



CITY OF WARD

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

Council Meeting Minutes March 19, 2024 at 6:30 PM

- I. **Call to Order:** by Mayor Gastineau @ 6:30pm. Prayer was offered by council member Steven Hall followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **Roll Call:** The following council members were present: Steven Hall, Charles Chapman, Stacey McMinn, Robin Hefner, Casey Brooke, and Rob Ruble. We have a quorum. Mayor Charles Gastineau, City Attorney Chris Lacy, and City Clerk Krystal Rummel were also in attendance.
- III. **Review/approval of Council Minutes:** Council member Ruble made a motion to approve the February 20, 2024 council minutes, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote. Council member Brooke made a motion to approve the March 4, 2024 council minutes, seconded by council member Hall. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.
- IV. **Department Reports and Financials:** Council member Ruble made a motion to approve the department reports and the February financials, seconded by council member Brooke. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.
- V. **Planning Commission Report:** Report was given by Chairman Jerry Peters. Council member Chapman made a motion to approve the Planning Commission report, seconded by council member Hall. Motion carries with a 6-0 voice vote.
- VI. **Water Wastewater Advisory Committee Report:** No business at this time
- VII. **Old Business:**
 - A. **ORDINANCE 2024-03: AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCES 2014-07, 2014-07-1, 2019-09 AND 2023-02; PRESCRIBING A CHANGE IN THE RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR WATER AND SERVICES RENDERED BY THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF WARD, ARKANSAS AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO. (FIRST READING AFTER ACT 605 REPORT)** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hefner made a motion to set the reconnection fee during business hours to \$25 within city limits, \$50 outside of city limits, and \$100 after hours regardless, seconded by council member Brooke. Motion carries with a 6-0 voice vote. Council member Hefner made a motion to put O-2024-03 on its first reading, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes. Motion passes with a

6-0 vote. Council member Hall made a motion to suspend the rules on the second and third reading, seconded by council member McMinn. Motion passed with a 5-1 voice vote. Council member Hefner was opposed. Council member Chapman made a motion to approve O-2024-03, seconded by council member Hall. Roll: Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes. Ordinance 2024-03 has been approved with a 6-0 vote.

VIII. New Business:

- A. ORDINANCE 2024-05: AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING CITY OF WARD ORDINANCES O-2007-10 AND O-2007-10-01; DESIGNATING PLACES FOR THE POSTING OF ORDINANCES; PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve O-2024-05 on its first reading, seconded by council member Brooke. Roll call: McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes. Motion passes with a 6-0 roll call vote. Council member Ruble made a motion to suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings, seconded by council member Hall. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote. Council member Chapman made a motion to approve O-2024-05, seconded by council member Ruble. Roll call: Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes. O-2024-05 has been approved.
- B. RESOLUTION 2024-18: A RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING THE CITY OF WARD POLICY ON PUBLIC ACCESS** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve R-2024-18, seconded by council member Hall. Roll: Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes. Motion carries with a 6-0 vote.
- C. RESOLUTION 2024-19: A RESOLUTION APPOINTING THE MAYOR AND WATER/WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT TO THE MID-ARKANSAS WATER ALLIANCE (MAWA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Brooke requested to change Water/Wastewater Superintendent to Public Works Director. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve R-2024-19, seconded by council member Hall. Roll: Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes. Motion carries with a 6-0 vote.
- D. RESOLUTION 2024-20: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEMOLITION OF THE CITY-OWNED FACILITY LOCATED AT 100 OWEN, WARD, ARKANSAS** was read by title only. Council member Hall made a motion to approve R-2024-20, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes. Motion carries with a 6-0 vote.
- E. RESOLUTION 2024-21: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF WARD TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE ONE SEWER JETTER WITH TRAILER** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve R-2024-21, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes. Motion is approved with a 6-0 vote.

- F. RESOLUTION 2024-22: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF WARD TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE AN AUTOMATED SIREN ACTIVATION SYSTEM** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to table R-2024-22, seconded by council member Brooke. Roll call: McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes. Motion to table is approved with a 6-0 vote.
- G. DISCUSSION ON EXPANDING WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BUILDING TO ACCOMMODATE WATER OPS** Council member Ruble made a motion to authorize Mayor Gastineau to get with Bond Engineering and develop a plan to expand the Wastewater Treatment plant, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion is approved with a 6-0 voice vote.
- H. RESOLUTION 2024-23: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DEMOLITION OF THE CITY-OWNED WATER OPERATIONS STORAGE AREA** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve R-2024-23, seconded by council member Ruble. Roll call: Hefner-yes, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes. Motion is approved with a 5-1 vote.
- I. RESOLUTION 2024-24: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF WARD TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO INSTALL A WEATHER SIREN AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Brooke made a motion to table R-2024-24 to next month, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion is approved with a 6-0 voice vote.
- J. ARDOT CALL FOR PROJECTS – DUE NLT 4 PM, MAY 31**
- RR PED/BIKE CROSSING, OR
 - EXTEND SRTS DOWN PEYTON, OR
 - ?

Council member Ruble made a motion to authorize Mayor Gastineau to work with Halff Engineering for the railroad/pedestrian/bike crossing on Moore Street, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion is approved with a 6-0 voice vote.

- K. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY DISCUSSION (COUNCIL MEMBER CHAPMAN):** no action taken
- L. Establishment of Street parking Committee**
- Police Chief (Chair)
 - Fire Chief
 - Council Member
 - Planning Commission Member

Council member Ruble made a motion to establish the Street parking Committee, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote. Council member Hefner volunteered to be on the committee. Council member Hall made a motion to approve council member Hefner to the committee, seconded by council member Brooke. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.

M. 2024 STATE OF THE CITY REPORT (MAYOR GASTINEAU) no action taken

VIII. Mayor's Report: Council member Hall made a motion to allow Mayor Gastineau to move forward with getting bids to remodel the council chamber room, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion approved with a 6-0 voice vote.

IX. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: none.

X. Announcements

- Planning Commission: March 25th, 6:30 pm
- Eggtravaganza in the Park: March 30, 10 am to 3 pm (Grace Community Church)
- Eclipse Day: April 8th
- City Council Meeting: April 16th, 6:30pm
- Spring Clean Up Day: April 27th, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm with a motion by Council Member Ruble, seconded by Council Member Hall. 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 Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 6:30PM.

APPROVED DATE: 4-16-2024


MAYOR CHARLES GASTINEAU

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK KRYSTAL RUMMEL



CITY SEAL