

MINUTES

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

July 2, 2007 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 June 18, 2007 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:

Item No. 1 up for the 2nd reading

Items No. 2 thru 21 will be completed

Alderman Holcomb stated there is one item we need to add to the agenda and it takes unanimous consent to do so. It's a resolution authorizing the city to apply for a grant from the Arkansas Coalition of Juvenile Justice Division of Youth Services to combat juvenile crime, and to authorize the Mayor to negotiate a contract with Topps Inc., to perform services funded by the grant. Alderman Holcomb moved to add the item to the agenda, seconded by Alderman Roberts and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

Alderman Brumett, Chairperson of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. and we have three budget adjustments that were in your packets. The first one is from the Executive & Police Departments; reason required is for expense line items over 2007 annual budget:

- \$700.00 Election Expense Executive Department
(\$700.00) from Group Insurance
- \$500.00 Dues & Subscription (Software-Sex Offender notices) Police Department
(\$500.00) from Operating Expense Police Department
- \$400.00 Postage – HR Department
(\$400.00) from ADA Expense HR Department
- \$400.00 Postage – Finance Department
(\$400.00) from Group Insurance Finance Dept.
- \$200.00 Publishing Expense – City Collector
(\$200.00) from Group Insurance Expense – City Collector

Method of financing - none is required because we're moving money from one line item to another. Alderman Brumett moved for approval, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

The next budget adjustment is from the Fire Department; reason required is monthly ADSI wireless connection charge not included in the budget, \$45.00 a month for two laptops installed to be in 2007 and full installation complete in 2008. Total cost is \$540.00 to come out of the Operating Expense fund. 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 the Street Department; reason required is for workman's compensation over the 2007 budget. The total cost is \$9,000.00 from account 10-4010 which is part-time salaries. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

We also had an adjustment from Pine Bluff Weed & Seed, Jessie Turner Coordinator and I would like to call him up to explain this adjustment. The total cost is \$14,458.50 and for purpose of discussion, Alderman Brumett moved for approval of this budget adjustment to come from undesignated funds, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and after discussion the motion carried 8-0.

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

Alderman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development

Committee reported: asked for a do pass on resolution numbered 7 on tonight's agenda. Alderman Roberts filed a report with the City Clerk on the Pine Bluff Downtown Entertainment District which was discussed by Donald Sampson, Director of Economic & Community Development Department. Annette Dove was allowed to speak in reference to resolution number 22 on tonight's agenda and Alderman Roberts asked for a do pass on this item. The Community Development Committee will meet on July 10, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. here in the City Council Conference room.

Alderman Walker, Chairman of Public Health & Welfare

Committee reported: no report

Alderman Smith, Chairperson for Public Works Committee

reported: Ponzetta Bradford was allowed to speak in reference to sidewalk accessibility for individuals confined to wheelchairs in the area of 17th to 28th & Hazel. Alderman Smith reported the committee met 6/28/07 at 9:30 a.m. Discussed was the 2008 Parks Grant, the Street Department asked to be reimbursed \$88,779.60 which was used to help complete the lake shore pavilion; it is needed for overlays.

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning

Committee reported: no report, but asked for a do pass on resolution number four on tonight's agenda.

Alderman Boyd Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee

reported: no report

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of Administration Committee

reported: no report

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee

reported: the committee met today at 4:00 p.m. with all committee members present. We had discussion on Commissioner Archie Sanders' position; since Mr. Sanders' term had expired and the commissioner's issue was being appealed it was recommended to leave Mr. Sanders in place until the issue was resolved. The next item, Chief Howell discussed the police department proposed policy for electronic restraint device-taser. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to accept the proposed policy from Chief Howell, seconded by Alderman Brumett. During discussion Assistant City Attorney, Joe Childers stated the committee would have to present a resolution and he could have it ready for the next council meeting. Alderwoman Holcomb stated this will be tabled and we will have a

resolution ready at that time. There were concerns of selected firefighters

and they were:

- Limited minority representation on top-level positions
- Current Standard operation procedures are too broad
- Need for consistent training guidelines
- Residency requirements should be revisited
- Need better recruitment methods
- When will a Fire Chief be named?

Alderwoman Holcomb stated all of those items are being considered and worked on by Human Resources and the mayor.

Mayor Redus asked that Fire Chief Hipp be allowed to come forth and present awards to Firefighter Antonio Scott, his brother Ahman R. Scott and Firefighter Tony Gibson.

(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 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(2) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO CONVEY REAL PROPERTY TO JOEL FOSTER (PARCEL NOS. 930-17865-103 AND 930-17865-443) was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

(3) A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PUBLISH A NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON A SIMULANEOUS DETACHEMENT AND ANNEXATION FOR A PARCEL OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7010 SHERIDAN ROAD was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

(4) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR SERVICES WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Steps and the motion carried 8-0.

(5) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN "ADDENDUM TO AT&T PLEXAR CUSTOM SERVICE AGREEMENT" was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(6) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A "LONG DISTANCE VOICE SERVICES ONLY" AGREEMENT WITH SBC GLOBAL SERVICES, INC., D/B/A AT&T GLOBAL SERVICES was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(7) A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF A MEMORIAL PARK IN WEST PINE BLUFF was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and after a roll call the vote was 6-2 with Aldermen Easterly and Smith voting no and the resolution passed 6-2.

(8) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING ALTHEA HADDEN FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A MEMBER OF THE PINE BLUFF PARKS COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(9) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING JIM HILL FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A MEMBER OF THE PINE BLUFF CIVIC AUDITORIUM COMPLEX COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(10) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING HAROLD POINTER FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A MEMBER OF THE PINE BLUFF PLANNING COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb

moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

(11) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TEKI HUNT JIMENEZ TO THE PINE PARKS COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.

(12) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOE CLEMENT TO THE PINE BLUFF PLANNING COMMISSION was heard, Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(13) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING GORDON REESE TO THE PINE BLUFF PLANNING COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Boyd and the motion carried 8-0.

(14) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DR. STEPHEN A. BROUGHTON TO THE PINE BLUFF CIVIC AUDITORIUM COMPLEX COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 8-0.

(15) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING BETTY MASSANELLI TO THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF BEAUTIFICATION FACILITIES BOARD was

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

(16) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DAVID LAUSTEN TO THE PINE BLUFF PLANNING COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(17) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DR. ANTHONY JONES TO THE PINE BLUFF PLANNING COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(18) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING WILLIAM KIRBY MOUSER TO THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(19) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING GARY C. REYNOLDS TO THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 8-0.

(20) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SCOTT SPENCE TO THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY BOARD was

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

(21) A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PLACEMENT OF COSTS OF CORRECTING CERTAIN NUISANCES ON TAX BOOKS AS DELINQUENT TAXES AND COLLECTED AS SUCH was heard.

Alderman Brumett moved for an amendment, seconded by Alderman Easterly. During discussion Greg Garner of the Inspection and Zoning Department stated there is a list of property owners that need to be removed from the list because they have made the necessary payments and the motion carried 8-0. Alderman Brumett moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 8-0.

Note: a copy of that list will be attached to this resolution.

(22) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE ARKANSAS COALITION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES TO COMBAT JUVENILE CRIME, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO NEGOTIATE A CONTRACT WITH TOPPS INC., TO PERFORM SERVICES FUNDED BY THE GRANT was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Steps and the motion carried 8-0.

Alderman Brumett moved for a \$6,000.00 budget adjustment from undesignated general fund balance. Reason required is for City match for the \$60,000.00 Juvenile Accountability Block (JAB) grant to be administered through TOPPS Inc., a local non-profit organization focused on youth education and development, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

Announcements

Mayor Redus announced the Pine Bluff Entrepreneurship Collaborative Informational Seminar Series will be held Thursday, July 12, 2007 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Southern Good Faith Fund, 2304 West 29th Ave.

The Green Meadows Baptist church will have a Flag Dedication ceremony at 4201 Hwy 65 South, Wednesday July 4, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. The members of this church have installed poles for the United States, Arkansas and Christian flags. You and your families are invited to attend this event. Picnic food, hamburgers and hot dogs will be served.

The Character Trait for July 2007 is Contentment.

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

Meeting adjourned
No further business
All other comments