CITY OF MULBERRY, ARKANSAS

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – September 17, 2024

The regularly scheduled monthly session of the Mulberry City Council convened on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at precisely 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the City Council Center, located at 606 Church Avenue, Mulberry.

Gary D. Baxter, Mayor

Carla Dickerson, Recorder-Treasurer

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bobby Tweedy, Ward 2 Position 1

Stacy Muntz, Ward 1 Position 2

Sheila Trent, Ward 1 Position 1

Wilma Peevy, Ward 3 Position 1

Jimmy Moore, Ward 3 Position 2

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kimberly Bruce, Ward 2 Position 2

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Hurley, Assistant to the Mayor

Shannon Gregory, Police Chief

Darren Fields, Water Superintendent

Jason Sumpter, Assistant Fire Chief

Sadat Rice

Steven Tankersley

Marie Crandell

Barbara Smith

Tammy Watts, Director Ralph D. Graff Library of Mulberry

Jason Sumpter, Assistant Fire Chief

Ronnie Adams

Eli Clardy

Linda Garvin

Justin Tally

Jeff Marvin

Cathy Adams

Channon N. Phipps

Kay Baxter

Ben Shankle

Sherry Jones

Seth Fisher

Call to Order

Mayor Baxter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., leading the gathering in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Steve Hurley, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, called the roll:

- Present: Jimmy Moore, Stacy Muntz, Wilma Peavy, Sheila Trent, Bobby Tweedy
- Absent: Kimberly Bruce
- A quorum was declared.

Approval of Consent Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes

The council reviewed the August regular minutes and financial statements.

- Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Jimmy Moore and seconded by Stacy Muntz.
- The motion was unanimously approved.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Police Department Report – Police Chief Shannon Gregory:

- Chief Gregory reported 111 calls, sixty-five traffic stops, fourteen citations, five arrests (4 misdemeanors and one felony), and 455 business checks for August. He also discussed upcoming events, such as the "Shop with a Cop" fundraiser.

Fire Department Report – Assistant Fire Chief Jason Sumpter:

- Assistant Chief Jason Sumpter reported twenty-one calls, including one structure fire, one grass fire, sixteen medical calls, one vehicle accident, and one service call.

Public Works Department Report – Public Works Director Alex Walker:

- Mayor Baxter reported on behalf of Public Works Director Alex, who was attending a conference. The department completed eleven service calls, two sewer calls, eight hydrant flushing's, and 86 hours of mowing in August.

Ralph D. Graff Library of Mulberry Report – Director Tammy Watts:

- Tammy Watts reported 2,005 visits to the Ralph D. Graff Library in August, with twenty-two programs attended by 162 participants. The library adjusted its hours due to local school schedule changes.

OLD BUSINESS

- **No Old Business**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Road Maintenance Presentation

- Ben Shankle from PaveCon presented a road maintenance plan, highlighting needed repairs on 4th Street and 8th Street. The estimated cost of repairs was discussed.

- **Motion:** Bobby Tweedy motioned to approve the $32,758 for concrete work on Alma Avenue, and $42,510 for concrete work on Carter and Reynolds, Hamtown, and 4th Street as part of the road maintenance plan. The funds for these repairs will be allocated from the sales tax fund designated for capital improvements and street projects.
- **Second:** Jimmy Moore seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

2. Ordinance 2024-08

- An ordinance setting permanent inspection fees was introduced. Steve Tankersley, the city's inspector, explained the need for updated fees to align with regional standards.
- **Motion:** Jimmy Moore motioned to approve Ordinance 2024-08.
- **Second:** Wilma Peavy seconded the motion.
- **Vote:** Unanimously approved.

3. Discussion on 454 North Main

- The Mayor read a statement provided by the City Attorney concerning the property at 454 North Main.

Mayor's Report

- Updates on ongoing road repairs and infrastructure projects in the city.
- Progress on grant applications for future street improvements.
- Upcoming city events, including community fundraisers and holiday activities.
- Acknowledgment of the successful installation of new equipment in city parks and improvements in city services.

Public Comments:
No public comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss Stacy Muntz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jimmy Moore seconded the motion. All present members voted yes.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. The next scheduled City Council meeting will be on October 15, 2024.

Minutes written by: Steve Hurley

APPROVED: Gary D. Baxter
Gary D. Baxter, Mayor

ATTEST: Carla Dickerson
Carla Dickerson, Recorder-Treasurer