

CITY OF CENTERTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 14, 2009

The city council was called to order by Mayor, Bobbie Griffith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the prayer was offered by Josie Reed. Those present and answering role call were Tommy Laird, Josie Reed, Mayor, Bobbie Griffith, Keith Higginbotham, Patricia Thornhill and Randy Thomas. Kathy Huber was absent. Those present and not answering role call were Todd Wright, Jan Dolan, Lorene Taul, Robert Coffelt, Brian Rabal, Andrew Huntsinger and Howard Slinkard. Jeff Coffelt, Bert Johnson and Lance Johnson (Officer Abbot spoke in his place) were absent.

- (1) **Council Minutes** - Josie Reed made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 10, 2009 city council meeting with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (2) **Planning and Water & Sewer Minutes** - Keith Higginbotham made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the Planning minutes from February 24, 2009 and March 24, 2009 and the Water & Sewer minutes from the regular meeting on February 19, 2009 and the special meeting on February 27, 2009 with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (3) **Financials for General/Street and Court** - Patricia Thornhill made a motion to accept the financials with a 2nd from Josie Reed. Mayor Griffith stated that with a quarter of the year gone, the city's revenue is right at 25% and expenses are at 22%.
- (4) **Ordinance 09-07 - AN ORDINANCE CLOSING THE EASMENT LOCATED BETWEEN LOTS 6 AND 7: McKISSIC CREEK ESTATES, CENTERTON, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** This ordinance had been tabled at a previous council meeting while we waited for approval from the Water & Sewer department. Brian Sartain from Sand Creek Engineering and Landscape Architecture addressed the council and explained that all approvals had been received including the deeding of a parcel of land to the city for a sewer lift station. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the ordinance by title only. Randy Thomas made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance 3 times with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the emergency clause. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (5) **Ordinance 09-08 - Lighting Ordinance** - Tabled until the next city council meeting.
- (6) **Ordinance 09-09 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CENTERTON MUNICIPLE CODE, 11.04, SUBSECTION 11.04.01 ADOPTION OF BUILDING CODE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** Robert Coffelt addressed the council and explained that this ordinance was created to add the words “or most current edition” to the existing ordinance. Randy Thomas made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring reading the ordinance in full 3 times with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All present members voted in favor and the motion carried. Patricia Thornhill mad a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the emergency clause. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Josie Reed. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members present and the motion carried.
- (7) **Ordinance 09-10 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE, 11.08, SUBSECTION 11.08.01, AND 11.08.02 ADOPTION OF THE PLUMBING CODE; EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PUPOSES.** Robert Coffelt addressed the council to explain that this amendment was to add “Arkansas Fuel Gas Code”. Randy Thomas made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Patricia Thornhill. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the ordinance by title only. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance three times with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the emergency clause. Randy Thomas made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Josie Reed. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members present and the motion carried.
- (8) **Ordinance 09-11 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE, 11.12, SECTION 11.12.01 ADOPTION OF ELECTRICAL CODE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** Robert Coffelt addressed the council and explained that this ordinance amendment was to replace “standard” with “Nation Electrical Code”. Randy Thomas made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the ordinance by title only. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance three times with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All members present voted in favor and the motion

carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members present and the motion carried. Andrew read the emergency clause. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (9) **Resolution 09-07 - A RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL TO BE THE “CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH” IN THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** Mayor Griffith stated that there are 2.5 million reports of child abuse yearly. Child abuse can be defined as any type of behavior toward a child by a parent, guardian, caregiver, other family member or any other adult that endangers or impairs a child’s physical or emotional health and development. There are 4 major types of abuse; Physical abuse, Sexual abuse, Emotional abuse and Neglect. Randy Thomas made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Patricia Thornhill. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members present and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Randy Thomas made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Josie Reed. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members present and the motion carried.
- (10) **Resolution 09-08 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY AN AMENDMENT TO CENTERTON’S 457B RETIREMENT PLAN WITH ARVEST ASSET MANAGEMENT.** Mayor Griffith stated that this amendment was to add an unforeseeable emergency provision for early distribution from the plan. A detailed list of those emergencies was included with the resolution. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Josie Reed and the motion carried. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members present and the motion carried.
- (11) **Resolution 09-09 - A RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE INDIVIDUALS AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM VARIOUS ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON A&P OPERATIONS AT ARVEST BANK CENTERTON; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** Mayor Griffith stated that this resolution was to remove Debbie Monroe and Bill Edwards from the account and to add Bobbie Griffith, Todd Wright and Jan Dolan. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members present and the motion carried.

(12) **National Drinking Water Week Proclamation** - Mayor Griffith read the following proclamation: **WHEREAS, WATER IS OUR MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE; AND WHEREAS, ONLY TAP WATER DELIVERS PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION, FIRE PROTECTION, SUPPORT FOR OUR ECONOMY AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE WE ENJOY; AND WHEREAS, ANY MEASURE OF A SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY- LOW MORTALITY RATES, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DIVERSITY, PRODUCTIVITY, AND PUBLIC SAFETY- ARE IN SOME WAY RELATED TO ACCESS TO SAFE WATER; AND WHEREAS, WE ARE ALL STEWARDS OF THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE UPON WHICH FUTURE GENERATIONS DEPEND; AND WHEREAS, EACH CITIZEN OF OUR COMMUNITY IS CALLED UPON TO HELP PROTECT OUR SOURCE WATERS FROM POLLUTION, TO PRACTICE WATER CONSERVATION, AND TO GET INVOLVED IN LOCAL WATER ISSUES; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS, I DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MAY3RD THRU MAY 9TH AS DRINKING WATER WEEK.**

(13) **Department Reports- Admin** - Jan stated that there have been a lot of good comments lately on the city website and that a new bulletin board has been added. She also stated that we are running an ad for qualifications for a financial audit. She said as a first class city we can hire our own and that she feels like it is time to do an audit. **Fire, W&S** - Speaking for Jeff Coffelt, she said that a contract has been awarded to start the construction of the 2 system tie-in and the tower work to start in May. **Planning** - Lorene stated that she will be going to a Flood Plain Conference tomorrow. She also stated that David Taul hopes to have everything done by next week and ready to go to F.E.M.A., and that he should be at the next meeting for a presentation. She said that we have until this Thursday for any comments to the highway dept. regarding the future widening project. She stated that she finished the 2nd draft of the Land Use Plan today. She addressed the work that was going on in the Willow Crossing subdivision, saying that they were working on the detention pond, which has been draining into the street. She said that the pond had been made larger but that more engineering was being done to correct the problem. **Police** - Jason (speaking for Lance) said that the stats were looking good. He mentioned that we have 2 officers at the academy and that they were doing well. He said that Terry is back to work at Animal Control but still had some therapy to do.

(14) **Announcements** - Mayor Griffith pointed out that the Building Permits and Fire & Street transactions for March, 2009 were in the council's packets. She also stated that the city sold the green Taurus for \$1395.00. She reminded everyone that there would be an A&P commission meeting at 7:00 a.m. Friday morning. Breakfast will be served. She also reminded everyone about the Farmer's Market starting at 7:00 Friday morning. Patricia Thornhill gave a report on the latest Parks & Rec. meeting regarding the preliminary ideas of a Veteran's

Park at Main & Bliss and a small park in the Brimwoods subdivision. She stated that the next meeting would be April 21st at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Griffith announced the possibility of a library being built in Centeron this year.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Bobbie Griffith, Mayor

Todd Wright, City Clerk/ Recorder