

**MINUTES**

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. September 2, 2008 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

**The Invocation** was given by Rev. Charles Boyd

**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 August 18, 2008 meeting, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Redus thanked everyone for allowing him the opportunity to attend the Democrat Convention this year.

Alderwoman Holcomb presented a life saving award to several fire fighters, police officers and citizens of the community.

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 has been pulled by the sponsor

Items No. 2 thru 7 will be heard and completed

Alderwoman Holcomb stated we have two items to add to the agenda that were recommended by the committee and it takes unanimous consent to be placed on the agenda tonight. Resolution #8; is "A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A REWARD PROGRAM TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE PINE BLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT". Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add this resolution on tonight's agenda, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

Alderwoman Holcomb stated the other resolution is Resolution #9: "A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE USE OF SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE". Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add this resolution on tonight's agenda, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

Alderman Brumett, Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee reported: the committee met prior to the meeting tonight and we have two budget adjustments that were in the packet and the first one is from the

City Collector for \$20,000. The reason required is revenues received from the ABS Collection Agency is \$160,000 through July versus the full year budgeted revenue of \$150,000. Additional funds are needed for collection agency fees on the additional revenue collected. Alderman Brumett explained that each court will pay \$10,000 a piece therefore zero amount will come from undesignated funds. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

The second budget adjustment is from the Transit Department for \$16,500.00 and the reason required is due to the turnover of full and part time bus drivers has led to more overtime. Office supplies are over budgeted, capital parts for emergency repairs to replace buses due to loss of fleet in the fire. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and 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.

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported: Alderwoman Roberts read in its entirety the Pine Bluff Downtown Entertainment District update report and placed a copy for filing in the City Clerk's Office. Alderwoman Robert announced there

will be a Public Officials Meeting, Wednesday, September 10, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Big Rec Building, Townsend Park and the public is invited to attend.

Alderman Walker, Chairperson of Public Health & Welfare Committee reported: no report, but allowed Larry Reynolds from the Transit Department to make a presentation in reference to replacing damaged buses due to a fire. Larry Reynolds stated he has two resolutions, one is for a grantee to grantee transfer and the other is for 120 day lease, both with Harris County Texas Metro Transit Authority and both needed to be added to the agenda. City Attorney Billings stated it would take unanimous consent to do so. Alderman Holcomb stated we have "A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A 120 DAY LEASE WITH THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS (METRO) FOR UP TO FIVE (5) TRANSIT VEHICLES". Alderman Holcomb moved to add this item to the agenda, Alderman Holcomb stated the other one is "A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, AUTHORIZING A GRANTEE TO GRANTEE TRANSFER WITH THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS (METRO)

Alderwoman Roberts and after a roll call the vote was 8-0.

Alderman Smith, Chairman for Public Works Committee reported:

No report.

Alderman Stepps, Chairman of Development and Planning Committee reported: no report, however Alderman Stepps allowed Ms. Lajuan Watley-Roaf to speak in reference to her denial of permission to operate a children's home. Ms. Watley-Roaf was advised to contact the Inspection & Zoning Department for the proper procedures to file an appeal.

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

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: no report but the committee will meet Friday, September 5, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room.

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: It was suggested to call a Public Safety meeting to discuss the court building. The meeting will be 9/10/2008 at 4:30 p.m. in the council chambers. Alderwoman Holcomb presented a life saving award to Mr. Larry Eastmon. The Public Safety Committee met today at 4:00 p.m. the

Police Department was commended for solving the recent homicide and the Fire Department was commended for their services. The Weed and Seed department reported that the funding has been approved for the Central Park area.

- (1) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTERGOVERNMENTAL DISTRICT COURT FACILITIES AGREEMENT was pulled by the sponsor.
- (2) A RESOLUTION SETTING THE MILLAGE FOR THE POLICEMEN'S RELIEF AND PENSION FUND FOR THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.
- (3) RESOLUTION SETTING THE MILLAGE FOR THE FIREMEN'S RELIEF AND PENSION FUND FOR THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.
- (4) A RESOLUTION SETTING THE MILLAGE FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PINE BLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved

for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith. After discussion Alderwoman Holcomb withdrew her motion and Alderman Smith withdrew his second. Alderwoman Holcomb stated the resolution will be pulled until the next meeting.

(5) A RESOLUTION SETTING THE MILLAGE FOR GENERAL PURPOSES AS AUTHORIZED AND PRESCRIBED BY LAW heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(6) A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE "OLD TOWNE DISTRICT" IN DOWNTOWN PINE BLUFF AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts and the motion carried 8-0.

(7) A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PLACEMENT OF COSTS OF CORRECTING CERTAIN NUISANCES ON TAX BOOKS AS DELINQUENT TAXES AND COLLECTED AS SUCH was heard. Alderwoman moved for adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Roberts. Alderman Stepps moved to have three properties removed from the list, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for

the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

(8) A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A REWARD PROGRAM TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE PINE BLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

(9) A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE USE OF SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Smith and the motion carried 8-0.

(10) A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF PINE BLUFF ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO A 120 DAY LEASE WITH THE METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS (METRO) FOR UP TO FIVE (5) TRANSIT VEHICLES was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

(11) A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, AUTHORIZING A GRANTEE TO

GRANTEE TRANSFER WITH THE METROPOLITAN  
TRANSIT AUTHORITY OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
(METRO) FOR UP TO FIVE (5) TRANSIT VEHICLES was  
heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by  
Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 8-0.

### **Announcements**

The following announcements were made:

The Pine Bluff/Jefferson County Historical Museum will house an exhibit entitled *100 Years of Fashion* beginning this month. The museum is located at 201 East Fourth Avenue. Admission is free.

The Pine Bluff Parks and Recreation Commission is holding a Public Comments Meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2008 at 4:00p.m. at Saracen Landing. The topic of discussion is timber management at Boyd Point at 33<sup>rd</sup> and Mississippi Park.

Live at Five, the First Friday Monthly Jazz Series will be held Friday, September 5, 2008 at the Arts and Science Center. The featured musicians for the night will be Joe Pitts Band. Joe Pitts is a native of Pine Bluff and has a three-piece band with guitar, bass and drums. His style is blues-based, but goes into jazz and rock. The cost is \$5 and includes light refreshments

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff Golden Lions football team will travel to Arkadelphia to take on Henderson State University on September 6, 2008 at 6:00p.m.—The Golden Lions will play the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual “Claw and Paw Classic” against the University of Central Arkansas on September 13, 2008 at 6:00p.m. at War Memorial Stadium in Little Rock.

The Character Trait for September is Truthfulness vs. deception – earning future trust by accurately reporting past facts.

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments