

November 12, 2019  
Six o'clock P.M.  
North Little Rock City Hall Council Chambers  
300 Main Street  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

*Note:* this meeting was preceded by a public meeting to review the proposed 2020 Budget for the City of North Little Rock.

The regular meeting of the North Little Rock City Council scheduled for Monday, November 11, 2019, was rescheduled and held on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, (due to Veterans Day) was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor JOE A. SMITH.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, BETH WHITE, LINDA ROBINSON, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, JANE GINN and CHARLIE HIGHT (7/0), a quorum was declared. Council Member MAURICE TAYLOR was absent. City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey, Deputy City Clerk/Revenue Officer Shannon Carroll, and City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance was led by U. S. Army Reserve Captain and North Little Rock Fit 2 Live Director Isaac Henry at the request of Council Member White.

On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting, and a Special Call meeting held on Monday, October 28, 2019, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (7/0).

On the blanket motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson, and by consent of all members present communications #1, 2, and 3, were accepted and filed (7/0).

1. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *Private Club & Retail Beer on Premises – Change of Manager* from Margarete Hinson, for 4 Quarter Bar, 415 Main Street, by William C. Robinson.
2. Betty Harp, Chair Thomas Cemetery Advisory Committee, letter to Mayor Smith re: Stewardship of Funds from October 2019 to December 2019 and future plans.
3. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *Restaurant Mixed Drink – Minimum – New* for Newfangled Love Kitchen, by Kyle R. Dismang.

Mayor Smith invited Central Arkansas Water Brand Manager Samantha Williams to come forward. Ms. Williams said water leaks effect utilities and customers around the country. Currently, satellite leak detection is what the industry uses to identify issues. Central Arkansas Water sought an alternative to this issue and has added Vessel, the Nation's first Leak Detection Dog. Vessel was a rescued canine and went through the Arkansas Paws for Prison Program. She has been trained to

detect surface and non-surface leaks. There are advantages to using canine detection over human detection. This information will be shared at a press conference to be held, Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the River Market Pavilions in Little Rock. Vessel and her handler Stephen Sullivan entered the council chambers and were introduced to the public. Mayor Smith commended CAW for their innovation and solutions.

Mayor Smith invited Ms. Scharmel Roussel to come forward. Arkansas Interfaith Power & Light is a small grassroots non-profit. The non-profit was recently awarded a one-year Environmental Justice Grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Starting this month, they will be working with military veterans and others in the city on energy efficiency projects and community gardens. Ms. Roussel introduced several local people who are partners and involved in the program. Gift bags will be distributed which include several household energy savings items to help residents lower utility consumption and bills. Raised vegetable garden beds will be installed at the State Veteran's Home and Amboy Methodist Church. Fig trees and other pollinators will also be planted.

No one signed in to speak under citizen comments on legislation.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by voice vote and all members present having voted "aye", consent items R-19-196, R-19-197, R-19-198, and R-19-199, were adopted (7/0).

R-19-196 (RESOLUTION NO. 9773 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING EDWARD COLEMAN TO THE POSITION PREVIOUSLY HELD BY EDDIE POWELL ON THE SENIOR CITIZIENS COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

R-19-197 (RESOLUTION NO. 9774 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MANOJ PATEL TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

R-19-198 (RESOLUTION NO. 9775 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN CITY-OWNED ITEMS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS; PROVIDING FOR AUCTION THEREOF; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

R-19-199 (RESOLUTION NO. 9776 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AN OFFER AND ACCEPTEANCE WITH ALO SIGNS, LLC AND TO SELL CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 219 PARKER STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0). (\$50,000.00)

**NEW BUSINESS**

R-19-200 (RESOLUTION NO. 9777 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE CONTRACT WITH RIVERWALK PROPERTIES, LLC AND TO SELL CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY AT 1206 WEST 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson. Mayor Smith said this is property the city purchased off of Rockwater. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (\$50,000.00)

R-19-201 (RESOLUTION NO. 9778 – COUNCIL MEMBERS BAXTER AND HARRIS)

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING WARD 3 FUNDS FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE NORTH HEIGHTS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (\$20,707.80)

R-19-202 (RESOLUTION NO. 9779 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CERTIFYING AMOUNTS OF LIENS TO BE FILED WITH THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS AS A RESULT OF GRASS CUTTING EXPENSES AND ABATEMENT OF OTHER NUISANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Ross. Mayor Smith convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0).

O-19-127 (ORDINANCE NO. 9187 – MAYOR SMITH)

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO ARKANSAS POWER STEERING & HYDRAULICS FOR THE REPAIR OF A CITY SANITATION TRUCK; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Baxter and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (7/0). On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Hight, and the roll having been called, and all members

present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0). (\$24,986.01)

O-19-128

AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW A DAYCARE CENTER IN A R-3 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2001 PARKER STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was held by Mayor Smith for the sponsor, Council Member Taylor. (*applicant: Anthony Pettigrew*)

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. James Humphrey presented a petition requesting the City Council provide sewer services on Holt Road. The sewer line is needed for residents to get rid of sewer waste in the best and safest way. Holt Road is a short road with three (3) residences. 6505 and 6509 Holt Road have city sewer services. 6601 Holt Road does not have city sewer services. This isn't fair for some residences to have services and not others. The Arkansas Health Department tested soil in the area. Extension of the sewer line will improve the health environment for residents in the area. This would be a Capital Improvement Project. Mr. Humphrey said this item has been before the city council for five (5) years. The request has been denied for lack of funding. He said funds could come from the 2017 Local Sales and Use Tax proceeds. He is a tax paying resident of the city and requested that his portion of the sales tax funds be used to fund this project. Mr. Humphrey presented the following cost estimates: 1. - \$40,000.00; 2. - \$75,000.00; 3. - \$108,241.10; and 4. - \$350,000.00 to \$600,000.00. Mr. Humphrey referenced a 2014 itemized estimate and added Public Safety is the council's first priority. However, environmental protection is also a concern and said safe sewer service is important. Mr. Humphrey then requested the city council fund the project 950' further down Holt Road. Council Member Ross asked if the itemized estimate was from North Little Rock Waste Water. Mr. Humphrey said it was from Council Member Taylor. Council Member Ross asked how many houses would be provided services. Mr. Humphrey said 6 - 8. Mr. Shelley York lives in the area. He supports the Holt Road project and said it would benefit the residents. Council Member Robinson asked about advertising signs placed around the city regarding *Purchase Diabetic Strips, We Buy Houses, Burial Insurance*, etc., specifically, do the businesses have to have a city business license in order to advertise or do business in the city. Ms. Whitbey said anyone doing business in the city is required to have a business license. Regarding the signs, Ms. Whitbey referred the question to the City Attorney. City Attorney Fields said she is working on a draft to the sign ordinance and may have it to the council by the end of the year. She referenced the First Amendment and court interpretation. Council Member Robinson said there have been issues in the past at (election) polling sites where signs have been left after the election. People should pick up their signs. Mayor Smith said council members are able to participate in the Employee Cafeteria Plan and referenced a form they were provided. The Northern Lights Festival will be held November 30, 2019, which will include Santa Claus, Christmas Tree Lighting and Fireworks. More information will be provided. There is a lot of parking within a five minute walk of

the venue. Council Member White asked if there would be a fee for parking. Mayor Smith said the city would not charge for city lots.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m. (7/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, November 25, 2019, at six o'clock p.m. in the City Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 300 Main Street, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR JOE A. SMITH

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DIANE WHITBEY, CITY CLERK