



## CITY OF WARD

P.O. BOX 237 • WARD, ARKANSAS 72176 • 501-843-7686

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### Council Meeting Minutes – 3/15/21 Council Chambers

- I. **Call to Order:** was called to order by Mayor Gastineau @ 6:30pm
  - a. Prayer
  - b. Pledge of Allegiance
  
- II. **Roll Call (COVID-19 Protocols):** by City Clerk Ruble. Council Members Rummel – Here, Wier –absent, Harbort – here, Hefner – here, McMinn – here, and Shetron – here. We have a quorum
  
- I. **Confirmation of Public Access via Facebook Live:** City Clerk Ruble announced to any one following the meeting on Facebook Live that they can text any comments or questions to 501-259-1273.
  
- II. **Review/approval of January 1, 2021 Council Minutes and January 18, 2021 Council Minutes:** Mr. McMinn made a motion to approve the January 1st, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes, second by Mrs. Hefner. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote  
Mrs. Hefner made a motion to approve the January 18th, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes, second by Mr. Rummel. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote
  
- III. **Department Reports for January 2021 & February 2021:** Mr. Staley the Department Head for the Street Department presented his report to the council. Mrs. Hefner made a motion to approve the department reports as presented, second by Mr. Harbort. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote.
  
- IV. **Planning Commission Report:** Presented by the Mayor. Mr. McMinn made a motion to accept the report as presented, second by Mr. Harbort. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote.
  
- V. **Bond Refinancing Discussion – Bob Wright, Crews and Associates:** Mrs. Hefner made a motion to allow Crew and Associates to start the process of refinancing, second by Mr. Harbort. Discussion. Harbort-yea, Hefner-yea, McMinn-yea, Shetron-yea, Rummel-yea.
  
- VI. **Goat Committee Report:** Mr. Harbort presented that 2/3 of the committee decided not to override the veto and the keep the ordinance as is.

VII. **Unfinished Business:**

VIII. **New Business:**

- a. **ORDINANCE 2021-03:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE W-1-93, CREATING A CITY PLANNING COMMISSION; SETTING TERMS OF MEMBERS; ELECTION OF OFFICERS; RULES; EMPLOYMENT OF ASSISTANCE; EXPENDITURES; POWERS AND DUTIES; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES: Mr. Harbort made a motion to put O-2021-03 on its first reading, second by Mrs. Hefner. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 roll call vote. Hefner-yea, McMinn-yea, Shetron-yea, Rummel-yea, and Harbort-yea. Mr. McMinn made a motion to suspend the rules and put O-2021-03 on its 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading, second by Mr. Rummel. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 roll call vote. McMinn-yea, Shetron-yea, Rummel-yea, Harbort-yea and Hefner-yea. Mrs. Hefner made a motion to adopt O-2021-03, second b Mr. McMinn. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 roll call vote. Shetron-yea, Rummel-yea, Harbort-yea, Hefner-yea and McMinn-yea. Mr. McMinn made a motion to impose an emergency clause, second by Mr. Harbort. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 roll call vote. Rummel-yea, Harbort-yea, Hefner-yea McMinn-yea and Shetron-yea.
- b. **RESOLUTION 2021-07:** A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF REAL PROPERTY FROM R&S HOME BUILDERS, LLC IN HUNTINGTON PLACE SUBDIVISION; TO BE USED AS NEEDED BY THE CITY OF WARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES: Mr. McMinn made a motion to approve R-2021-07, second by Mr. Hefner. Discussion was made by C Ruble resident of Huntington place. Motion passes with 4-1 roll call vote. Harbort-nay, Hefner-yea McMinn-yea, Shetron-yea and Rummel-yea.
- c. **RESOLUTION 2021-08:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY CLERK TO CLOSE OUT VARIOUS CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSITS AND DEPOSITING SAME IN TO MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT AT FIRST ARKANSAS BANK AND TRUST: Mrs. Hefner made a motion to approve R-2021-08, second by Mr. Harbort. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 roll call vote. Hefner-yea McMinn-yea, Shetron-yea, Rummel-yea and Harbort-yea.
- d. **Nan's Place Drainage Issue:** Mr. Wier made a motion to move forward with bidding process, second by Mrs. Hefner. Discussion by L. Petus resident. Motion passes with 5-0 roll call vote. McMinn-yea, Shetron-yea, Rummel-yea, Harbort-yea and Hefner-yea.
- e. **Declaring Vacant Planning Commission Seat:**
  - Committee Member Tremaine resigned to accept a part-time position with the city. Mr. McMinn made a motion that nominations are due to the Mayor by April 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon, second by Mr. Harbort. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote.
- f. **State of the City Report:** As presented by Mayor Gastineau.
- g. **Mayor's Report:** As presented by Mayor Gastineau. Mayor Gastineau discussed with the Council about Facebook postings and in particular Mrs. Shetron's negative posting about the city to people who are or may want to move to the city and other postings. The Mayor then removed Mrs. Shetron as the Community

Garden Committee Chair and asked if any other council member was interested in being the chair. As no one volunteered, the Mayor disbanded the Community Garden Committee.

h. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** Resident R Davidson spoke to the council about a speeding issue on Langford. A signed letter from residents on Langford is attached to these minutes.

i. **Announcements – (COVID-19 Protocols Apply, as needed)**

- Ward District Court Amnesty Week: March 15 - 19
- Planning Commission Meeting: March 22 at 7 pm
- City Council Meeting: April 19 at 6:30 pm
- City-Wide Clean Up: April 24 from 8 am to 3 pm
- Planning Commission Meeting: April 26 at 7 p,
- Annual Fishing Derby: May 15, Busby Lake, Time TBA

j. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm with a motion by Mrs. Hefner, second by Mr. Wier. Motion to adjourn passed with a 6-0 voice vote.

We, the undersigned Mayor and City Clerk for the City of Ward, do hereby verify the foregoing to be true and correct record of proceedings of the City of Ward Special Meeting held on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:30pm.

APPROVED DATE:

April 19, 2021

MAYOR

ATTEST:

COURTNEY HUBLE  
CITY CLERK

CITY SEAL

N. McELYEA @ YAHOO.COM / 501-612-0135

To Whom it may concern,

We, the residents of Langford street, have signed this letter in hopes that we can receive assistance. On multiple occasions complaints have been made to Ward Police, Lonoke County Sheriff's Office, as well as our past and current Mayor. It is our sincerest hopes that this letter will assist in making the difference for our street and hopefully the community. The problem we are having, is not only a nuisance but a danger. It is a daily occurrence for the Kenning household, who reside in the cul-de-sac on Langford Street, to excessively speed and drive dangerously down the street. They drive recklessly, swerving towards parked vehicles as well as adults and children who are near or in the street. They intentionally rev their engines, with excessively loud exhaust, and swerve towards multiple children and residents without provocation. There have been multiple contacts with the police voicing our safety concerns. The Kenning Family have on many occasions drove down the street only to pull behind someone who was turning into their driveway and revved the engine or dangerously sped off with no regards to what or who is surrounding them. This behavior happens at all times of day and night and in all weather conditions. We, the residents of Langford Street, understand the street is not a place for people to walk or play. However, sidewalks are not available leaving walking in or near the street unavoidable. We genuinely appreciate all time that is given to assisting us with this matter.

Sincerely, The Residents of Langford Street.

Tiffany Steldon  
Brittany Benton  
Briana Luther  
Kais Fleming  
Katie  
Cynthia Smith  
Donna Cathy  
Peggy Bredwin  
Lenny Baldwin  
Langer  
Donna Waggle  
G. W. King

Danni Meyer  
Robert Davidson  
Megan Ashley  
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