



CITY OF WARD

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

Council Meeting Minutes May 21, 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, and Casey Brooke. 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 Hefner made a motion to approve the April 16, 2024 council minutes, seconded by council member McMinn. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote.
- IV. **Department Reports and Financials:** Council member Hefner made a motion to approve the department reports and financials for March and April 2024, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote. Council member Rob Ruble arrived to the meeting.
- V. **Planning Commission Report:** Report was given by Mayor Gastineau. Erin Mixon is now the Planning Commission Chairman, but she was unable to attend. Mayor read the minutes from the public hearings and meeting minutes. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve the Planning Commission report, seconded by council member McMinn. Motion carries with a 6-0 voice vote.
- VI. **Water Wastewater Advisory Committee Report:** Committee has not met. No action taken.
- VII. **Street Parking Committee Report (Chief Benton)** Committee has not met. No action was taken.
- VIII. **Old Business:**
 - A. **ORDINANCE 2024-07: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WARD TO UTILIZE MALEAH M. BUFFORD, A LICENSED PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINER AND SPOUSE OF A CITY OF WARD POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE, TO PERFORM PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMS ON CITY EMPLOYEES, AS NEEDED/REQUESTED (2nd Reading)** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve O-2024-07 on its second reading, seconded by council member Hall. Roll call: Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-no, Hefner-no, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes. Vote resulted in a 3-3 vote. Mayor Gastineau voted in the affirmative to break the tie. This will be presented next month for the third reading.

IX. New Business:

- A. ORDINANCE 2024-10: AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF WARD ARKANSAS CALLING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN LANDS THAT ARE COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY THE INCORPORATED LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WARD; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve O-2024-10 on its first reading, seconded by council member Ruble. Roll call: Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes, and Hall-yes. Motion passes with a 5-1 roll call vote. Council member Hall made a motion to suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings, seconded by council member Ruble. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote. Council member Ruble made a motion to adopt O-2024-10, seconded by council member McMinn. Roll call: McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, and Chapman-yes. O-2024-10 has been approved. Council member Hall made a motion to enact the emergency clause, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Hefner-yes, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, and McMinn-yes. O-2024-10 passes with the emergency clause 5-1.
- B. ORDINANCE 2024-11: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY OF WARD ORDINANCE O-2023-03 ESTABLISHING A FRANCHISE TAX FOR FIBER OPTICS SERVICES WITHIN THE CORPORATE CITY LIMITS OF WARD, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve O-2024-11, seconded by council member Hall. Roll: Hefner-no, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, and McMinn-yes. Motion carries with a 5-1 vote. Council member Hall made a motion to suspend the rules for the second and third reading, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion passes with a 5-1 voice vote. Council member Ruble made a motion to adopt O-2024-11, seconded by council member McMinn. Roll call: Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes and Hefner-yes. O-2024-11 has been approved with a 6-0 vote.
- C. RESOLUTION 2024-28: A RESOLUTION REPEALING AND REPLACING R-2024-03; ESTABLISHING THE WARD WATER AND WASTEWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE; DEFINING MEMBERSHIP, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Brooke made a motion to approve, seconded by council member Hefner. Roll call: Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, and Brooke-yes. Motion carries with a 6-0 vote. Council member Ruble made a motion to set the terms in alphabetical order, seconded by council member McMinn. Motion is approved by 6-0 voice vote.
- D. RESOLUTION 2024-29: A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2024 GENERAL FUND BUDGET** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve, seconded by council member Hall. Roll call: Hefner-yes, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes. Motion carries 5-1. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve R-2024-29 on its first reading, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes. Motion passes with a 5-1 vote.

- E. RESOLUTION 2024-30: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING HAWKINS ENTERPRISES, INC AS THE LOW BIDDER FOR THE INDUSTRIAL DRIVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY CLERK TO SIGN APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS FOR THE PROJECT** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hall made a motion to approve R-2024-30, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, and Hall-yes. Motion is approved with a 6-0 vote.
- F. RESOLUTION 2024-31: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH BOND ENGINEERING TO DESIGN AND MANAGE A PROJECT TO OVERLAY/IMPROVE THE PARKING AND DRIVEWAY AREAS OF CITY HALL** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve R-2024-31, seconded by council member Hall. Roll call: McMinn-no, Hefner-no, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes. Voting was tied at 3-3. Mayor Gastineau voted in the affirmative. Motion is approved with a 4-3 vote.
- G. RESOLUTION 2024-32: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A NO-COST CONTRACT WITH ENTEGRITY ENERGY PARTNERS, LLC TO PERFORM AN INVESTMENT GRADE AUDIT AND ARKANSAS ENERGY PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING PROPOSALS FOR THE CITY OF WARD FACILITIES** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve R-2024-32, seconded by council member Ruble. Roll call: Hefner-yes, Brooke-yes, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, and McMinn-yes. Motion is approved with a 6-0 vote.

VIII. **Mayor's Report:** No action taken

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

X. **Announcements**

- Torch Run for Special Olympics: May 23rd, 3:00pm
- Office closed in observance of Memorial Day: May 27th
- Planning Commission Meeting: May 28th, 6:30pm
- City Council Meeting: June 18th, 6:30pm

XI. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 pm with a motion by Council Member Ruble, seconded by Council Member Hefner. 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, May 21, 2024 at 6:30PM.

APPROVED DATE: June 18, 2024



MAYOR CHARLES GASTINEAU

ATTEST:



CITY CLERK KRYSTAL RUMMEL

CITY SEAL

