

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

MCCRORY, ARKANSAS

APRIL 28, 2021

The City Council of McCrory met in a special session on April 28, 2021

Mayor Doyle Fowler opened and presided over the meeting.

Roll call was given by City Clerk Karen Harrison and answered by members of the Council Travis Taylor, Lou Dallas, Amanda Austin, Mary Whitlock, Ronnie Massanelli and Shawn Peebles.

The purpose of this meeting, as explained by Mayor Fowler, is to make a decision to finish paving from the roadway to the sidewalks on both sides of Edmonds St. The price for this project will be \$12,200.00. This will be from the Post Office to East 3<sup>rd</sup> St. and from the Pawn Shop to West 3<sup>rd</sup> St. This will finish the paving that has been done on both sides of Edmonds Street. Council Member Massanelli stated that it needs to be done but the price seems high. Mayor Fowler states that he would also like to see behind the Civic Center done. Mayor Fowler also addressed Fakes St.

Council Member Massanelli made a motion to pave East and West side of the St. from the Post Office to the Church and to Merchant's and Planter's and the back of the Civic Center. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Massanelli made a motion to advertise for bids on Fakes St. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Austin made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Peebles gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

company research areas in town that need to be repaired, particularly Fakes St. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Austin made a motion to pay the bills. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Whitlock made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

MCCRORY, ARKANSAS

APRIL 12, 2021

The City Council of McCrory met in regular session on April 12, 2021.

Mayor Doyle Fowler opened and presided over the meeting.

Next was the prayer led by Mary Whitlock and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was given by City Clerk Karen Harrison and answered by members of the Council, Travis Taylor Lou Dallas, Shaun Peebles, Amanda Austin, Mary Whitlock and Ronnie Massanelli.

Mayor Fowler stated Sharon Taylor agreed to do the minutes for the paper for \$25.00. Sharon will also print any ordinances or resolutions we may have. Council Member Whitlock made a motion to let Sharon Taylor come and do the minutes and report to the monitor each month. Council Member Peebles gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries

Council Member Dallas made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Council Member Peebles gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next Mayor Fowler gave his report. The bids for the clarifier came in over cost. The City had to apply for additional funding. He was notified that \$85,000.00 will come in a grant. The Ellis Street project is complete and paid for. The Library is complete, just waiting on furniture. Will have opening on the 24th. This project was done by grant funding, no cost to the city. There is more to do and he wants to see the city do it.

Mayor Fowler stated we have a situation in downtown. There are a couple of commercial buildings causing a nuisance. These buildings are a health hazard. Mayor Fowler feels like our City Ordinance will take care of these problems.

First to approach the Council are citizens Brad and Tammy Morris. The Morris's have a complaint on the building next to theirs. The building has severe safety issues. The glass is broken on the windows and the wood is rotting on the building. The roof leaks and is causing problems for his building as well as the fitness center next to him. He feels as though the water running down his walls will cause black mold as well as a fire hazard. He is asking for the building to be condemned. Joe Young is the owner of the building and will not do any upkeep on the building. Brad has even offered to buy the building. Mayor Fowler stated that you hate to tell anyone what to do with their own property but it comes a time when you have to. The Council and Mayor discussed Ordinance 308. After a lot of discussion about the Ordinance Council Member Peebles made a motion to enforce Ordinance 308 and to condemn 104 S. Edmonds which is the building belonging to Joe Young. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next up was citizen Jennifer Morris. Mayor Fowler advised that when the Ellis St. project was started the City had a buy a piece of property. Jennifer is wanting to buy the property from the City. The only stipulation is the City needs an easement. Jennifer advised this is not a problem. Council Member Whitlock stated that if she is willing to give the City the cost back, we need to do it. Council Member

Massanelli made a motion to sell the 15ft. property that joins the Morris property and that the City will have an easement. Council Member Taylor gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next was Chief Bevills. The department had 226 misdemeanors and no felony cases.

Next was Water & Sewer Superintendent Jim Harrison. The department is having problems with the wells at the plant. It is going to cost \$22,250.00 to be able to put variable drives on both the wells. Council Member Peebles made a motion to purchase the drives at the Water Plant on both wells. Check for wiring. Council member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Harrison next stated that Saturday morning the alarms at the plant went off. They had no electricity on 4<sup>th</sup> St by the lift station. Lightening struck hit a pole. Harrison then went on to talk about the uniform policy. At present there is not one. Council Member Austin stated that if we pay for the uniforms the employees should wear them. Council Member Peebles stated that if the employees are in public, they need to wear City uniforms. Peebles feels as though they need some form of identification that says City of McCrory. Council Member Austin made a motion that Employees with the Water & Sewer Department are required to wear uniforms that are issued to them while on duty. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yea. Motion carries. Council Member Whitlock asked about getting children at play signs on Kimberly Street. Jim asked the council if there is something that can be done about the 18 wheelers on certain side streets.

Next up was Fire Chief Joe Slocum III with his report. He doesn't have a lot. The department has had a good month. He advised that people need to be careful about what they burn.

Next was Kyle Tiner for Parks & Recreation. Mayor Fowler told Kyle they will try to put dirt on the field. Kyle told the council that a pipe needs to be put by the walking trail. Kyle stated that practice started this week. The season is around May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Next up was Animal Control Officer April Rouse. She stated there are 6 dogs at the pound. She plans to take 4 to the vet this week. She told the Council that USDA got the plans from the architect. Council Members Whitlock and Dallas thanked April.

Council Massanelli asked who is going to mow the park this summer. Mayor Fowler stated that Caden will mow. Council Massanelli asked who was going to be in charge of the trash at the park. Jessica advised she will make sure to get the trash. Council Member Austin stated that we need rolling trash cans at the park. Jessica will do the trash twice a week.

Next was new business. Mayor Fowler stated he had found some Ordinances on Jake Brakes. Council Member Massanelli stated that if the Ordinance is not enforced there is no reason to pass one. Massanelli stated that the Police Department can't spend all their time trying to enforce this. Council Member Peebles made a motion to forgo any Ordinance on Jake Brakes. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next Mayor Fowler brought up the sidewalks. He stated that every time it rains, we get puddles. He feels as though we need to pave from the Highway to the curbs. Council Member Whitlock asked if the City has the money and Mayor Fowler told her we do. Council Member Austin asked if we can do time limits on it. Council Member Peebles made a motion to move forward with 3 bids and get 3 separate invoices, the company has to be bonded and licensed and insured. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Council Member Massanelli made a motion to have the

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

MCCRORY, ARKANSAS

MAY 10, 2021

The City Council of McCrory met in regular session on May 10, 2021

Mayor Doyle Fowler opened and presided over the meeting.

Council Member Massanelli gave the prayer.

Roll call was given by City Clerk Karen Harrison and answered by members of the Council, Lou Dallas, Shaun Peebles, Amanda Austin, Ronnie Massanelli, and Travis Taylor. Council Member Whitlock was absent.

Council Member Dallas made a motion to accept the minutes with the changes on Paragraph 7 change complete to almost, paragraph 9 change to condemn to let Ralph send papers and possible condemn, on page 2 paragraph 7 put Jessica's last name Nichols. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

First was Animal Control Officer April Wagner. April said she has 6 dogs at the pound but 2 are leaving. She has also taken 4 puppies and 1 big dog to a rescue. Update on the shelter is that we have all the paperwork submitted. We are just waiting.

Chief Bevills was next with his report. The court collections were \$33,762.50. The department worked 135 misdemeanors and 1 felony case. Brad has finished the grant for USDA, just waiting. The Chief asked for a raise for his part time Officers. Council Member Massanelli stated it's a small amount for what they do. Council Member Massanelli made a motion to raise part time Officers from \$11.00 an hour to \$12.00 an hour. Council Member Peebles gave a second. Council Member Austin abstained. All others voted yeah. Motion carries. Council Member Austin asked the Chief about speeding on Edmonds. The Chief informed Austin that we don't have any control over the speed because it is a State Hwy and they control it. Council Member Austin voiced concern over people walking around at night. The Chief stated he could hire another officer. The biggest concern to Bevills is that no one calls in to complain. Council Member Dallas stated that a lot of people are on bikes on her street and they don't stop at the stop signs. Brad stated that the law has changed on bicycles and they don't have to stop at stop signs.

Next up was Water & Sewer Superintendent Jim Harrison. Jim is having trouble with the Ford ton truck and he is sending it back to the Ford dealership for work. Mayor Fowler stated we should start the clarifier with a week. They have been given 120 days to complete the work.

Next was Fire Chief Joe Slocum III. Joe has the 54 model at the Fire Station. May 15<sup>th</sup> the department is doing hose testing. The department has a fish fry planed. The Fireman have been doing landing zones

for the helicopter. Joe reminded everyone that you can only burn limbs, leaves, and grass. Council Member Dallas asked Joe how many Firefighters there are. Joe advised he has 23 Fireman.

Council Member Massanelli gave information on Parks & Tourism. He stated that the ball park needs to be mowed. The teams are already playing.

Next Mayor Fowler went in to old business. Mayor Fowler started by talking about Joe Young and his building. Council Member Peebles asked about a fire code. Chief Slocum advised he will call the State Fire Marshall.

Mayor Fowler stated that we need 2 bids on the Civic Center repairs so he is going to table until next month.

Next Council Member Massanelli brought up the sewer to Killingsworth's property. After some discussion a decision was not reached.

Council Member Dallas stated she had received an email about the newly painted lines not being angled at the Methodist Church. Mayor Fowler stated some of the spaces were wider due to the older population. Council Member Dallas stated she wasn't talking about wider but the angle. Mayor Fowler asked the council what they suggested to do. Council Member Austin stated redo them. Mayor Fowler stated we are not going to redo them.

Next were the bids for paving Fakes Street and the alley. Asphalt Brothers bid is \$62,500.00. Cox Asphalt bid is \$14,200.00. Council Member Peebles made a motion to let Cox Asphalt do the project on Fakes Street. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Peebles made a motion to pay the bills. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Peebles made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

MCCRORY, ARKANSAS

MAY 17, 2021

The City Council of McCrory met in special session on May 17, 2021

Mayor Doyle Fowler opened and presided over the meeting.

Council Members present are, Travis Taylor, Lou Dallas, Mary Whitlock, Amanda Austin, Shaun Peebles, and Ronnie Massanelli. All Council Members are present.

Since the grant amount for the clarifier has changed we need to pass a new loan resolution for that purpose.

Council Member Whitlock made a motion to pass Resolution #2021-04 for the grant for repairs of the Water Plant. Council Member Taylor gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Mayor Fowler next began to discuss the condemning of property on Edmonds that is owned by Joe Young. City Attorney Ralph Myers sent a copy of our ordinance with a registered letter to Mr. Young. Mr. Young has requested to be on the agenda for our next scheduled Council Meeting. Fire Chief Joe Slocum III has contacted the State Fire Marshall about the building and they should be here next week. Mayor Fowler advised that after Mr. Young comes to the next council meeting he will have 30 days to appeal.

Next Council Member Dallas gave a report on the American Recovery Act about the Covid relief money. Lou had a lot of information about it. The money received by the City can only be used for certain things so they are advising not to spend any yet.

Council Member Massanelli asked about an area by Centoco Manufacturing that needs mowing. He also asked about the loss of another employee. Council Member Massanelli made a motion to go into executive session. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council went into executive session.

Council Member Whitlock made a motion to come out of executive session. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. The executive session was to discuss a City Employee. No changes at this point. No action taken.

Mayor Fowler then went on to discuss the need for a Flood Plain Manager. In order to qualify for assistance when we have a flood, tornado, etc. we must have one. Council Member Taylor stated he would do the job.

Council Member Dallas made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

## McCrary City Council Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2021

**Submitted by Lou Dallas**

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer by Amanda Austin.

Council members attending were: Mary Whitlock, Amanda Austin, Ronnie Massanelli, Travis Taylor and Lou Dallas.

Mary Whitlock moved to approve the May 10th regular meeting and the May 17<sup>th</sup> Special meeting minutes followed by a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ronnie Massanelli. Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays

Mayor Doyle Fowler read his Mayor Comments from a handout which he passed out to the Councilmembers. See attached. The finish date for the clarifier project should be October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Nick Plastiras from Scenic Hill Solar came to the Council to present a proposal to build a solar field behind the Water Plant to produce power to run the City's twenty-two (22) Entergy accounts. Scenic would construct the field at no cost to the City. They would receive the rebates from Entergy as their compensation. Presently Entergy charges \$.105per KWH versus the present rate of \$.062 from Scenic. Scenic's rate would vary from year to year. The City of McCrary would receive their electric bill from Scenic. Overages of power during the good months would cover the shortages during the darker months. The contract would be for 28 years with a projected saving to McCrary of \$522,822.00. If McCrary chooses to contract with Scenic, the project would take several months (possibly 7 to 8 months) to complete. Scenic also donates generously to local charities.

Joe Young addressed the Council concerning the condemning of his building on Edmonds Avenue. He feels that there was a miscommunication with the City. The building has a bad roof, broken windows, back door issues and needs boards replaced in the back. Mr. Young stated that he has been willing to do the repairs and had contacted Osment Roofing of Jonesboro about putting on a new roof but that had to put that on hold because the City of McCrary condemned the building. He also stated that he was unaware of some of the problems other adjoining businesses were having because of his business. Mayor Fowler addressed this by stating that Mr. Young had been made aware of all the issues with his building. The State of Arkansas Fire Marshal found the building in compliance. McCrary Fire Chief Joe Slocum also gave his report on the building visit. Brad and Tammy Morris, owners of one of the building, and Mr. Gonzales of the Jaguar Café addressed the Council concerning the rodent and roach problems that they attributed partly to Mr. Young's building. After much discussion, Mary Whitlock moved to give Mr. Young 60 days to complete all the repairs on his building. Amanda Austin 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays



Animal Control has 6 dogs and someone has called concerning surrendering a dog per April Wagner. She is working to get 3 of the dogs moved North for adoption.

Police Chief Brad Bevills reported that with Brenda Byerly's help a grant for a metal door for Karen Hampton's office has been approved. The old police car was sold at auction for \$4,750.00. Speeding and racing on the streets of McCrary was discussed. Per Chief Bevills McCrary has been writing a large number of tickets and is doing their best to control this. A speed check device such as the ones used by the State was suggested; however, they are no longer used by the State and are unavailable.

Water Superintendent Jimmy Harrison stated that things have been pretty normal. One of the John Deer mowers broke and that put the City behind on mowing but they are beginning to catch up. Big Creek Construction who has the contract to construct the clarifier at the water plant has visited the site.

Fire Chief Joe Slocum stated that training on freeing individuals from vehicles was conducted. Hoses were checked. They are waiting for the money from the grant for the radios. The Drive-Thru Fish Fry was a success.

Jessica Nichols and Reni Wallis reported on the parks. The dugouts and the bleachers at the Elizabeth Swanson Park are still being full of trash after games. The door on the men's bathroom needs repair and the bathroom itself is being left in an unclean state with mold. No supplies are found in either bathroom. The playground equipment needs repair. The Summer Youth Program is still going on.

Morning View Church wishes to have their annual Unity in The Community gathering July 24 at Elizabeth Swanson Park provided the Youth Program does not have anything that day. Morning View invites the community to come together for food, games and fellowship.

Amanda Austin moved to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. Ronnie Massanelli 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays.

Amanda Austin moved to come out of Executive Session. Ronnie Massanelli 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays

Mary Whitlock moved to raise Jessica Nichols who was promoted to Assistant Water and Street Superintendent salary to \$13.00 per hour. Lou Dallas 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays

Amanda Austin moved to pay the bills. Travis Taylor 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays

Amanda Austin moved to pay the Council for the past six (6) months. Lou Dallas 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.  
Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays

Amanda Austin moved to adjourn. Ronnie Massanelli 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Vote: 5 Yeas 0 Nays

Next was Old Business. Council Member Massanelli asked about the progress on the house across from the school. Mayor Fowler advised he has been on them to get the work done. The lot that Jeff Webb farm's needs to be mowed. Mayor Fowler stated the land belongs to Bill Crawford and he will talk to him this week. Council Member Massanelli asked about the project to move sewer to Mark Killingsworth's property. Mayor Fowler stated if we can get a grant approved, we can move forward with a plan. Council Member Whitlock asked about the building owned by Joe Young. The mayor stated there was a new roof and the windows in the front have been fixed.

Next the council discussed the Animal Shelter. Mayor Fowler advised the council that the cost of everything is going up. Council Member Austin stated that the mayor never updated the council.

Next was new business. The council needed to pass resolution 2021-005, the grant for the fire department. Council Member Massanelli made a motion to pass resolution 2021-005 for the grant for Fire Department Equipment. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Dallas asked about the lawsuit filed against the city. Mayor Fowler stated that the City Attorney, Ralph Myers III, is taking care of it.

Financial Adviser Bobby Trotter gave out the report of the water department audit. Mayor Fowler advised that the report was good.

Council Member Peebles made a motion to pay the bills. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Whitlock made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

MCCRORY, ARKANSAS

AUGUST 9, 2021

The City Council of McCrory met in regular session on August 9, 2021

Mayor Doyle Fowler opened and presided over the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer led by Council Member Lou Dallas.

Roll call was given by City Clerk Karen Harrison and answered by members of the Council, Travis Taylor, Lou Dallas, Mary Whitlock, Shawn Peebles, Amanda Austin, and Ronnie Massanelli.

Council Member Whitlock made a motion to approve the previous minutes as presented. Council Member Taylor gave a second. All voted yeah and the motion carried.

Mayor Fowler didn't speak a lot due to the long agenda. Mayor Fowler did state we should start the clarifier in 2 -3 weeks.

First up was Animal Control Officer April Wagner. April stated she has 6 dogs in the rescue. Mayor Fowler brought up how long are we going to keep the dogs in the pound. April is against the thought of putting a healthy dog down. Some of the council felt that the dogs should be put down after an amount of time. Some of the council were under the impression that this was a dog rescue and the dogs wouldn't be euthanized. After a lot of discussion Council Member Dallas made a motion to give Animal Control Officer Wagner 3 months, to give her a chance to see if she can get rid of the dog's she has. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next was Chief of Police Brad Bevills. Brad reported court collections of \$19,058.00. The department had 203 misdemeanor's and 1 felony case to work. Chief Bevills presented to the council the new addition to the drug policy for city employees. This new addition is about medical marijuana cards. This applies to anyone in a security position, police department, fire department, also anyone driving or operation machinery etc. This also affects anyone working in city hall that has access to sensitive materials. This section states no one can use marijuana and work in these areas, even with a medical marijuana card. Council Member Peebles made a motion to update the policy handbook. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Next was passing a resolution to accept grant money for the new car radars, car cameras, and E-Tickets for the police department. Council Member Austin made a motion to pass resolution #2021-006. Council Member Massanelli gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. The council members next asked Brad about some of the property around town. Council Member Austin asked about Joe Young's property. Mayor Fowler advised Joe is having problems getting someone to do the work on the building. Council Member Massanelli advised it is on Joe to get it done. Council Member Austin asked about Teresa Wallis's house. Brad advised her the Judge has given her 2 months to clean up her property but the council is responsible for getting the house condemned. Mayor Fowler asked about Sands Apartments. Brad advised the owner is having trouble getting lumber. Council Member Dallas asked about the property across from the High School. Brad stated they are having trouble getting anyone to haul it off. Council Member Dallas made a motion to have City Attorney Ralph Myers III contact Joe Young about repairs to

his building. If Joe doesn't do the necessary repairs, then the city will do them and bill Mr. Young. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next to approach the council was Water & Sewer Superintendent Jim Harrison. Council Member Austin asked Jim about children at play signs on Kimberly. Jim told her he has the signs. Austin asked about 5<sup>th</sup> St. Jim stated they had put some up by Dr. Wilson's house. Council Member Dallas asked Jim about the water plant. Jim advised he has talked to someone about the removal of the sediment at the plant. He advised he may move the sediment behind the water plant or to the old sewer plant.

Next up was Fire Chief Joe Slocum III. Joe advised the department had a couple of fires and some landing zone set ups. Joe told the council the grant for the fire department had to be refilled.

Next was Kyle Tiner for Parks & Tourism. Kyle stated the youth program is over with. Now the peewee football players are at the park practicing.

The mayor advised the council that the State had sent back a questioner about the rebuild on the sewer plant. It is necessary to hire an engineer for the project. Council Member Austin made a motion to rebuild the sewer plant with American Recovery Funds if we are allowed. Council Member Peebles gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Dallas made a motion to go into executive session. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Council went into executive session.

Council Member Dallas made a motion to come out of executive session. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Regular meeting resumed.

Mayor Fowler stated that the employee issue discussed in executive session will be dealt with by the head of the departments and himself.

Employee Pam Faughn put in her notice of retirement. Council Member Dallas made a motion to give Jennifer Whitby the position as water clerk with pay of \$13.50 an hour and a review in 90 days. Council Member Peebles gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Mayor Fowler brought up the streets that need to be paved. Council Member Dallas made a motion to table until next month. Council Member Peebles gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Whitlock made a motion to pay the bills. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Council Member Austin made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned.