



## CITY OF WARD

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

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### Council Meeting Minutes December 17, 2024 at 6:30 PM

- I. **Call to Order:** by Mayor Gastineau @ 6:30pm. Prayer was offered by council member Steve Hall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **Roll Call:** The following council members were present: Steve Hall, Charles Chapman, Robin Hefner, and Rob Ruble. We have a quorum. Mayor Charles Gastineau, City Attorney Chris Lacy, and City Clerk Krystal Rummel were also in attendance. Council members Stacey McMinn (sick) and Casey Brooke (vacation) were absent.
- III. **Review/approval of Council Minutes:** Council member Hefner made a motion to approve the November 19, 2024 council minutes, seconded by council member Ruble. Motion passes with a 4-0 voice vote.
- IV. **Department Reports and Financials:** Council member Ruble made a motion to approve the department reports for November and financials for October and November, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion passes with a 4-0 voice vote.
- V. **Planning Commission Report:** Presented by Erin Mixon for November and December. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve the final plat for Stagecoach Meadows, Phase III, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion carries with a 4-0 voice vote.

Note: Council member McMinn arrived and will be included in the voting going forward.

VI. **Old Business:** None

VII. **New Business:**

A. **RESOLUTION R-2024-49: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CLOSING OF THE HOMETOWN HEALTH CHECKING ACCOUNT** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve R-2024-49, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion carries with a 5-0 voice vote.

B. **RESOLUTION R-2024-50: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY CLERK TO RENEW CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT WITH BANK OZK** was read by title only by City

Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve R-2024-50, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion carries with a 5-0 voice vote.

**C. RESOLUTION R-2024-51: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WARD CHIEF OF POLICE, AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OF CITY OF WARD POLICE DEPARTMENT, TO SIGN FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT GRANT AWARD** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Chapman made a motion to approve R-2024-51, seconded by council member Ruble. Motion carries with a 5-0 voice vote.

**D. RESOLUTION R-2024-52: A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF WARD TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Hall made a motion to approve R-2024-52, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion carries with a 5-0 vote.

**E. RESOLUTION R-2024-53: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CITY CLERK TO DISPOSE OF THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES VIA PUBLIC AUCTION ON WWW.GOVDEALS.NET OR AS NOTED** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve R-2024-53, seconded by council member Hall. Motion passes a 5-0 voice vote.

**F. ORDINANCE O-2024-27: AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCES 2016-06, 2024-03 AND 2024-18; PRESCRIBING A CHANGE IN THE RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR WATER, WASTEWATER AND OTHER SERVICES AND FEES RENDERED BY THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM OF THE CITY OF WARD, ARKANSAS AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO** was read by title only by City Clerk Rummel. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve O-2024-27 on its first reading, seconded by council member Hall. Roll call: Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Ruble-yes. Motion carries with a 5-0 vote. Council member Hall made a motion to suspend the second and third readings, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion is approved with a 4-1 voice vote; council member Hefner was opposed. Council member Hall made a motion to adopt O-2024-27, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-no, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes. Motion passes 4-1. O-2024-27 has been approved and adopted.

**G. Approval of Swearing-In Date for Council Members:** Mayor Gastineau explained that since we do not have any new members on the council, there was no need to have a swearing in ceremony on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Council agreed for the ceremony to be held at the beginning of January's city council meeting.

**H. Ordinance 2025-01: CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES (Read Ahead Only)** Mayor Gastineau encouraged council members to review O-2025-01 and see if they have any changes.

**VIII. Mayor's Report:** Council member Hefner made a motion to allow Mayor Gastineau to continue pursuing the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant for LED lights, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion is approved with a 5-0 voice vote. Council member Hall made a motion to allow

Mayor Gastineau to pursue the CPRG rebates for an electric vehicle and charger, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion is approved with a 5-0 voice vote. Lastly, council member Chapman made a motion to allow Mayor Gastineau to pursue getting rid of old furniture, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion is approved with a 5-0 voice vote.

IX. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** no action taken

X. **Announcements**

- Planning Commission Meeting: December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30 pm
- City Offices closed in observance of Christmas: December 24-25<sup>th</sup>, all day
- City Offices closed in observance of New Year's: January 1<sup>st</sup>, all day
- City Council Meeting: January 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 pm

XI. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm with a motion by Council Member Hall, seconded by Council Member Chapman. Motion to adjourn passed with a 5-0 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, December 17, 2024 at 6:30PM.

APPROVED DATE: 1-21-2025

  
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MAYOR CHARLES GASTINEAU

ATTEST:

  
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CITY CLERK KRYSTAL RUMMEL

CITY SEAL