

CITY OF GASSVILLE, ARKANSAS
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 16, 2019

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gassville, Arkansas was held on Tuesday, July 16, 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 Kayla Holland, Council Member Tim McFarland, Council Member Anita Seaman, Council Member Naomi Lassen, Council Member Thom Embach, Mayor Jeff Braim, and Recorder-Treasurer Jeff Lewis Council Member Ralph Bird was absent. Also in attendance were Police Chief Tim Mayfield and Water and Street Superintendent Tony Flippin.

The Mayor stated that Council Member Bird's mother had recently passed away, and that is why he was not able to attend.

The minutes from the May 21, 2019 regular meeting had been provided to each Council Member. Council Member McFarland moved to approve those minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Seaman. No corrections or additions were asked for. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried and the minutes to stand approved

The City Council did not meet during the month of June, and thus there were no June minutes to consider or approve.

The financial report for the month of May, 2019 was submitted to the City Council for its approval. Council Member Seaman moved to approve the report as submitted. This motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion to be carried

The financial report for the month of June, 2019 was then submitted to the City Council for its approval. Council Member Seaman moved to approve the report as submitted. This motion was seconded by Council Member Embach. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion to be carried.

Police Chief Mayfield gave the police department reports for the months of May and June, 2019. They were accepted into the record without objection. He announced that the two new police vehicle have been received. They are having the police decals and markings applied tomorrow.

In the absence of the Fire Chief, the Mayor gave the fire department reports for the months of May and June, 2019. They were accepted into the record without objection. Fire Chief Glotzl is away at training. The Mayor reported additionally that Chief Glotzl had completed the initial round of fire inspections in the city. Follow-ups have been completed at approximately 60% of the locations. Chief Glotzl will soon be undertaking medical certification training through Baxter Regional Medical Center.

The Mayor then gave the building inspection reports for the periods of May 14ⁿ through June 9th and June 10^{*th} through July 8th. They were accepted into the record without objection.

Council Member Embach gave a report from the Joint Cotter-Gassville Sewer Commission, There has been a delay in the progress on the "Phase II" project with the collection system because the Cherokee Nation has requested an archaeological inspection of the site This will delay the USDA funding application for up to 90 additional days. Otherwise, the wastewater treatment facility is operating properly with no problems caused by all the recent rain.

Mayor Braim gave a report from the Water/Wastewater Committee and also submitted minutes taken from that meeting. The committee held a bid opening for Phase I of the painting, maintenance, and repair of the water tank. Three bids were received and were opened. The committee recommended that the City Council approve the lowest bid received, which action was taken up later in this meeting. Council Member Seaman moved to approve the committee meeting minutes as submitted. This motion was seconded by Council Member Holland. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried

The Personnel Committee also met and minutes from that meeting were submitted to the City Council. The committee discussed drug testing and a medical marijuana use policy for city employees and volunteers, as well as discussing changes that will need to be made to the wage chart. Council Member Lassen moved to approve the committee meeting minutes as submitted. This motion was seconded by Council Member Seaman. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Moving on to the formal agenda, there were no items of unfinished business to tend to.

Under new business, Engineer Danny Ellington was present to discuss the bids that had been received for the painting and maintenance of the water tank. The bids received that were opened during the Water/Wastewater Committee meeting were:

1. Maguire Iron, Inc. of Sioux Falls. SD.
\$115,800
2. Leher Painting Enterprises, Inc. of Mayflower, AR.
\$156,777
3. Utility Services, Inc. of Perry, GA.
\$85,300

The committee had recommended that the lowest bid from Utility Services, Inc. be approved, and Mr. Ellington concurred with that recommendation. It was noted that the City of Cotter had used Utility Services, Inc on it's water tank approximately four years ago and was pleased with the service. The Mayor noted that there is currently \$87,902.30 in the Water Tank Maintenance Certificate of Deposit and \$50,000.00 has also been budgeted this year in the Water Operation and Maintenance Account for water tank painting and maintenance. Council Member Lassen moved to accept the low bid from Utility Services, Inc. for \$85,300. This motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. After a period of discussion, the Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried Mr. Ellington and the Mayor will contact Utility Services, Inc. to set up a meeting to finalize plans. It is hoped that the project can be completed in less than 90 days. During the work on the water tank, the City of Gassville will be purchasing water from the City of Mountain Home at a rate of \$500 per day. The city will use the previously budgeted \$50,000 first to pay toward the project, after which the City Council will consider taking the remainder of the needed funds from the certificate of deposit.

The next item on the agenda was consideration of **Proposed Resolution 2019-06** This resolution would authorize the Mayor to apply for grant funds in the amount of \$4,765.97 from the Arkansas Rural Community Grant Program for the fire department to use to purchase an industrial-style washer to clean turn-out gear that the firefighters use. This is a 50%-50% matching grant. If the grant is awarded, the City of Gassville would be responsible for a \$4,765.97 match.

It has already been determined that Act 833 fire department revenues can be used for the match. Council Member McFarland moved to have the proposed resolution read. This motion was seconded by Council Member Seaman. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried. Recorder-Treasurer Lewis thereupon read aloud the proposed resolution entitled:

“RESOLUTION 2019-06. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GASSVILLE TO APPLY FOR A GRANT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE ARKANSAS RURAL COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM.”

Council Member McFarland then moved to approve the resolution as read. This motion was seconded by Council Member Seaman. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried and the resolution to be adopted.

Proposed Resolution 2019-07 was then taken up for consideration. This resolution would amend the City of Gassville’s personal policy handbook by adding sections concerning pre-employment, random, and reasonable suspicion drug testing as well as to establish a policy concerning the use of medical marijuana by city employees and volunteers. The use of medical marijuana would be prohibited by all employees and volunteers in “safety sensitive” positions as specified in the proposed resolution. Council Member Seaman moved to have the proposed resolution read. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lassen. The Mayor called for the vote Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried. Recorder-Treasurer Lewis thereupon read aloud the proposed resolution entitled:

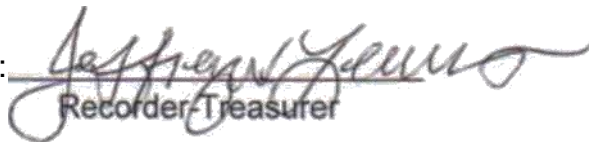
“RESOLUTION 2019-07. A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CITY OF GASSVILLE PERSONNEL HANDBOOK & SAFETY MANUAL SPECIFICALLY ADDING SECTIONS TO HIRING PRACTICES REGARDING ACT 593 OF 2017, NAMING CITY PUBLIC SAFETY POSITIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

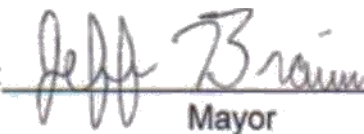
Council Member Embach then moved to adopt the resolution as read. This motion was seconded by Council Member Holland. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Embach voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion to be carried and the resolution to be adopted.

The Mayor next updated the City Council on several issues, to-wit:

1. The Mayor and Council Members Seaman and Lassen attended the Arkansas Municipal League's Summer Convention last month.
2. Under a new state law, all meetings, including committee meetings, must start being audio recorded, and the recordings must be kept on file and available for a specific period of time.
3. The recent ball tournaments at the city park have been well attended.
4. The new police vehicles and a new public works pickup truck were made available for inspection by members of the City Council.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM upon motion by Council Member Embach, seconded by Council Member Holland, with all members voting in favor.

Submitted by: 
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved by: 
Mayor