meeting.

Alderman Brumett moved to **pay the bills** owed by the city, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 7-0.

Alderman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development

Committee reported: the Community Development Committee met on the 10th of this month at 4:30 p.m. here in the council chambers. The attendees were Alderman Irene Holcomb, Janice Roberts and Thelma Walker; Mayor Redus, Ted Davis, Jesse Turner, Herman Mitchell, Donald Sampson, Amyjo Brown, Larry Matthews and Janice Lusk.

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by chairperson, Alderman Janice L. Roberts. Alderman Roberts asked for approval of the agenda or any additions to the agenda. Alderman Irene Holcomb moved that the agenda be approved as printed. It was seconded by Alderman Thelma Walker. There were no objections and the agenda was followed as ordered. There were four (4) items on the agenda for discussion:

1. CASA Women's Shelter request
2. Resolution authorizing \$20,000 for reconstruction deferred loan amount
3. Revise down payment assistance and closing cost on new construction units (\$20,000).
4. Progressive Southeast Arkansas Housing Development Corporation.

Alderman Roberts stated a copy of these minutes will be on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Alderman Roberts read the Pine Bluff Downtown Entertainment District Update report in its entirety and stated a copy of this report is on

file in the City Clerk's Office. Alderwoman Roberts stated there is a draft letter on the CHDO process that will be going out to the four CHDO organizations on tomorrow.

Alderwoman Walker, Chairperson of Public Health & Welfare Committee reported: no report.

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

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: Alderman Easterly will be giving that report. Alderman Easterly stated Alderman Smith will give that report. Alderman Smith stated we have from the Inspection Department one property to be removed from the list, Barbara Baker at 3307 Iris. Then we have 1209 East 3rd for whom we gave 45 days to bring up to code and 1020 Martin, given 45 days.

Alderman Boyd, Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee was not in attendance. Alderwoman Roberts stated no report.

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: no report

Alderdwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee

reported: there's no report but the committee will meet the 1st Monday in July.

Vickie Conaway was asked to report on the progress of the Summer Youth Program. Ms. Conaway stated the program started June 16th and will end July 25th and we will have 6 workshops; one every Friday. Mayor Redus stated we have three entities helping with the funding of the Youth program; one is Jefferson County which will contribute \$25,000; Waste Management contributing \$10,000 and the Sheriff's Department contributing \$25,000. Ms. Conaway stated there will be a closing ceremony at the end to close out the program.

(1) AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 29-37 (a) (4), 29-37 (a) (6-B), 29-37 (b)(5-B) AND 29-37 (b) (7b) 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. Alderdwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 7-0.

(1-A) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF SECTION 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF,

ARKANSAS, REGARDING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT (up for the 1st reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(2) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ANGELA GORDON TO THE PINE BLUFF CIVIC AUDITORIUM COMPLEX COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 7-0.

(3) A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DON SCOTT TO THE PINE BLUFF PLANNING COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 7-0.

(4) A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING JESSE KEARNEY TO THE PINE BLUFF PLANNING COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0.

(5) A RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 2640 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE SUBSIDY ASSISTANCE FOR SOME INCOME-BASED QUALIFIED HOMEBUYERS THROUGH THE ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT FOR PURCHASE OF NEW HOMES IN THE

CONVENTION CENTER NEIGHBORHOOD

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 7-0.

(6) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE INCREASED SUBSIDY ASSISTANCE FOR QUALIFIED HOMEOWNERS THROUGH THE ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF EXISTING HOMES IN THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 7-0.

(7) A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN HOUSES, BUILDINGS AND/OR STRUCTURES AS NUISANCES AND ORDERING THEIR ABATEMENT was heard. Alderman Easterly moved for adoption, seconded by Brumett. During discussion Alderman Easterly moved for an amendment by stating line items 4, 5 and 6 need to be removed from the list,

seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0.

Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended,

seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

Announcements

Mayor Redus made the following announcements:

Business After Hours will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2008 from 5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at Gracie of Arkansas (Old Wal-Mart Building – 4030 W. 25th Street, Ste. B). Come join us as we celebrate today's fashion at its best. You will enjoy great food, beverages, door prizes, and the company of fellow members and their guests. Admission is \$5.00.

Independence Day Celebration on July 4, 2008. Starting at 11:00 a.m., vendors will offer a variety of foods and drinks at Regional Park. "Battle of the Bands" is scheduled to start at 5:00 p.m. and the evening will wind up with south Arkansas' largest display of fireworks beginning at 5:00 p.m. Admission is free.

Alderman Brumett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments