

CITY OF GASSVILLE, ARKANSAS
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 21, 2019

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gassville, Arkansas was held on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at the Gassville Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Jeff Braim, Presiding Officer.

The Mayor led those in attendance in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a word of prayer. Upon the calling of the roll, those in attendance were Council Member Tim McFarland, Council Member Naomi Lassen, Council Member Ralph Bird, Mayor Jeff Braim, and Recorder-Treasurer Jeff Lewis. Council Members absent were Kayla Holland, Anita Seaman, and Thom Embach. The Mayor stated he would use his position to constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business as is authorized by Arkansas law. Also in attendance were Police Chief Tim Mayfield and Water and Street Superintendent Tony Flippin.

The minutes from the April 16, 2019 regular meeting had been provided to each Council Member. Council Member Bird moved to approve those minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lassen. No corrections or additions were asked for. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The financial report for the month of April, 2019 was submitted to the City Council for its approval. Council Member McFarland moved to approve the report as submitted. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lassen. Prior to calling for the vote, the Mayor explained one change that needs to be made in the budget, referring specifically to page 5 of the financial report, General Fund expense line item 1411 – Capital Improvement Loan. The April profit and loss report showed an expenditure of \$85,958.04 from that line item related to the payment for new police vehicles. The Mayor asked that the City Council approve transferring \$84,315.48 of that amount shown into a different expense line item within the police department's sub-section of the General Fund budget to make clearer what the expense is for. Council member Lassen moved to transfer \$84,315.48 from General Fund expense line item 1411 – Capital Improvement Loan to a new expense line item within the police department budget as requested. This motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried. The Mayor then called for a vote on the original motion to approve the April financial report. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote

being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Police Chief Mayfield gave the police department report for the month of April, 2019. It was accepted into the record without objection. Chief Mayfield noted as well that the new police vehicles are currently being equipped and should be ready to pick up very soon.

In the absence of Fire Chief Glotzl, Garrett Tucker with the fire department gave the fire department report for the month of April, 2019. It was accepted into the record without objection. The Mayor stated that "cycle 1" of the rural services grant is open now. This is a matching grant. The grant would provide needed equipment for the fire department. The Mayor will present the City Council with a resolution at a later meeting to approve applying for the grant. Mr. Tucker also informed the City Council of a main power unit failure with the extrication equipment. The equipment is currently under repair, however it has experienced several failures of late and is in need of replacement.

The Mayor gave the building inspection report for the period of April 18, 2019 through May 13, 2019. It was accepted into the record without objection. It was also noted that the old Vancel house adjacent to Sunfest Market is being demolished.

With respect to the Joint Cotter-Gassville Sewer Commission, the Mayor reported the commission met last week. Everything at the wastewater treatment facility is functioning normally and without issues. The "phase II" project with the collection system is still under review by state agencies. The loan payment to ANRC from "phase 1" with the additional principal amount approved by the City Council last month has been made.

Under unfinished business on the agenda, the City Council first took up the third reading of **Proposed Ordinance 2019-02**. Council Member Lassen moved to place the proposed ordinance on its third reading by title only. This motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried. Recorder-Treasurer Lewis then read aloud the title of the proposed ordinance entitled:

“ORDINANCE 2019-02. AN ORDINANCE TO BAN SMOKING AT CITY PARKS AND ALL CITY OWNED BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS WITHIN THE CITY OF GASSVILLE, ARKANSAS, DEFINING SMOKING PRODUCTS, PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT FOR VIOLATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Council Member Bird then moved to adopt the ordinance as read. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lassen. The Mayor called for discussion. None being forthcoming, the Mayor then called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried and the ordinance to be adopted.

Proposed Ordinance 2019-03 was next up for consideration on its third reading. Council Member McFarland moved to place the proposed ordinance on its third reading by title only. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lassen. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried. Recorder-Treasurer Lewis then read aloud the title of the proposed ordinance entitled:

“ORDINANCE 2019-03. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 7 OF ORDINANCE 2001-05 AMENDING A TOTAL USER CHARGE FEE PER 1,000 GALLONS.”

Council Member McFarland then moved to adopt the ordinance as read. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lassen. The Mayor called for discussion. There being none forthcoming, the Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried and the ordinance to be adopted.

Newly enacted ordinance take effect thirty days after passage, absent an emergency clause.

Under new business, the City Council took up consideration of two separate automatic aid agreements, one between the Gassville Fire Department and the Cotter Fire Department, and the second one between the Gassville Fire Department and the Gassville-Cotter Rural Fire Protection District. These agreements had been drafted by representatives from each entity. They have been reviewed by Attorney Ron Kincade.

Council Member Bird moved to have the proposed automatic aid agreement between the Gassville Fire Department and the Cotter Fire Department read aloud. The motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried. Thereupon, Recorder-Treasurer Lewis read the proposed agreement aloud. Council Member Bird then moved to approve the agreement as read. This motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. There was no discussion forthcoming, whereupon the Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried and the agreement to be approved.

Council Member Bird then moved to have the proposed automatic aid agreement between the Gassville Fire Department and the Gassville-Cotter Rural Fire Protection District read aloud. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lassen. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried. He then read aloud the proposed agreement. Council Member Lassen then moved to approve the agreement as read. This motion was seconded by Council Member Bird. There was no discussion forthcoming, whereupon the Mayor called for the vote. Council Members McFarland, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion, as did Mayor Braim, the Mayor's vote being needed to pass the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried and the agreement to be approved.

The City Council was next made aware of a change in health insurance rates for city employees in the Municipal Health Benefit Program. The Mayor provided hand-outs to the City Council showing that there will be a classification change from Class 5 to Class 6 on the insurance premium scale that will go into effect on July 1, 2019. This will result in a \$40.00 per employee per month increase in health insurance premiums the city pays.

The Mayor then updated the City Council on various topics, to-wit:

1. The South School Street widening project is now 100% complete and has been accepted by the city. The project came in under budget. The city will be receiving some amount of refund at some point in the future.

2. With regards to the sewer system expansion project, the Mayor announced that final matters are now being worked on to get to the bid phase. \$46,000.00 has been earmarked for LMI (low to moderate income) hookups. A questionnaire must now be sent to homeowners in the expansion area to help identify those LMI households before that money can be used. Although easements have already been obtained for the new main sewer line, it is also necessary to obtain temporary construction easements for hook-ups at each individual property. It will likely be necessary under ADEQ regulations for a special sub-contractor to undertake work for the LMI hook-ups.
3. The new public works vehicle should be ready for pick-up at Ultimate Dodge during the week of June 4th.
4. The Mountain Home Pilots ball tournament schedule at the city park was provided to each Council Member.
5. The Arkansas Department of Health has approved plans for water tank painting and maintenance. The engineer prepared bid specifications. Bid opening will be June 28th at 2:00 PM following three bid notices being published in the newspaper.
6. The Mayor read a letter from Suddenlink announcing yet another rate increase.
7. The Arkansas Municipal League's summer convention will be June 12th to June 14th. The Mayor and Council Members Seaman and Lassen will be attending.
8. June 1st will be the annual Gassville In The Park celebration. Rick Peglar is the Grand Marshal this year.

There being no further business to come before the City Council at this time, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM upon motion of Council Member Bird, seconded by Council Member Lassen, with all Council Members and the Mayor voting in favor.

Submitted by: Jeffrey W. Garcia
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved by: Jeff Brum
Mayor