

MINUTES

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

June 18, 2007 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Lee Kinney of the First Presbyterian Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Redus.

Roll Call – Answering present were Alderwoman Holcomb, Aldermen Brumett, Smith, Easterly, Stepps, Alderwoman Walker and Alderman Boyd. Alderwoman Roberts was absent.

Approval of Minutes – Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the minutes from the June 4, 2007 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 first reading

Item No. 2 will be completed

Alderswoman Holcomb stated we have one item that needs to be added to the agenda and it's a resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to convey real property to Joel Foster (Parcel Nos. 930-17865-301 & 930-17865-443). Alderswoman Holcomb moved to place this item on the agenda, seconded by Alderman Smith and after a roll call the vote was 6 yeas and one nay with Alderswoman Walker voting no. Therefore the resolution will not be added to the agenda because unanimous consent is required to do so.

Alderman Brumett, Chairperson of the Ways & Means Committee reported: Alderman Brumett moved to pay the bills owed by the city, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

Alderswoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee was absent. Alderman Boyd reported in her place. Alderman Boyd requested Donald Sampson to give a report on the downtown revitalization project and a copy of that report is filed in the City Clerk's office. Mr. Sampson introduced Lori Walker-Woolfolk, the new the Economic Development Specialist. He stated that he is confident that Mrs. Walker-Woolfolk will be a great asset to our community.

Alderswoman Walker, Chairman of Public Health & Welfare Committee reported: no report.

Alderman Smith, Chairperson for Public Works Committee

reported: Alderman Smith read a letter in its entirety, from the Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility Department addressed to the Human Resource Department. He also announced that Pine Bluff Wastewater Utility will have a public meeting Wednesday, June 27, 2007 from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the Wastewater Utility Operations Complex in reference to the 2007 Sewer System Rehabilitation.

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: the committee met on the June 15th and we had several citizens to come before us in reference to the abatement list before you tonight. The first property is located at 1102 East Martin and the committee recommended allowing them until September 1st to bring this property up to code or it will be placed back on the list. The next property is located at 3705 West 2nd. After discussing this property it was noted that many times it takes awhile, sometime 30-60 days, before getting around to all the properties to be torn down. It was recommended to leave this property on the list and if within the 30-60 day time frame, repairs have not been made it will be placed on the condemn list.

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

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of Administration Committee

reported: Municipal League is allowing enrollment into the Health Plan starting July 1, 2007 thru July 31, 2007 for those who are interested.

NOTE: Human Resource Director issued a memo on 7/19/07 indicating the wrong date was reported on this issue; it should have been 7/1/07 thru 7/5/07 for enrollment instead of 7/1/07 thru 7/31/07.

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee

reported: she has two items. The first one is, everyone should have a copy of the Pine Bluff Police Department Policy/Procedures Manual and the subject is Electronic Restraint Device-Taser. Please read this document and be prepared to discuss it at the Public Safety meeting on the 1st Monday in July; (July 2, 2007, at 4:00 p.m.). Secondly, we have Mark Hayes here from the Municipal League to talk with us about the appeal on the Civil Service Commission issue.

Mark Hayes stated: as you all know, the judge denied our motion and granted the plaintiff's motion. We have 30 days from the day of that ruling to appeal it to the Arkansas Supreme Court and I need your guidance or you to tell me whether you wish to do that or not.

Alderman Stepps moved to appeal the decision of the judge, seconded by Alderwoman Walker and after a roll call the vote was 5-3.

Voting yes were Alderwoman Holcomb, Alderman Stepps, Alderwoman Walker, Alderman Boyd and Mayor Redus. Voting No were Aldermen Brumett, Smith, and Easterly. Mark Hayes stated he would lodge the appeal within the next 10 days.

(1) AN ORDINANCE TO CLOSE THE ALLEY LOCATED IN BLOCK OF "H" OF JAMES AND SIMPSON'S ADDITION (BETWEEN 4TH & 5TH AND MAPLE AND Spruce) (up for the 1st reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(2) A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN HOUSES, BUILDINGS AND/OR STRUCTURES AS NUISANCES AND ORDERING THEIR ABATEMENT was heard. Alderman Brumett moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb. Alderman Easterly moved for an amendment, stating there's a list of eleven properties which need to be removed from the list, seconded Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0. Alderman Brumett moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 7-0.

The property located at 1132 N. Magnolia will stay on the list. However, they will have 45 days to decide whether they're going to make improvements or demolish the house. Alderman Stepps has agreed to be

the overseer of this project and report back to the council at the first meeting in August 2007.

Announcements

Mayor Redus announced The Spring Recycling Project for unused cell phone parts. Envelopes for items to be recycled can be picked up on the table at the back of the room tonight. Pine Bluff 20/20 Visioning Committee will hold its next meeting at the Pine Bluff Convention Center Tuesday, June 19, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. The fifth and final town hall meeting is scheduled for June 20, 2007 from noon until 1:30 p.m. at the Pine Bluff Convention Center.

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments