

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

MCCRORY, ARKANSAS

AUGUST 8, 2022

The City Council of McCrory met in regular session on August 8, 2022

Mayor Doyle Fowler opened and presided over the meeting.

Next was Pledge of Allegiance, then 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, Ronnie Massanelli, and Amanda Austin.

Council Member Whitlock made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 11, 2022 meeting as presented. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries

Mayor Fowler began the meeting by stating he apologies for last month on filling the open council position. The council forgot to vote on the resignation of Shawn Peebles until after the meeting was adjourned. Municipal League didn't see the problem with how it was done. The council can accept the way it was or fill the position next month. After some discussion by the council, Ronnie Massanelli made a motion to fill the vacancy of Shawn Peebles position but wait to appoint someone until next meeting in September. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries. Council Member Massanelli made a motion to accept Shawn Peebles resignation of Ward 3 position 2. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Mayor Fowler next spoke about Pafford Ambulance Service. The service has been having staffing problems and the reason Pafford is not available at times. Pafford is actively seeking employees at the present.

Mayor Fowler told the council that the \$1,200.00 they accepted for the lot on Angelo Drive has been received and deposited. The clarifier project is nearing completion, all the material were ordered for the sewer project, the fun grant project is looking good, and Delta Regional will make a decision on the grant for the World-Wide project August 22, 2022.

Next up was a report from Water & Sewer secretary Jennifer Whitby. The mayor bragged on the work she has done on the project on her own. Jennifer told the council she has checked in to card readers that will integrate with the plan we have now. The council had a lot of questions for her. Council Member Massanelli asked her if she could get more information by next month.

Next Animal Control Officer April Wagner gave her report on the animal shelter. April has 11 dogs in the pound, and she is keeping 5 puppies at her house.

Next Chief of Police Brad Bevills gave his report. Brad reported \$23,739.00 for court collections, with 148 misdemeanors and 1 felony case. Brad informed the council that he bought 5 simulators for active shooter classes. The mayor thought it was an excellent idea to stay proactive. Brad informed the council that the grant has been turned in for 8 AED's. The mayor stated that a resolution to expand the budget was needed because each full-time police officer received \$5,000.00 each. Council Member Austin made a motion to amend the budget for purpose of receiving and expending \$5,000.00 stipend

for eligible full-time law enforcement officers. Council Member Whitlock gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next was Fire Chief Joe Slocum III. Joe stated the department faired good under the burn ban. The dept. had 4 grass and 2 structure fires. Joe reminded everyone to be careful now that the burn ban has been lifted. Council Member Whitlock asked the Chief why some fireman only make it to one meeting a month. She wondered if it was to get LOFTI retirement. Whitlock stated she objects to them only coming one time. Joe told her that most fireman have full time jobs that come first.

Next was Water & Sewer Superintendent Jim Harrison. The dept has had an eventful month with water leaks and the sewer being stopped up. There is a problem behind the old Fred's Building to the lift station at Manor apartments. Council Member Massanelli asked Jim why the water bills are so high. Jim didn't have an answer. Council Member Massanelli stated that there is trash in the ditches and water standing on the street between the High School and cafeteria. Jim will look into this. Council Member Whitlock questioned the cost of the water bill with Cross County Rural Water and stated we have got to find the leak so the bill is not high next time. Whitlock also asked Jim is the mosquito truck driver is on overtime. Jim told her no they are not.

In Parks and Tourism, it was stated that Pee Wee Football has started. The fields need mowed.

In old business Council Member Dallas gave an update on the animal shelter. She spoke with Betty Searcy and she will extend the grant date until the end of 2023. Lou is still searching for grants. Lou will keep the council updated.

In new business first is revision of Flood Plain Ordinance 311-A. Mayor Fowler told the council that we need to revise 211-A to add to 211-B that we passed on April 11, 2022 to reflect flood plain in McCrory AR. Council Member Whitlock made a motion that we revise 211-A to add to 211-B providing for establishment of flood damage prevision program for the City of McCrory and other purposes. Council Member Austin gave a second. All voted yeah. Motion carries.

Next was discussion the accounting firm to replace Turner, Williams, & Associates, to do the audit for the Water Department, due to the rising cost. City Financial Advisor Bobby Trotter will check and see why the cost has gone up. He will have it for the next council meeting.

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

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