

**CITY OF GASSVILLE, ARKANSAS
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2019**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gassville, Arkansas was held on Tuesday, August 20, 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 Ralph Bird, Mayor Jeff Braim, and Recorder-Treasurer Jeff Lewis. Council Member Thom Embach was absent. Also in attendance were Police Chief Tim Mayfield, Fire Chief Michael Glotzl, and Water and Street Superintendent Tony Flippin.

The minutes from the July 16, 2019 regular meeting had been provided to each Council Member. Council Member Seaman moved to approve those minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. No corrections or additions were asked for. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried and the minutes to stand approved.

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

Police Chief Mayfield gave the police department report for the month of July, 2019. It was accepted into the record without objection.

Fire Chief Glotzl gave the fire department report for the month of July, 2019. It was accepted into the record without objection. He reported 49 commercial inspections have been completed and found to be in compliance. 11 more follow-up inspections are pending. The fire department battled a residential structure fire last evening at Gassville Gardens. None of the firefighters were injured, however one resident was injured. Several housing units at the complex are now uninhabitable. Fire departments responding to the fire were Gassville, Cotter, Cotter-Gassville Rural, and Mountain Home. The Flippin Fire Department responded to the Gassville Fire Station to provide standby coverage in the city per mutual aid agreement.

Chief Glotzl also requested City Council approval to sell and dispose of fire department brush truck unit F04. This is a 1991 model vehicle with 115,000 hard miles on it. The vehicle is in a state of disrepair and is not reliable. It is no longer used to respond to motor vehicle accidents, and the department has a newer brush truck to respond to brush fires, which account for only 5% of yearly calls. Unit F04 has averaged only about 6 runs per year. Chief Glotzl wishes to sell this vehicle and use the proceeds to purchase additional and more modern emergency rescue equipment needed for medical emergencies and traffic accidents with entrapment. New rescue equipment would cost an estimated \$50,000, but could be purchased in increments. The sale of unit F04 is estimated to bring in between \$8,000 to \$12,000. After discussion, Council Member Holland moved to authorize the sale of fire department unit F04 as discussed, with the proceeds from the sale being dedicated for the purchase of needed rescue equipment. This motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The Mayor gave the building inspection report for the period of July 9th through August 12th. It was accepted into the record without objection. He stated that Building Inspector Gadway will be busy inspecting and monitoring repairs and reconstruction at the Gassville Gardens fire scene in the coming weeks.

The Mayor then gave a report from the Joint Cotter-Gassville Sewer Commission. He reported that operations at the wastewater treatment facility are normal with no issues. With respect to the repair and renovation project with the collection system that has been referred to as "phase II", the Mayor reported that the application to USDA for loan and grant funds had been finalized. However, instead of the anticipated 75% grant funds and 25% loan funds that had been discussed and anticipated all long, the offer that was ultimately made for the project cost of \$1.452 million dollars included only 31% USDA grant funds, with the two cities then being responsible for a \$958,000 loan, or 69% of the project costs. Mayor Braim and the Mayor of Cotter have rejected that offer as being cost prohibitive to the cities. The engineer has been asked to re-work the project into several smaller phases that the cities might be able to afford to undertake one at a time.

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

Under new business, the City Council was asked to consider appropriation of additional funds for the painting of the inside of the city's water tower that is currently underway. At the last meeting, the City Council awarded the bid for this project to Utility Services Co., Inc. for \$85,300. Inspection services through Mid-South Tank Inspections Company will cost \$4,580, bringing the cost up to \$89,880. In addition to those expenses, there will be costs incurred for purchasing water from the Mountain Home Water System and additional engineering services from Ellington Engineering. \$50,000 has already been appropriated in the 2019 water department operation and maintenance budget for tank repainting. The Mayor asked for an additional appropriation of \$40,000 from the water department operation and maintenance account to pay for the painting contract and inspections. The Mayor also asked for an appropriation from the water tank maintenance certificate of deposit #111472 to pay for the water purchase from Mountain Home and for the engineering services. Those amounts are unknown at present. The Mayor noted that preparation work has already commenced, and that painting may begin by the end of this week. Two inspections have already been performed.

Council Member Lassen moved to appropriate an additional \$40,000 from the water department operation and maintenance fund into budget expense line item 3563 water tower painting, and also to approve an appropriation and withdrawal from the water tank maintenance certificate of deposit #111472 for the purchase of water and engineering services, with the amount to be determined later by the Mayor when the city is invoiced for those costs. This motion was seconded by Council Member Bird. The Mayor called for discussion, then for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The next item under new business was consideration of the removal of a piece of equipment from inventory. The item in question is a Canon copier that was purchased in 2009 for \$5,091. It is currently in need of repairs that would cost between \$1,300 to \$1,500. It carries inventory control number 1101. This copier had been in use at the fire department. The repair costs are prohibitive. Council Member Seaman moved to authorize the removal of this item from inventory and for it to be disposed of. This motion was seconded by Council Member Bird. The Mayor called for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The third item under new business was a request to approve an additional principal payment on the ANRC loan that the Joint Sewer Commission obtained for the initial repairs to the collection system that was identified as "phase I". The Joint Sewer Commission recommended that an additional \$7,987 be paid toward the principal amount of the note, being taken out of the CGJSC/Ductile Iron Depreciation Account #03324662, which as of July 31st had a balance of \$18,484.30. Council Member Bird moved to approve this additional payment as requested. The motion was seconded by Council Member McFarland. The Mayor called for discussion, then for the vote. Council Members Holland, McFarland, Seaman, Lassen, and Bird voted for the motion. There were no nays, and the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor Braim then updated the City Council on various issues, to-wit:

1. The legislative audit on city accounts for 2018 has been completed. There were three minor supplemental findings noted in the audit report. The Mayor and Recorder-Treasurer have written responses to the Arkansas Division of Legislative Audit to address these supplemental findings, each of which was explained to the City Council.
2. Mayor Braim, Council Member Seaman, and Police Chief Mayfield were appointed to advisory committees of the Arkansas Municipal League.
3. The Mayor wants to seek cost estimates or proposals to address heating and air issues. He is looking at perhaps asking for an appropriation from the Capital Improvement Savings Account #3323953 for that purpose.
4. Another meeting of the personnel committee is needed to continue discussion concerning minimum wage increases and wage adjustments.
5. The Mayor read a letter from Suddenlink concerning its franchise coverage territory.
6. Council Member McFarland asked about the status on possible implementation of franchise fees on utility services that has been discussed previously. The Mayor stated he is waiting on some information from Entergy, and then the city can move forward on that issue if the City Council so desires.
7. Fire Chief Glotzl stated that the mutual aid agreement with the City of Flippin Fire Department needs to be reviewed and updated.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting ;
adjourned at 7:05 PM upon motion of Council Member Bird, seconded by Council
Member Holland, with all members voting in favor.

Submitted by: Jeffrey W. Lewis
Recorder-Treasurer

Approved by: Jeff Brown
Mayor