

Bentonville City Council

Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2020

The City Council of Bentonville, Arkansas, met in regular session Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Bentonville Community Center, 1101 Southwest Citizen's Circle, Bentonville, Arkansas.

Present were council members Cindy Acree, Octavio Sanchez, Chad Goss, Chris Sooter, Bill Burckart, Jonathan Terlouw, and Aubrey Patterson was absent. Also present were Mayor Stephanie Orman, City Attorney George Spence, the press, city staff and the audience. Council Member Tim Robinson attended remotely and participated by Zoom.

Due to the situation related to COVID-19, several members of the city staff and the public also attended remotely by Zoom. Mayor Orman reminded Council that all votes would be by roll call.

Mayor Orman announced that public comments on agenda items would be taken as we came to the item. No one signed in to speak at the meeting in person, and several were joining via zoom asking to speak to agenda items.

Mayor Orman called the meeting to order. The Mayor led everyone present in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in support of our armed forces.

Motion was made by Council Member Acree to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2020 meeting as presented, second by Council Member Burckart. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

Motion was made by Council Member Sooter to suspend the rules regarding the reading of all ordinances on three separate days and further that all ordinances and resolutions be read by title only,

second by Council Member Sanchez. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

Mayor Orman moved item three on the agenda to the beginning of the meeting so that Robert and Jeanie Monroe could be recognized to start off the meeting.

3. Recognition by City Council of Robert and Jeanie Monroe who reside at 600 Baylor Street. The property's landscaping was nominated by a Bentonville resident and is the September Residential Landscaping of the Month award winner.

Danielle Semsrott, AICP, Senior Planner, recognized the Monroe's and their award. Mayor Orman said their photograph will be placed in the next edition of the City of Bentonville's newsletter, the Bentonville Focus.

1. Informational Presentation of the NWARPC 10-year Transit Development plan (Connect NWA). The Consultants, Alliance Transportation Group, and Tim Conklin presented by zoom.

Mayor Orman introduced Tim Conklin. Tim Conklin then introduced Tim Simon with Alliance Transportation Group who gave the presentation regarding the NWARPC 10-year Transit Development plan (Connect NWA).

Connect NWA will be adopted in early 2021 by the NWARPC.

2. Planning:

- 2a. Ordinance No. 2020-175: Ordinance accepting a lot split of Lot 45 of Dickson Addition to the City of Bentonville, Arkansas (Project No. LS20-0038).

[Applicant: S&J HSH Property, LLC;

Location: 704 W Central Avenue]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

2b. Ordinance No. 2020-176: Ordinance accepting a property line adjustment of Lot 20 of Lincoln and Rice Addition to the City of Bentonville, Arkansas (Project No. PLA20-0044).

[Applicant: George & Elizabeth Johnson;

Location: 704 NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

2c. Ordinance No. 2020-177: Ordinance changing real estate in the City of Bentonville, Arkansas, from its present zoning classification of R-1, Single Family Residential to R-3 Medium Density Residential (Project No. RZ20-0029).

[Applicant: Thomas & Judith Terrell;

Location: NW 15<sup>th</sup> Street & Bella Vista Road]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Burckart. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

2d. Ordinance No. 2020-178: Ordinance changing real estate in the City of Bentonville, Arkansas, from its present zoning classification of A-1, Agricultural to R-1, Single Family Residential (Project No. RZ20-0035).

[Applicant: Kimberly Alexander;

Location: 2002 Timber Trail]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

2e. Ordinance No. 2020-179: Ordinance changing real estate in the City of Bentonville, Arkansas, from its present zoning classification of A-1, Agricultural to R-0, Residential Office (Project No. RZ20-0036).

[Applicant: Eric Casey;

Location: 1117 SE 33<sup>rd</sup> Street]

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

- 4a. Ordinance No. 2020-180: Ordinance creating a position in the pay plan for the City of Bentonville, Arkansas.

The "Applications Administrator" (Grade 33) position will be funded through 2023 from reallocation of current software project funds.

City Attorney Spence read the ordinance by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

Mayor Orman congratulated Jonathan Rogers on his retirement. Mayor Orman also thanked him for his 25 years of service to the City of Bentonville and for helping create the new position of "Applications Administrator."

- 4b. Approval of a budget adjustment from Capital Computer Software (101010-47510) to Full Time Salaries/Wages (101010-41010) to fund the new Applications Administrator position for 3 years. This will cost an estimated \$200,000.

Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Acree. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

5. Resolution No. 9-8-20 A: A resolution declaring certain property belonging to the City of Bentonville Police Department as surplus property.

The request was for (14) Glock .40 caliber handguns. These firearms have been in service for 10 years. New Generation 5 models with night sights can be sourced from Galls, LLC of Springdale (a federally licensed firearms dealer) for approximately \$409 each. Upon surplus, these (14) weapons can be traded in for an approximate \$225 credit each. This trade in and new replacement program will equip our officers with newer and more reliable

handguns at a minimal expense and is a responsible disposition of retired weapons.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

- 6a. Approval of a budget adjustment for the purpose of a utilizing a radio system consultant. Through the City's standard procurement procedures, a request for Qualifications (RFQ) was issued in August 2019 for a Communications Consultant for a Public Safety Radio System (RFQ-19-45). Seven firms submitted Statements of Qualifications, which were scored in accordance with state law criteria for professional services due to the engineering component related to radio systems and interviews were conducted with the top three highest rated firms. Based on the qualifications demonstrated in their Statement of Qualifications and during the interview process, the Selection Committee chose to enter into contract negotiations with Tusa Consulting Services II, LLC. Tusa Consulting has presented a two-phase process to assist the City of Bentonville in purchasing a new emergency services and city-wide radio system. The first phase is a needs assessment that includes survey and inspection of current radio systems. Phase II would cover RFP development and procurement, RFP draft/final submittal, and contract negotiation assistance for the winning radio company manufacture. The total price includes three additional options to assist with subscriber device RFP submittal if needed to complete the project.

Mayor Orman recognized Captain John Hubbard and Police Chief Jon Simpson as available for any questions regarding item six.

Council Member Burckart asked why there is a need for a consultant now before the new year's budget.

Captain John Hubbard explained that a consultant would be necessary to help get price comparisons from different radio company manufacturers and to identify the needs that should be covered in a new system. They need to get started of the process because the sooner they can get the appropriate effective equipment, the better.

Council Member Burckart asked if having a consultant will reduce future expenses.

Bentonville Police Chief, Jon Simpson, said that they can not say at this time whether or not the consultant fee will have a direct effect on future expenses, but that it will help them make the best decision with the budget they currently have.

Council Member Burckart thanked them for their time and showed his support for this item.

Motion to approve by Council Member Acree, second by Council Member Goss. There was no further discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

- 6b. Resolution No. 9-8-20 B: A resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Tusa Consulting Services II, LLC, for professional services.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

7. Resolution No. 9-8-20 C: A resolution setting a public hearing for September 22, 2020 for a public access easement vacation requested at 1714 SW 2nd Street (VAC20-0022).

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

- 8a. Resolution No. 9-8-20 D: A resolution authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to contract with MSR Design for a Needs Assessment for Bentonville Public Library.

The contract with MSR Design will be in an amount not to exceed \$79,400.00 for professional services to conduct a Needs Assessment for Bentonville Public Library. Additional professional services will be outsourced with other vendors with a cost up to \$33,500.00 for a total project cost of \$112,900.00.

City Attorney Spence read the resolution by title only. Motion to pass by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

8b. Approval of a budget adjustment to accept a grant in the amount of \$112,900.00 from the Walton Family Foundation to fund a Needs Assessment for the Bentonville Public Library.

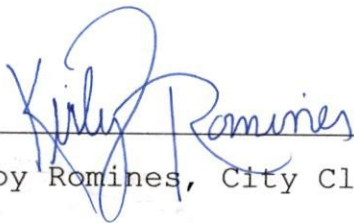
Motion to approve by Council Member Sanchez, second by Council Member Goss. There was no discussion. Motion carried (7-0).

Mayor Orman adjourned the meeting. Motion to adjure by Council Member Burckart, second by Council Member Acree.

Council members reported on committees and boards they participate in related to the City.

Ken Leonard asked for a resolution to remove the Bella Vista Dam which could cost around \$300,000. Leonard also invited council members and the Mayor to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> panel discussion on the matter and will notify council of the official date soon.

Mayor Orman announced that the D&I Task Force will be announced soon and that Council Member Burckart will be the City Council representative for it. Mayor Orman also shared that the Get to Know Bentonville series will start off with the Coffee with a Cop event.



Kirby Romines, City Clerk



Stephanie Orman, Mayor

