

MINUTES

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. August 4, 2008 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

The Invocation was given by Rev. Clifton O'Neal

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 Stepps moved for approval of the minutes from the July 21, 2008 meeting, seconded by Alderman Boyd 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: we will complete all of the items on the agenda and we have one item to add which needs unanimous support to put on the agenda. That item is AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 19-26 THROUGH

19-39 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS REGARDING PROVISIONS OF THE RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, and it will be Item 1-A. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to place the ordinance on tonight's agenda, seconded by Alderman Brumett 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. We have a budget adjustment from the City Attorney's office. Requirements for office related expenses have been above budgeted levels. This is an internal adjustment to move \$1500.00 from Conventions and Conferences to cover additional office supplies that are needed by the department. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

The committee also heard a report from Attorney McKissic in the case involving the City of Pine Bluff and the Jefferson County Library Board. Alderman Brumett moved that the City place an additional \$19,000.00 with the Jefferson County Circuit Clerk to provide a surety bond for the Pine Bluff - Jefferson County Library and the City of Pine

Bluff lawsuit that is now in the courts, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

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 was not in attendance and there was no report.

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

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

Alderman Steps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: no report.

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

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

Alderman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: the Public Safety Committee met at 3:30 today in the City Council Chambers with all committee members present. The Fire Department presented their monthly report and the committee decided in

the committee meeting that all of the ordinances on tonight's agenda pertaining to the Fire Department would be completed tonight. It was mentioned about the \$35,000.00 that Simmons Bank is donating to the Fire Department for education programs. We applaud the Fire Department for their efforts in securing funds. Chief Horton then addressed the council stating that we all recognize that there are limited city government funds which necessitates our reaching out to private businesses and agencies for financial assistance. We are extremely grateful for the gift from Simmons Bank and these funds will be used to support the education program that starts in September in every fifth grade class in Pine Bluff.

The Police Department requested information on where we are on the Sam Taylor School issue. Mr. Sampson reported that the architect is in the process of gathering all data that they have obtained as a result of their field review of the site and we expect a report within thirty days.

Animal Control Department did not have any issues to report at the committee meeting.

Judge Kim Bridgforth and Judge Waymond Brown attended the meeting and they concurred that they would like to see both courts relocated. City Attorney Carol Billings reported that she is working with County Judge Holcomb and Steve Dalrymple on a memorandum of

understanding wherein the staffs of both courts would share space at one location. The estimated completion date is March, 2009.

(1) 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 3rd reading) was read by the City Attorney. The ordinance had been altered from the original so after discussion it was decided to read the corrected ordinance three times. The ordinance was read by the City Attorney and Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place on second reading, seconded by Alderman Smith and after a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to further suspend the rule and place on third and final reading, seconded by Alderman Brumett and after the roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 7-0.

(1-A) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 19-26 THROUGH 19-39 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, REGARDING PROVISIONS OF THE RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF

was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on second reading, seconded by Alderman Brumett and after a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to further suspend the rule and place on 3rd and final reading, seconded by Alderman Brumett and after the roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb move for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 7-0.

(2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING HOUSE COUNT PROVISIONS IN GARBAGE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT (up for the 3rd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 7-0.

(3) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART 10, ARTICLE IV, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, REGARDING FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place on third and final reading, seconded by Alderman Brumett and after a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman

Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 7-0.

(4) AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE PINE BLUFF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT (up for the 2nd reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on third and final reading, seconded by Alderman Smith and after a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Boyd and the motion carried 7-0

(5) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 5937, PROVIDING FOR A CHANGE IN THE MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT FROM \$4,500.00 TO \$7,500.00 FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S REHABILITATION EMERGENCY REPAIR PROGRAM (up for the 1st reading) was read by the City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place on second reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly. After a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to further suspend the rule and place on third and final reading, seconded by Alderman Boyd.

After a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption of the emergency clause, seconded by Alderman Stepps and after the roll call the vote was 7-0.

- (6) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO RELEASE PROPERTY TO CENTRAL MOLONEY, INC. was heard. Alderman Brumett moved to amend the resolution to state: *A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO RELEASE PROPERTY TO CENTRAL MALONEY, INC.* The motion was seconded by Alderman Boyd and the motion carried 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption of the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 7-0.

- (7) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE (716 Georgia Street) was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved

for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0. The City Attorney stated that there is a budget adjustment attached to the resolution. The mayor stated that the requested adjustments are for new project titled Georgia Street Acquisition for property located at 716 Georgia Street to be occupied by the Economic and Community Development Department. This will all be internal to the department for \$105,000.00.

(8) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CLIFTON O'NEAL TO THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES were heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0.

(9) A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PLACEMENT OF COSTS OF CORRECTING CERTAIN NUISANCES ON TAX BOOKS AS DELINQUENT TAXES AND COLLECTED AS SUCH was heard. Alderman Stepps moved to amend the resolution to remove four properties from the list, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb

moved for adoption of the original as amended, seconded by

Alderman Boyd and the motion carried 7-0.

Announcements

Mayor Redus made the following announcements:

The twenty-fifth annual National Night Out Celebration will be held Tuesday, August 5, 2008 at the Pine Bluff Convention Center from 6:00-9:00 p.m. There will be free hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks. The night will also include Public Awareness Booths, music by the Cummins Prison Band and a visit from Ronald McDonald.

The Character Trait for the month of August is "Joyfulness" vs. self-pity. Joyfulness is defined as maintaining a good attitude, even when faced with unpleasant circumstances.

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments