

McCrary City Council
Meeting Minutes
11-13-23

Mayor Jackson called the meeting to order at 7:01pm and then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening prayer led by Council member Taylor.

Clerk Kendrick called roll. All council members in attendance.

Motion made Council member Austin to approve minutes from the previous meeting. Second by council member Dallas. All council members voted in favor to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Mayor Remarks:

- Thank you to Rina Wallis for a successful Halloween Parade.
- The Christmas Parade will be December 2.

Police Report:

- Court collections for October was \$27,352.00
- AED's are in and one will be placed in each police vehicle.
- The new vehicle is in Wynne for window tinting and lettering. The only thing not in it is the cage.
- The bid that the city placed for the county truck fell through. Once all the bids came in, none of them were high enough for what they wanted for the truck.
- Still in need of another vehicle. Options are to look online on the government surplus or look around to see what other departments may have for sale. It was brought up that everything could be put back in the vehicle that we were going to use for animal control, but several council members didn't think that was a good idea. Mayor Jackson and Chief Bevills will start looking for cars that are around \$10,000.

Water & Sewer Report:

- The leaf vacuum is up and running.
- Work has started on the automatic gate at the water plant.
- Still haven't heard anything back about the hydrant leak on 5th and Seaman.
- Patchwork paving has been completed and the streets that were approved to be paved have been surveyed and marked. Paving should begin within the next week or so.
- A cable has been placed behind the water plant to stop people from taking things back there.
- The city will get the grant money on the water plant once the electrical box is completed.

Fire Report:

- Act 833 money has come in and all the bills were paid with this money
- Last month was still a busy month because it was still pretty dry.

Animal Control Report:

- April is out for a little while due to medical problem
- The water and sewer department has been helping take care of the dogs while April has been out and it has been appreciated.
- The pregnant dog had 10 puppies. Bill Crawford let the city keep the dog at one of his horse pens. Momma dog and all puppies will be taken to Newport on Wednesday. TAPS is taking all of them. The same anonymous donor is going to pay \$400 to help with the vet bills for the dogs.

Parks Report:

- Still waiting on playground equipment for Raney Park. It should be delivered by Christmas.
- Would like to get a list of things that need to be addressed at Elizabeth Swanson Park.

Treasurer Report:

- October Financial Statement reviewed.
- The city sales tax is up
- Chemicals for the water plant have gone up 21% since last year. Need to review invoices and see why there has been such an increase and maybe look at finding a new place to get chemicals at a lower cost.
- Council member Dallas made a motion to have a 2024 budget planning meeting on November 21st at 7:00. Council member Austin second. All council members voted in favor. Motion carried.

New Business:

- Audit Report - There was one finding when the audit was done. That the mayor will make sure the governing body (city council) documents that the review of the prior year has been done and that it is entered into the minutes of the meeting
- Millage - Council member Austin made a motion to extend the same millage of 5.4. Council member Massanelli second. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
- Worldwide Project Advance - CEA Civil Engineering Associates wants the city to advance a payment of \$69,876.61. The system that they use to get paid is currently down and has been down for 3 weeks. Mayor Jackson informed CEA that the city was not able to make an advance of that much money. They then requested that the city advance \$29,858.00 for building materials that will be here on Wednesday. The date for completion was extended by Delta Regional Authority and White River.
- Council member Dallas made a motion to pay the \$29,858.00 to get the building material paid for and get our reimbursement. Council member Taylor second. Roll call vote requested. Council members that voted in favor were Tim Carter, Amanda Austin, Diane Powell, Lou Dallas, and Travis Taylor. Council member that voted against was Coach Massanelli. Motion carried 5-1.
- The drug testing company that the Municipal League uses has changed to First Choice Drug Testing. The charges will remain the same. Council member Austin made a motion

to accept First Choice Drug Testing for McCrory. Council member Carter second. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

- Ambulance Contract - There will be another Ambulance committee meeting some time in December. Mayor Jackson asked that the Judge consider planning the meeting for a later time so that more people could attend. The committee is supposed to purchase a new ambulance but they are not going to do that until some things change.
- Christmas Bonus - Council member Austin made a motion to give a Christmas bonus of \$600 to all full time employees and \$300 for all part-time employees, including fire department, that have worked this year. Contract workers will not receive a bonus. Council member Carter second. After some discussion, the motion was amended by Council member Massanelli to pay a Christmas bonus of \$700 to all full time employees and \$350 to all full time employees, including fire department, that have worked this year. Council member Austin second. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
- Mayor Jackson typed up an ad for sealed bids for Civic Center work and for the construction of the dog pound. The ads will each run twice in the McCrory paper. Council member Austin made a motion to run the ads for sealed bids in the McCrory paper for two weeks. All sealed bids are to be in the Mayor's office by 5:00pm on December 11, 2023. Council member Massanelli second. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
- Citizen Travis Dunkin addressed the council about the city considering a contract with him for trash pickup. Council member Austin asked if he would have any problem getting all the trash for the city. Travis stated that he is talking with a lender and that if he were to get a contract with the city, he is going to get a truck that will pick up the cans and dump them. Travis would like to get the number of residents and commercial accounts so he can put together a business plan. Mayor Jackson told Travis to come to City Hall and he will work with him to get him the information he is looking for.

Council member Austin made a motion to pay the bills. Council member Dallas second. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn. Council member Carter second. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Mayor

City Clerk