

**MINUTES**

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

August 17, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

**The Invocation** was given by Rev. Douglas Allen

**The Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mayor Redus.

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

**Approval of Minutes** – Alderman Brown moved for approval of the minutes from the August 3, 2009 meeting, seconded by Alderman Brumett 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:

Items No. 1 & 2 up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading

Items No. 3 thru 12 will be heard and completed.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee

reported: the committee met prior to the meeting tonight and we have several budget adjustments to consider. The first budget adjustment is from the **Economic & Community Development Department** for \$14,119.52. Reason required is due to an employee retiring; Larry Matthews who has retired with 25 years of service. No method of financing is required due to funds being in their salaries account. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

The next budget adjustment is from the **Fire Department** for \$17,600.17. The reason required is due to Lieutenant Harold Marshall retiring with 34 years of service and according to ordinance #5720 he is entitled to a maximum of 4½ months of unused sick leave. No method of financing is required due to funds being in their salary account. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment upon confirmation from the Finance Department and the Human Resource Department that everything is correct, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

Alderman Brumett stated the next budget adjustment is from the **Finance Department** in reference to grants for \$43,533.00. The reason

required is to correct 2009 budget for Summer Youth Program to include expense funded by revenue from outside sources. The additional expense is offset by favorable variances for the year in Workman's Comp and Unemployment Taxes. Funds will be moved from the Unemployment Tax account and Workers Comp Insurance account into the Summer Youth Program account. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

Alderman Brumett stated the next budget adjustment is from the **Finance Department concerning District Court II**. The reason required is for a settlement of Library lawsuit with the city over rent for space occupied by District Court 2 in the amount of \$53,312.00. Method of financing will be from undesignated funds account. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

Alderman Brumett moved for approval to set aside up to \$2,000.00 for the filing fees, transcription and expenses associated with the processing of this lawsuit, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

Alderman Brumett stated the city has been in the process of obtaining short term funding for a new software system and he allowed Steven Miller, Finance Director to come forward and explain.

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

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Economic and Community Development Committee was absent therefore Alderwoman Walker reported; no report.

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

Alderwoman Walker, Chairperson for Public Works Committee reported: no report

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: the committee met on 8/12/09 at 4:00 p.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room and there were several home owners who attended the meeting and asked for 60 days to bring their properties up to code and they are on the list provided to you tonight.

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

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee

reported: no report

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee

reported: no report

- (1) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5-55 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, RESPECTING ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS (up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading) was read by the City Attorney and referred to the Public Safety Committee.
- (2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 29 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, CONCERNING AUTOMOBILE SALVAGE YARDS, DECLARING SUCH YEARS NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CITY CODE TO BE PUBLIC NUISANCES, PROVIDING FOR INCREASED PENALTIES FOR SALVAGE YARDS FOUND IN VIOLATION OF CITY CODES, FOR RELATED PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading) was read by the City Attorney and referred to the Planning Commission committee.

- (3) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, CITY CLERK AND CHIEF OF POLICE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH KEYSTONE GIS FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.
- (4) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING EVA M. MCGHEE TO THE PINE BLUFF HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0.
- (5) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DONNA HERRING TO THE PINE BLUFF HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0.
- (6) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT HOGAN TO THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 7-0.
- (7) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING PHYLLIS HARDEN TO THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

(8) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING ELIZABETH GAINES FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A MEMBER OF THE PINE BLUFF HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 7-0.

(9) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING GARY REYNOLDS FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A MEMBER OF THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 7-0.

(10) A RESOLUTION COMMENDING SCOTT SPENCER FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AS A MEMBER OF THE PINE BLUFF / JEFFERSON COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Boyd and the motion carried 7-0.

(11) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO APPLY FOR AN ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND TOURISM OUTDOORS RECREATION GRANT was heard.

Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 6-1 with Alderman Easterly voting no.

(12) RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN HOUSES, BUILDINGS AND/OR STRUCTURES AS NUISANCES AND ORDERING THEIR ABATEMENT was heard. Alderman Brumett moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly. During discussion Alderman Stepps moved for an amendment, and stated there is a list of properties to be removed from the list and you all have a copy of that list in front of you. Alderman Brumett moved for a friendly amendment by stating the property at 617 S. Plum also needs to be removed from the list, seconded by Alderman Boyd and before the vote Alderman Stepps asked for the Inspection & Zoning supervisor to come forth and give information on this particular property, after which the motion carried 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

## **Announcements**

The following announcements were made:

JRMC – free health screening at Saracen Landing Farmers Market on Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. 10:00 a.m. They will be checking bone density, cholesterol, glucose and blood pressure.

Pine Bluff Police Department Fishing Derby will be held at Martin Luther King Jr. Park from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 29, 2009

Ribbon cutting for Verizon Wireless at 3800 Camden Road at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 29, 2009

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments