



**CITY OF CENTERTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2024
6:00 PM**

- (1) **Pledge** – The Pledge Allegiance was recited.

- (2) **Prayer** – Keith Higginbotham offered the prayer.

- (3) **Roll Call** - Those Present and answering Roll Call were Mayor Bill Edwards, Darren Warren, Josie Reed, Keith Higginbotham, Justin Cowgur and Cliff Thompson. Cody miles was absent. Those present and not answering Roll Call were City Clerk Todd Wright, City Attorney Brian Rabal (via Zoom), HR Director Jocelyn Diaz (via Zoom), Financial Director Shannon Zappettini, Senior Planner Dianne Morrison Lloyd, Police Chief Cody Harper and Director of Public Works Anthony Martinez.

- (4) **Council Minutes** –

Josie Reed made a motion to Approve the Minutes of the October 8, 2024 City Council Meeting, with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

CWSD, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Adjustments and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes –

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Acknowledge Receipt of the Minutes of the September 17, 2024 CWSD Meeting, October 1, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting, October 1, 2024 Board of Zoning Adjustments Meeting and the September 30, 2024 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, with a 2nd from Cliff Thompson. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (5) **City and Court Financials** -

Financial Director Shannon Zappettini addressed the Council, detailing the Financial Reports for October 2024, as provided in the Council packets. Revenue was at 91.74 % and Expenses were at 83.71 %.

The October 2024 Financial Report and Court Report were contained in the Council packets.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to accept the October, 2024 City & Court Financials, with a 2nd from Cliff Thompson. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(6) Department Reports -

The Department Reports were in the Council Packets.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any questions. There were none.

(7) Public Comments – None

(8) Ordinances –

Josie Reed made a motion to Read Ordinance 2024-31; and Resolutions 2024-27, 2024-34, 2024-35 and 2024-36 by Title only, with a 2nd from Darren Warren. There was a roll call. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Suspend the Rule Requiring the Reading on three (3) Separate Occasions for Ordinance 2024-31, with a 2nd from Cliff Thompson. There was a roll call. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- **Ordinance 2024-31 - AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE SUBDIVISION FINAL PLAT OF DAISY ROAD DUPLEXES, CREATING RESIDENTIAL LOTS 1 TO 20 (40 DWELLING UNITS) AND TRACT A, IN THE CITY OF CENTERTON, S10-T19N-R31W, BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS.**

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to accept the Final Plat of Daisy Road Duplexes Subdivision on Daisy and Brookside Roads. He said it was recommended for Council approval at the 11/05/2024 PC meeting. A copy of the Final Plat was provided for Council, including Bond amounts.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any questions. There were none.

City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Cliff Thompson made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, with a 2nd from Justin Cowgur. There was a roll call. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(9) Resolutions –

- **Resolution 2024-34 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH CUNNINGHAM RECREATION OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA FOR PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND RESTROOM FOR CORNER WOODS PARK.**

Mayor Bill Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Resolution is to enter into an agreement with Cunningham Recreation Equipment of Charlotte, North Carolina for playground equipment and a restroom for the Corner Woods Park at Seba Road and Keller Road. He stated that we did receive a \$300,000.00 grant from the Walton Family Foundation, which will be used toward this project. A diagram of the proposal and a copy of the agreement were provided for Council.

Director of Public Works Anthony Martinez detailed the project for Council.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the Resolution, with a 2nd from Justin Cowgur. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

- **Resolution 2024-35 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH CUNNINGHAM RECREATION OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA FOR PURCHASE OF SHADE EQUIPMENT FOR MCKISSIC SPRINGS PARK.**

Mayor Bill Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Resolution is to enter into an agreement with Cunningham Recreation Equipment of Charlotte, North Carolina for shade equipment for the Splash Pad at McKissic Springs Park on Allen Road. A diagram of the proposal and a copy of the agreement were provided for Council.

Director of Public Works Anthony Martinez detailed the project for Council.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Justin Cowgur made a motion to adopt the Resolution, with a 2nd from Cliff Thompson. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

- **Resolution 2024-36 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH NIKKI PENN COUNSELING AND CONSULTING PLLC BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE CENTERTON POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS.**

Mayor Bill Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Resolution is to enter into an agreement with Nikki Penn Counseling and Consulting PLLC of Batesville, Arkansas for mental health services for the Centerton Police and Fire Departments. He stated that we are required by state law to provide this service and this is a renewal of our current contract. A copy of the agreement was provided for Council.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the Resolution, with a 2nd from Justin Cowgur. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

(10) Impact Fee Presentation – Tischler Bice – Carson Bice -

Carson Bice addressed Council, providing a presentation of the process, results and recommendations from a study regarding Impact Fees for the city. He answered questions from Council members. A copy of the presentation was provided for Council.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

Council recommended that Staff review the recommendations and bring an update back to Council in December.

(11) ULI Northwest Arkansas Small Cities Grant Presentation – Megan Brown -

Megan Brown of ULI Northwest Arkansas addressed Council, providing a presentation of the ULI Northwest Arkansas Small Cities Grant. A copy of the presentation was provided for Council.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

No action was taken by Council.

(12) Appoint Matt Freeman to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Term Ending July 31, 2025 –

Mayor Edwards addressed Council, asking for approval to Appoint Matt Freeman to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Term Ending July 31, 2025.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Appoint Matt Freeman to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, Term Ending July 31, 2025, with a 2nd from Cliff Thompson. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(13) Accept Resignation of Donna Rice from the Advertising and Promotions Commission –

Mayor Edwards addressed Council, asking for approval to accept the Resignation of Donna Rice from the Advertising and Promotions Commission. He stated that she has sold her food truck business.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to accept the Resignation of Donna Rice from the Advertising and Promotions Commission, with a 2nd from Justin Cowgur. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(14) Acknowledge Receipt of Millage Rollback -

Police Chief Cody Harper addressed Council, stating that there will be a Millage Rollback from Benton County, due to the substantial increase in property taxes. A copy of the letter from Benton County was provided for Council, showing the rollback from 5.40 mils to 4.88 mils.

Mayor Edwards asked if there were any questions from Council. There were none.

Darren Warren made a motion to Acknowledge Receipt of a Millage Rollback from Benton County, with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(15) Approve Merit Raises for 2025 –

Mayor Edwards addressed Council, asking for approval of Merit Raises up to 4%, as presented for 2025.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Approve Merit Raises for 2025, as presented, with a 2nd from Josie Reed. There was a roll call All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(16) Other Business –

- **Chamber of Commerce Update** – A Chamber of Commerce update was provided by Council Member Josie Reed.
- **Dude Solutions Update** – An update was given by Senior Planner Dianne Morrison Lloyd and City Attorney Brian Rabal.

(17) Announcements -

- **11/16/2024 – Coffee with the Mayor @ 9:00 AM**
- **11/19/2024 – Planning Commission Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **11/28/2024 – Community Thanksgiving Dinner @ 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**
- **12/03/2024 – Planning Commission Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **12/10/2024 – City Council Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **12/13/2024 – Christmas Parade @ 6:00 PM**
- **12/17/2024 – Planning Commission Meeting @ 6:00 PM**

(18) Adjourn -

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Adjourn at 7:25 PM with a 2nd from Justin Cowgur. All Council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Bill Edwards, Mayor

Todd Wright, City Clerk