

**CITY OF CENTERTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 10, 2012**

The city council was called to order by Mayor, Bill Edwards. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the prayer was offered by Todd Wright. Those Present and answering roll call were Mayor Bill Edwards, Robin Reed, Josie Reed, Keith Higginbotham, Skye Petty and Tommy Laird. Tyler Steele was absent. Those present and not answering roll call were Todd Wright, Jennifer Robinson, Brian Rabal, Andrew Huntsinger, Street Superintendent Rick Hudson, Police Chief Lance Johnson, Animal Control Supervisor Terry Sanchez, Fire Chief Delton Bush, Melvin Coffelt and Robert Coffelt.

- (1) **Council Minutes-** Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the minutes from the March 13, 2012 council meeting with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (2) **Planning, Water & Sewer, Parks and A&P Minutes-** Josie Reed made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the February 13th, 2012 Planning and February 16th, March 6th and March 12th, 2012 Water & Sewer minutes as well as the March, 2012 Parks & Recreation and March 2012 Personnel Committee minutes with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (3) **City and Court Financials-** Mayor Edwards stated that through 25% of the year our expenses were at 20.5%. He stated that we are still under budget. He pointed out that our Street Turnback has been lower than expected. Jennifer stated that it was expected to be \$47.50 per capita and that we don't know right now where it is going to be. Jennifer pointed out that she put a separate line item in the financials for the money being set aside for the new Police Department. Tommy Laird made a motion to accept the March, 2012 City and Court financials with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (4) **Department Reports- Building Inspector-** Robert addressed the council and stated that building inspections were down a little this month. He mentioned that this time of year is heavy with code enforcement and gave some examples. Todd asked if we could post something to be proactive with these seasonal nuisance items. Robert pointed out that more foreclosures will be coming and that is the reason for most of our grass calls. Robert mentioned that he condemned the gazebo in the City Park and that it was removed. He said that there were some new codes changes discussed in Hot Springs that have not been adopted by the State of Arkansas yet. **Police-** Police Chief Lance Johnson pointed out the stats for the previous month found in the council's packets. He stated that he was still waiting to hear back on the 2012 COPS Grant and doesn't expect to hear anything until fall. He said that there has been a lot of vacation time being taken and

coverage being made. Lance stated that he has 2 Sergeants and 2 Supervisors taking Supervisory classes locally. He stated that the 2 new Tahoe's are being built and should be shipped by the end of May. Lance gave details to the council on the progression of the new police department with the current timeline. He said that April 25th will still be the bid opening date with the close on April 26th. Robin asked how the current fleet of cars was doing and Lance said they were fine. He said the 2 Impalas will go to County Auction. Robin Reed asked if Lance had done a pay study for the PD yet and Lance said he will have it done by October budget discussions. There was more discussion about vacation coverage for the PD. **Street-** Rick Hudson stated that they hired a new full time person for the Street Department. He stated that his name was Ryan Clyde and that he was a local citizen and has experience He stated that they now have 4 full time employees and 1 part time employee. Rick said that the community service labor has really fallen off but that they are still using the county labor. Rick stated that they have Workplace Safety and Driver's Training coming up. He said that the weeds have really taken over and that the first mow is almost complete. He mentioned a problem with dumped grass clippings in ditches and detention ponds. He said that we are still having some drainage issues and are working on patching and stabilizing some of the streets. He mentioned that they are watching their money closely with the drop in revenue. He stated that the backhoe lease is up in June and that he and Mayor Edwards are shopping for a replacement. He said that the grader is in bad shape and that they will be advertising for it in the next week. Rick stated that he met with the County about doing some projects together. He said that he can get red base at no cost to us. Skye asked about mowing detention ponds and Rick detailed their process and timeline. **Planning-** Lorene Burns addressed the council and presented them with a written Planning Report and then went over the report. She stated that there was a re-zone hearing for a future nursing home on Hwy102, the development plan was approved for the Centerton Police Department and they approved a mobile concession, Sweet Italian Ice, to be in Beckendale Plaza. Lorene stated that she was working on zoning maps and gave details of issues and options. She stated that Jim Wheelless would be willing to work on them for us for \$20.00/hr. Tommy Laird made a motion to allow a resolution to be drawn up with Jim Wheelless to do contract zoning labor up to \$1500.00 with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. She said that Celia Scott-Silkwood is willing to assist her with a new zoning ordinance and finalizing an existing zoning map and a proposed zoning map to adopt. Lorene gave an update on the Little Osage LOMR. She gave details on the CRS Program and stated that David Todd is available to assist. Lorene mentioned the AFMA 2012 Spring Workshop on April 19-20, 2012 and stated that she is resigning as AFMA Board Treasurer after the workshop. **Fire-** Fire Chief Delton Bush pointed out the call sheet in the council's packets. He stated that he has added some firefighters and that the staff is full. He stated that the ladder truck is back in working order and in service. Delton mentioned that the tanker he was expecting to get from the county ended up going to Pea Ridge to replace the one they wrecked and that we might be getting one from Hiwassee, but that is up to the County. He said that he is working on jurisdictional

boundaries. Delton said that he has been looking at very preliminary ideas on numbers to become a full time department. He said that they are still working on a meeting schedule that they can put on a calendar. He said he hopes to have that after tonight's Fire Meeting. Robin asked if they take minutes at their meetings and Jennifer state that it should be in their by-laws. Mayor Edwards stated that he was going to let Delton use one of the City's Jeeps for the Fire Department. He said it would get striped and lighted. **Water-** Melvin Coffelt addressed the council. He said that Joby was in ICU after having a heart attack on Sunday. Melvin introduced Frank Holzkamper as the new CWSD Superintendent. Frank addressed the council and gave updates on Hwy102. **Animal Control-** Terry Sanchez addressed the council and stated that everything was going good at the Shelter. He said that they sealed the new fence. Terry reminded everyone about the rabies clinic on April 21st from 10-12 at the City Park. He mentioned how well Facebook works in finding homes for the dogs. Robin asked if a dog had to be on a leash in your yard. Terry stated that you had to have control over the animal and that it could be verbal and does not have to be on a leash. **Administration-** Jennifer asked if everyone got their paychecks. She gave an update on Jeff and his liver transplant options. **Mayor-** Mayor Edwards read the resignation letter from Tyler Steele and detailed the process to fill the vacated council seat. He stated that the opening was posted for 2 weeks and that there was a large response with 10 applicants.

- (5) **Resignation of Tyler Steele from the City Council-** Mayor Edwards read the letter or resignation from Tyler Steele. Skye Petty made a motion to accept the resignation of Tyler Steele from the Centerton City Council with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (6) **Discuss Compensation for Lorene Burns for taking Planning Commission Minutes-** Mayor Edwards addressed the council and detailed the process and pay for typing the minutes for Planning meetings. He stated that it pays \$50.00 for attending the meeting and \$75.00 for typing the minutes. He stated that Lorene took and typed the minutes in January and February and that he did them in March. There was discussion. Robin Reed made a motion to pay Lorene for January, February and April with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (7) **Resolution 2012-04- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES TO THE CENTERTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS.** Mayor Edwards addressed the council and explained that this resolution was to allow us to pay membership dues of \$330.00 to the Chamber for the next 12 months. Michael Finke addressed the council and thanked them for their support over the last year and gave an account of current activities. Todd asked if there was a way to show what funds are used to promote the city. Jennifer

said that she thought the council was looking for a financial statement. Michael stated that according to the by-laws he could provide financials if requested. The council asked for a monthly statement. There was discussion. Josie Reed made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the resolution by title only. Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(8) Ordinance 2012-08- AN ORDINANCE AMMENDING SECTION 2.28.02 AND 2.28.10 OF THE CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Mayor Edwards stated that this ordinance was to raise the number of volunteer firefighters allowed to volunteer with the CFD from 35 to 45 and to set the pay per run, per meeting and per training session at \$10.00 in the code book. He said that the current number of volunteers allowed is 35. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian read the Ordinance by title only. Tommy Laird made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian read the emergency clause. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(9) Ordinance 2012-09- AN ORDINANCE AMMENDING CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14 TO REZONE CERTAIN LAND BELONGING TO CENTERTON MANOR, LLC FROM AGRICULTURAL (A-1) TO HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL (C-2). Mayor Edwards addressed the council and detailed the need for this ordinance. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian read the emergency clause. Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(10) Ordinance 2012-10- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14 TO REZONE CERTAIN LAND BELONGING TO CITY OF CENTERTON FROM MEDIUM DENSITY

RESIDENTIAL (R-2) TO NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL (C-3).

Mayor Edwards addressed the council and detailed the need for this ordinance, explaining that we will have to apply for a conditional use permit to operate the PD there. He said we will have to have a public hearing for that. Robin Reed made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian read the emergency clause. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Other Business- Mayor Edwards stated that they had discussed at the last Personnel Committee meeting having scheduled Meeting of the Whole meetings. There was discussion. The council set the 2 dates as August 21, 2012 and November 27, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

Announcements- Mayor Edwards reminded everyone about Coffee with the Mayor on April 14th, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

Other Business- Interview Candidates for Open Council Position- Mayor Edwards stated that the council was going to allow the 10 candidates for the open council seat 3 minutes each to address the council. Keith Higginbotham stated that there would be no decision tonight and that it would be decided by the council at the beginning of the next council meeting. He reminded the candidates that they would need to be present at the next council meeting and prepared to be sworn in and to take their seat on the stand. Those present to address the council were as follows:

Misty Elam
Ann Snyder
Christopher Benefield
Wendell Pitt
Mark Hanna
Darren Warren
Bradley Carpenter
Mindy Brewster
Courtland Halbrook

Each candidate was given 3 minutes and there was discussion between the council and the candidates.

There was no more business or announcements and Tommy Laird made a motion to adjourn with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Bill Edwards, Mayor

Todd Wright, City Clerk