

**MINUTES**

The Pine Bluff City Council met for a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. September 8, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Redus called the meeting to order.

**The Invocation** was given by Rev. Brian Kesterson of the Oak Park Free Will Baptist Church.

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

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

**Approval of Minutes** – Alderwoman Roberts moved for approval of the minutes from the August 17, 2009 meeting, seconded by Alderman Stepps 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 and 2 up for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

Items No. 3 and 4 up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading

Item No. 5 up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading but will be completed

Items No 6 thru 8 will be heard and completed

**ADD TO AGENDA** Alderman Holcomb stated we have one item to add to the agenda which was recommended a do pass by the committee and it takes unanimous consent to be placed on the agenda tonight. And it is "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING GEORGE MITCHELL TO THE PINE BLUFF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION". Alderwoman Holcomb moved to add this item 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 prior to the meeting tonight and we have three budget adjustments to consider.

The first budget adjustment is for additional funding required for recruiting and screening personnel for Police & Fire Departments funded by line items spending below budget in Grants, Police and Fire. The amount is \$13,139.00 of which \$5,000.00 will come from unused Workmen's Compensation, \$4,069.50 from gas, oil and lube from both the fire and police departments. Alderman Brumett moved for approval of the budget adjustment, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb. After discussion,

Alderman Roberts amended the motion and stated she move to table this issue and pass it on to the Public Safety Committee for further review, seconded by Alderman Walker after a roll call the vote was 5 yea, 2 nay, with Aldermen Brumett and Easterly voting no, and the motion carried 5-2.

Alderman Brumett stated the next budget adjustment is from Community Development for an employee retiring with 89.5 days of accumulated sick leave and the amount is \$14,119.52. The money will be transferred from the Pitts Drain Project Extension account and there will be no impact on the general fund. Alderman Brumett moved for approval, seconded by Alderman Holcomb and the motion carried 7-0.

The next budget adjustment is from the Community Development Department; it is carryover from 2008 to 2009 everyone has a copy of the list. Alderman Brumett moved for approval, seconded by Alderman Roberts and the motion carried 6-0, (*which was due to Alderman Roberts stepping away for a moment.*)

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

Alderman Brumett stated before we move on, we have an Amendment 65 Tax Exempt Financial Proposal from Crews & Associates

and it's been mentioned that we're going to call a special meeting, next Monday at 5:00 p.m. to evaluate the total proposal. I ask that all the council be present. There will be people here from Crews & Associate to make a presentation. Mayor Redus also asked that everyone look over the documents that were provided in reference to this proposal.

Alderwoman Roberts, Chairperson of Community Development Committee reported: No update report in reference to the Downtown Entertainment District, there was a budget adjustment but it has already been handled.

Alderman Boyd, Chairman of Public Health & Welfare Committee was absent. Alderwoman Walker reported in his absence, no report.

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

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

Alderman Brown, Chairman of the Traffic and Aviation Committee reported: the committee met September 3, 2009 along with Mr. McCray and Mr. Hale. And we have a resolution which was passed on to the full council in reference to funds for the Airport.

Alderman Easterly, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported: the committee met this afternoon and we looked at a resolution and an ordinance. We also looked at the calculation for promotions and we voted unanimously to move that on to the council and that will be at a later date, probably at the next couple of meetings. Next we discussed resolution number six and recommended a do pass.

Alderwoman Holcomb recommended reviews of sick leave employees receive once they retire. Mayor Redus stated we will look into this issue and hopefully have something for the committee within the next 30 days.

Alderwoman Holcomb, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee reported: the committee met today at 4:00 p.m. with all committee members present. The first item was relating to the appointment of Mr. George Mitchell to the Pine Bluff Civil Service Commission and the committee voted unanimously to strongly recommend a do pass to the council for the appointment. The Police Department made its monthly report and overall crime is down in the city and the report contains statistics to document that. Chief Howell reported on the fishing derby and it was suggested that the derby be held twice a year; one time in the spring and one in the fall. The Fire Department made their monthly report and

arsons are down. There was no representation from District Court Division I and Division II but we will request that they attend future meetings. Animal Control has Ordinance No. 1 on tonight's agenda to be read for the second time and the committee recommends a do pass on that. Public comments were received from Mr. Isaac Warrior who represents a task force for the 20-20 Initiative. He expressed concern about statistics and the way that they are reported and the committee referred him to the Fire Department and the Police Department to discuss his concerns.

- (1) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5-55 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, RESPECTING ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL CONTROL REGULATIONS (up for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading) was read by the Assistant City Attorney and placed on the calendar.
- (2) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 29 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, CONCERNING AUTOMOBILE SALVAGE YARDS, DECLARING SUCH YARDS 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 2<sup>nd</sup> reading) was read by the Assistant City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(3) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1-8 (C) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS, TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM FINES FOR VIOLATION OF A MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE (up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading) was read by the Assistant City Attorney, placed on the calendar and referred to the Public Safety Committee for further review.

(4) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES MANUAL OF THE PINE BLUFF FIRE DEPARTMENT (up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading) was read by the Assistant City Attorney and placed on the calendar.

(5) AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF FARE BOXES FOR PINE BLUFF TRANSIT (up for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading) was read by the Assistant City Attorney. Alderwoman Holcomb moved to suspend the rule and place the ordinance on second reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman

Holcomb moved to further suspend the rule and place the ordinance on the third and final reading, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption of the emergency clause, seconded by Alderman Easterly and after a roll call the vote was 7-0.

- (6) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE PAPERWORK TO CORRECT UNPAID LIENS WITH TAX COLLECTOR was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.
- (7) A RESOLUTION REQUESTING PLEDGE OF ADDITIONAL MONIES FOR AIRPORT TERMINAL REHABILITATION IN 2010 BUDGET was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 7-0.
- (8) 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 adoption, seconded by Alderwoman Holcomb and during discussion Alderman Stepps moved for an amendment and stated there is paperwork showing one property that needs to be removed for the list, seconded by Alderman Brumett and the motion carried 7-0. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for the original as amended, seconded by Alderman Easterly and the motion carried 7-0.

- (9) A RESOLUTION APPOINTING GEORGE MITCHELL TO THE PINE BLUFF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION was heard. Alderwoman Holcomb moved for adoption, seconded by Alderman Stepps and the motion carried 7-0.

### **Announcements**

The following announcements were made:

The Character Trait for September is "Responsibility".

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Show us your blues and your support by participating in the 2009, APCF Jean Day. For additional information contact Jeana Vaughan at 501-748-1249.

The Junior League of Pine Bluff proudly presents the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off. Held at Saracen Landing on Saturday, September 26, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and the admission fee is \$10.00.

On September 12, 2009 the Appaloosa Horse Show activities will take place in the arena of Hestand Stadium, for more information call 870-535-2900.

On September 12, 2009 UAPB Golden Lions will take on Langston University starting at 4:00 p.m. in the Golden Lions Stadium.

On September 12, 2009 Jefferson County and the “Great Arkansas Clean-up”, will join efforts to make our community cleaner. For additional information call Gloria Sumner at 543-4901.

Alderman Roberts offered condolences to the Tyler Family in the passing of *Mrs. Bernice Tyler*, who is the mother of employee Teresa Tyler.

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

Meeting adjourned

No further business

All other comments