

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE CITY OF TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS
NOVEMBER 20, 2017**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

The Board of Directors of the City of Texarkana, Arkansas, convened in regular session at 6:00 PM on Monday, November 20, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Ruth Penney Bell asked the Clerk to call the roll and the following Board Members were present: Mayor Bell, Assistant Mayor Barbara S. Miner, and Directors Tim Johnson, Laney J. Harris, Travis Odom, Terri Peavy and Linda Teeters. Also present were City Manager Kenny Haskin, City Attorney George M. Matteson and City Clerk Heather Soyars.

Mayor Bell asked it be duly noted there was a quorum present for tonight's meeting.

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mayor Ruth Penney Bell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Bell led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR:

Welcome:

Mayor Bell welcomed everyone to tonight's meeting.

Board Meeting Procedure:

Mayor Bell briefly reviewed the board meeting procedures and pointed out the Agenda Item Cards, Citizens' Communication Cards, and agendas along the rail for tonight's Board meeting. The Mayor asked any audience member interested in speaking at tonight's Board meeting to complete one of the cards and turn the card in to the City Clerk. She said this would help run an organized meeting and allowed the Clerk to have

the necessary information for the meeting minutes. She stated any citizen may comment on any item on the agenda and express their desires, but would be limited to five minutes.

City Manager Dr. Kenny Haskin:

Mayor Bell announced City Manager Kenny Haskin had received the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) accreditation as a Credentialed Manager. The ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program recognized professional local government managers qualified by a combination of education and experience, adherence to high standards of integrity, and an assessed commitment to lifelong learning and professional development. Managers were recognized by ICMA through a peer review credentialing process, and this self-directed program offered an opportunity for interested ICMA members to quantify the unique expertise they brought to their communities.

Rescheduled Board of Directors' Meeting:

Mayor Bell announced the next Board of Directors' meeting would be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at the regular time and place, due to the Christmas Parade being held on Monday, December 4, 2017.

PRESENTATION(S):

Texarkana Central Website:

City Planner Mary Beck gave a brief presentation of the Texarkana Central Website. The website was very informational with downtown activities, things to do, parks, recreation, and touring maps.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Director Odom moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Johnson and carried unanimously. The items approved by consent were:

MINUTES:

The minutes approved were of the regular meeting November 6, 2017.

REGULAR AGENDA:

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-53:

The resolution was read in its entirety. Said resolution granted a variance to Main Street Texarkana to hold its 33rd Annual Christmas Parade using the Broad Street Parade Route.

Public Works Director Jeff Whitten said Resolution No. 2016-11 directed the City Manager to establish a designated festive parade route to generally be followed for downtown parades. This was the Front Street parade route. Main Street Texarkana requested permission to have its 33rd Annual Christmas Parade straight down Broad Street and not include Front Street. This year holiday lighting and decoration would be along Broad Street. Main Street agreed to barricade portions of Broad Street to be free from parked cars, creating additional space for floats and spectators.

Main Street representative Ina McDowell said she was excited to work with the City to make the Christmas Parade as safe as possible.

Mayor Bell asked if any Board or audience member had any questions or comments concerning this item. No one came forward.

Director Johnson, seconded by Director Odom, moved to adopt the resolution. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. The Mayor declared the resolution passed, as there were seven ayes and no nays.

PUBLIC HEARING – DELINQUENT TAXES:

Mayor Bell opened the public hearing regarding delinquent taxes for two razed structures located at 616 Ash Street and 1507 Delaware Street.

Director Harris asked if these properties were demolished with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

Chief Building Official Nina Walker said no Public Works funds were used to demolish these structures.

Mayor Bell asked if any Board or audience member had any questions or comments concerning this item. No one came forward and she closed the public hearing.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-54:

The resolution was read in its entirety. Said resolution would certify the amount to be put on the tax books as delinquent and collected accordingly for razed substandard structures located at 616 Ash Street and 1507 Delaware Street.

Mayor Bell asked if any Board or audience member had any questions or comments concerning this item. No one came forward.

Assistant Mayor Miner, seconded by Director Odom, moved to adopt the resolution. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. The Mayor declared the resolution passed, as there were seven ayes and no nays.

**ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 8-17 FOR
THE SALE OR TRANSFER OF THE GRANTEE'S
OWNERSHIP INTEREST IN RESIDENTIAL UNITS –
SECOND READING:**

Mayor Bell asked if any Board or audience member had any questions or comments concerning this item. No one came forward.

Director Johnson moved the ordinance be read in abbreviated form and the ordinance be placed on its second reading. The motion was seconded by Director Odom. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. Director Peavy abstained. The Mayor declared the motion carried, as there were six ayes and one abstention.

The ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

Mayor Bell said the third and final reading of this ordinance would be at the first meeting in December.

**ORDINANCE APPROVING RESIDENTIAL SOLID WASTE
COLLECTION RATES:**

Public Works Director Jeff Whitten said Richardson Waste II, Inc., submitted a letter to the City Manager on October 18, 2017, requesting a rate increase for the collection of residential solid waste in the amount of \$1.00 per home per month, beginning January 2018. The Solid Waste Committee met on November 9, 2017, to

consider the rate increase and all the haulers attended (Richardson Waste II, Inc., Edmondson Trash Service and Waste Management). The Solid Waste Committee recommended a rate increase of \$2.00 be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval for calendar year 2018. The rate increase included \$1.00 to be allocated to Richardson Waste II, Inc., and Edmondson Trash Service and \$1.00 to be allocated to the Texarkana Water Utilities Fund.

Director Harris asked if the haulers got a \$1.00 a piece or split the \$1.00.

Mr. Whitten said the haulers got a \$1.00 a piece.

Director Harris asked how much Waste Management requested before they left.

Mr. Whitten said he thought it was \$1.20.

Director Teeters said it was a \$1.19.

Director Harris said the City would be going up \$3.00 for trash service.

Mr. Whitten said no, the City would increase just \$2.00.

Director Teeters said it depended on who the individual hauler was to determine who would get the \$1.00.

Assistant Mayor Miner said we had a workshop on this information.

Director Harris asked who were the members on the trash committee.

Mr. Whitten said the Solid Waste Committee included Director Teeters, Assistant Mayor Miner, and Mayor Bell.

Mayor Bell asked if any Board or audience member had any questions or comments concerning this item. No one came forward.

Director Johnson moved the ordinance be placed on its first reading. The motion was seconded by Director Peavy. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. The Mayor declared the resolution passed, as there were seven ayes and no nays.

The ordinance was read the first time in its entirety.

Mayor Bell said the ordinance would be read the second time at the first meeting in December.

ORDINANCE NO. 32-2017:

An ordinance was introduced to be entitled, "An Ordinance Approving the Transfer of Arkansas Alcoholic Beverage Control Permit No. 01026 from 4423 East

Broad Street to 310 East 49th Street; for Declaring an Emergency and for Other Purposes.” Said ordinance initiates the permitting process for private clubs.

Mayor Bell asked if any Board or audience member had any questions or comments concerning this item. No one came forward.

The ordinance was read the first time in its entirety.

Director Odom moved the ordinance be read in abbreviated form and the ordinance be placed on its second reading. The motion was seconded by Director Johnson. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried, as there were seven ayes and no nays.

The ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

Director Johnson moved the ordinance be read in abbreviated form and the ordinance be placed on its third and final reading. The motion was seconded by Director Odom. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. The Mayor declared the motion carried, as there were seven ayes and no nays.

The ordinance was read the third and final time in abbreviated form.

Director Johnson made the motion to adopt the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Director Odom. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. The Mayor declared the ordinance adopted, as there were seven ayes and no nays.

EMERGENCY CLAUSE:

An emergency clause was requested to continue the application process through the State.

Director Johnson, seconded by Director Odom, moved to approve the emergency clause. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Harris, Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. The Mayor declared the emergency clause adopted, as there were seven ayes and no nays.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

Mayor Bell asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak, on any subject up to a total of five minutes.

Director Harris said he had received several texts from the City Manager.

City Manager Dr. Haskin said this topic of discussion should be held in Executive Session and not in Open Session.


ADJOURNMENT:

Director Johnson, seconded by Assistant Mayor Miner, moved to adjourn the meeting. The Clerk called the roll and the following vote resulted: Directors Johnson, Miner, Odom, Peavy, Teeters, and Bell voted aye. Director Harris continued to read his Citizen Communication statement and did not respond. The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned, as there were 6 ayes and no nays.

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM.


Ruth Penney Bell, Mayor

ATTEST:



Heather Soyars, City Clerk