

MCCRORY CITY COUNCIL  
MCCRORY, AR  
JANUARY 9, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jackson at 6:59pm and he led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Member Lou Dallas opened the meeting with prayer.

City Clerk, Lori Kendrick, did roll call of for attendance. Council members present were Amanda Austin, Tim Carter, Lou Dallas, Ronnie Massanelli, Diane Powell, and Travis Taylor.

Minutes from last months meeting were reviewed and no discussion was needed. Amanda Austin made a motion to accept the minutes from December. Lou Dallas seconded the motion. All members voted to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Mayor Jackson took a few moments to thank everyone at City Hall that had helped him over the last week to get acclimated to his new position. He thanked Mayor Fowler for being available to help him out with learning the ropes. He talked briefly about the 4 main projects that the city has going sewer plant, addition to loading docks at World Wide Label, Killingsworth extension, Fun Park in Raney Park that he will be taking over and that he will be out of the office Wednesday, January 11 through Friday January 13 for the Municipal League Winter Conference.

A motion was made by Travis Taylor to set the time, location and procedural rules for council meetings to be on the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm at the Civic Center using Roberts Rules. Motion was seconded by Ronnie Massanelli. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

**Department Reports:**

**Police Dept:** Chief Bevills went over number of court cases for the month of December. He stated that he had not heard any news on the car grant; but that he should be hearing something soon since the end of January is the end of quarter for USDA. Chief Bevills is looking forward to 2023. Mayor Jackson reminded everyone that it was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and that he appreciated our officers and all the work they do. He asked that Chief Bevills pass that along to his officers.

**Fire Dept:** No fire report was given. The fire department was currently at a house fire.

**Water Dept:** Water Superintendent Jim Harrison stated that the extreme cold spell that we had right before Christmas caused some problems with pipes at several businesses and residences, but were not on the city side and that they spent a lot of time at the water department. The scraper motor on the new clarifier has stopped working and the technicians are unable to diagnose why. An instrument control technician is supposed to be here Wednesday to see if he can figure out what the problem is. Since the motor stopped working, they had had to get lots of sludge out of the clarifier and they are having to backwash twice a day for now. Ronnie Massanelli asked if the city attorney had been notified of the situation and felt that he should be so that he can place pressure on the company to fix the problem if needed. Jim said that he had not been notified but that he would call him and let him know of the situation.

**Animal Control:** Animal Control officer April Wagner stated that she currently has 7 full grown dogs and 11 puppies currently at the dog pound. NEA is currently full and cannot take any dogs and TAPS is not moving any dogs at this time. The council brainstormed of ways to help with getting some of the dogs adopted and a motion was made by Amanda Austin to waive the \$90.00 adoption fee for the month of January 2023 for anyone that wants to adopt a dog from the pound. Tim Carter seconded the motion. All members voted yes. Motion carried.

**Street Dept:** Jim Harrison stated that the grant for resurfacing roads has been processed. It is moving forward and the grant people will let the city know when to start taking bids and making resolutions.

**Guests to be on Agenda:**

Tammy Brewster with ARCare/Food Warehouse gave her report for the month of December. The warehouse distributed items to between 50 and 60 people in December. They were able to give out canned food and protein last month and hope to be able to give out dairy this month. Everything non-perishable that was in the back of the Civic Center has been moved to an ARCare location in town due to the rodent. All perishable items are still at the Civic Center in the freezers.

Mayor Jackson wants a roll call vote for resolutions and ordinances and other major votes.

Budget Amendment Resolution (Resolution No. 2023-01) was read aloud by City Clerk Kendrick. Motion to approve the resolution was made by Amanda Austin and seconded by Travis Taylor. Roll call was done for voting. All members of the council voted yes for the resolution. None opposed. Motion passed.

Resolution authorizing the Mayor of McCrory, AR to enter into a Construction Contract for the Killingsworth Sewer Extension (Resolution No. 2023-02) was read aloud by City Clerk Kendrick. Discussion was had about the name of this resolution. Amanda Austin asked if the name could be changed to DeltaArk Sewer Extension since it was going out to the business because she has had several people ask her if the city was running sewer to their new home. Mayor Jackson said he did not think it could be changed since the name on the paperwork said Killingsworth Sewer Extension. Ronnie Massanelli stated that he wanted it noted that this resolution was for the DeltaArk/Killingsworth Sewer Extension so that it would be clearer. Roll call was done for voting. All members of the council voted yes. None opposed. Motion passed.

Mayor Jackson then brought up the topic of the city clerk being responsible for collecting money for all dog registrations. There are two ordinances for collecting dog registration fees and they both state that money is to be paid to the city clerk Monday through Friday, 8-5. The new city clerk has a full-time job and cannot be available during those times. A motion was made by Amanda Austin for the McCrory District Court Clerk be responsible for collecting all dog registration fees. The motion was seconded by Tim Carter. Roll call was done for voting. All members voted yes. None opposed. Motion passed.

City Treasurer Bobby Trotter gave a financial report for December. The city has \$517,000 in the bank from the sale of the American Greetings building. Bobby recommended that the city put the funds into a CD and accrue interest for a year. A motion was made by Lou Dallas to put the \$517,000 in a CD for a year at the highest interest rate possible to accrue interest. The motion was seconded by Amanda Austin. Roll Call was done for voting. All members of the council voted yes. None opposed. Motion carried.

He also asked the council that they consider giving him a raise. He has worked for the city for 26 years and only ever received two raises. Lou Dallas made a motion to give the city treasurer a \$300.00 a month raise. Going from \$900.00 to \$1,200.00 monthly. Ronnie Massanelli seconded the motion. Roll call was done for voting. All members voted yes. None opposed. Motion carried.

Mayor Jackson stated that Colleen Ragan had been cleaning the Civic Center, City Hall and the Water plant. She will no longer be doing that because those duties were to included in the dog catcher's duties.

Ronnie Massanelli wanted to know where everything was with the trash situation. The recent post on Facebook about 7 bag limit has citizens concerned. Mayor Jackson stated that the bag limit has been in the contract for several years. The recent reminder was brought up because there have been people from out of town bringing their garbage to town to be picked up since their garbage pick-up is no longer available. Mayor Jackson stated that our current residential fee for sanitation is \$14.00 and thought that Patterson had raised theirs to \$21.00 and that they had based theirs off of the company's fees. Lou Dallas stated that at one point that the city tried to get a detailed breakdown of fees from WastePro but has been unable to get one. Mayor Jackson will review the contract and contact WastePro to see if a representative will come to talk to the council and the community. Bobby Trotter mentioned that the commercial rate was raised in 2016 but residential rates have not been raised and that our fees to the sanitation company continue to rise approximately \$10,000 a year. Other sanitation options may be looked in to at a later time.

Ronnie Massanelli asked if there had been any news or change to the ambulance service. At this time there has been no change. Mayor Jackson stated that the Quorum Court has nothing to do with the contracting of the ambulance service. They are just in charge of distributing funds. There is an ambulance board that consists of the County Judge, Mayors, and TJ Whitehead. This board met when everything was getting set up, but has not met since. Our council members do not remember ever seeing a copy of the ambulance service contract that is a 3-year contract that began January 1, 2021.

If a solution cannot be reached, other options may be looked at in the future.

Motion was made for full time employees to receive a cost of living raise of \$1.00 more an hour by Ronnie Massanelli and seconded by Amanda Austin. All members voted yes. None opposed. Motion carried.

Amanda Austin made a motion to pay the bills. Travis Taylor seconded. All members voted yes. None opposed. Motion carried.

Amanda Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm. Lou Dallas seconded. All members voted yes. None opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: February 13, 2023

LK