

**CITY OF CENTERTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 10, 2010**

The city council was called to order by Mayor, Bobbie Griffith. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the prayer was offered by Keith Higginbotham. Those Present and answering roll call were Mayor Bobbie Griffith, Kathy Huber, Patricia Thornhill, Josie Reed, Tommy Laird, Randy Thomas and Keith Higginbotham. Those present and not answering role call were Jennifer Robinson, Todd Wright, Brian Rabal, Howard Slinkard, Lance Johnson, Jeff Coffelt and Lorene Burns. Robert Coffelt was absent as a department head.

- (1) Council and Public Hearing Minutes-** Kathy Huber made a motion to adopt the minutes from the July 13th, 2010 Council meeting and Public Hearing with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. 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 June 22, 2010 Planning minutes and the June Water & Sewer minutes with a 2nd from Kathy Huber. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (3) City and Court Financials-** Mayor Griffith reported that with 58% of the year gone the revenue for the General Fund is at 73% for revenue with 64% in expenditures. She stated that Jenny was working on a new format for the Financials for next month. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to accept the July, 2010 City and Court financials with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (4) Ordinance 2010-15- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 14 TO REZONE CERTAIN LAND BELONGING TO WPC, LLC FROM RESIDENTIAL (R-3) TO CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (C-1).** Mayor Griffith addressed the council and explained this ordinance and gave a description of the location of the property. She stated that Planning approved this in their July meeting. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Kathy Huber. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the ordinance by title only. Patricia Thornhill made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance 3 times with a 2nd from Kathy Huber. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Kathy Huber made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the emergency clause. Kathy Huber

made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (5) **Ordinance 2010-16- AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2010-11.** Mayor Griffith addressed the council and explained this ordinance with assistance from Police Chief Lance Johnson to say that the original City ordinance was being repealed because the State of Arkansas had adopted its own set of laws pertaining to Synthetic Marijuana Products. A copy of the new State Statute was contained in the Council's packets. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Kathy Huber. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the ordinance by title only. Patricia Thornhill 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. Kathy Huber made a motion to adopt ordinance with a 2nd from Patricia Thornhill. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the emergency clause. Kathy Huber made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (6) **Resolution 2010-10- A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE BENTON COUNTY REGIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT.** Mayor Griffith addressed the council and explained the need for the funds to the Council. She stated that we normally make a contribution to Solid Waste once a year which we have already done. She pointed out that a copy of a letter from The Solid Waste District was contained the Council's packets and that the amount to come from our city was \$1686.30, which is about .30 per capita. Randy mentioned that it was based on a previous census, which helps keep the amount down. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the resolution by title only. Kathy Huber made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Randy Thomas. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard mentioned that he had not included an emergency clause and Mayor Griffith stated that it would be fine.

- (7) **Department Reports- Street-** Mayor Griffith acknowledged Russell and Jerry from the Street Department and thanked them for the work they are doing. She mentioned that they were currently the only 2 full-time employees in the department and that they were doing the best that they could to keep up with the workload. **Police-** Chief Johnson stated that they were fully staffed. He stated that they were seeing an increase in car break-ins. He stated that Sonic was robbed last week. He stated that there were 5 D.W.I.'s last weekend. He said that the Police

Department got painted this weekend by community service workers and that they also got new gutters. He stated that he got 5 AR-15's for \$739.00 a piece in Rogers. He said that they came with rear flip sights and that they also purchased soft cases for them. He said the total was \$4200.00, leaving a balance of \$1600.00 in the ammunition fund. He said they will be taken out to the range and sighted in before they are issued to each officer. He said that he submitted the 50% match to the Chief's Association in July and expects to get it sometime next year. He stated that if it comes this year, he would like to use the \$1800.00 to purchase EO Tech sights for the AR-15's. He mentioned that the Census being taken right now is anticipating Centerton's population to come in around 9800-9900 and that the national average is 1 officer per 377 citizens and that using a round figure of 9000 citizens it comes up to 24 officers needed and that they are doing it with 10. He stated that he has a good group of officers, but he wanted for the Council to keep that in perspective. He stated that Jeff Coffelt has 3 guys in the field doing the work of 15 for the Water & Sewer Department. Lance stated that the City should be proud of the work being done and that the budget money appropriated for those areas are not being wasted. **Planning-** Lorene Burns stated that a building plan has been submitted for a Family Dollar store for the property that was re-zoned earlier in the Council meeting. She stated that the Planning Commission has been working hard on code changes for streets, sidewalks and driveways, as well as signs. She stated that there was going to be a Public Hearing regarding those changes on August 24th and then it will be brought before Council on September 14th. She stated that the Flood Plain Board she is on met last week and will be having a conference in Eureka Springs in September that she will attend. She stated that they are working on getting 3 subdivisions finished up; Char Lou III, Eden's Court and Morningside. She discussed the current state of the Imagery Project and stated that the amount has gone up to \$300.00 per square mile which the County pays part of. She asked the Council and/or Budget Committee to look at whether can be money in the budget next year to participate. Todd asked if it was all or nothing or if we could choose areas. She stated that she asked them that question and stated that she is prepared to offer whatever we deem is available. She stated that they need to know by September 15th. She stated that we usually send a check to Northwest Regional Planning in January and they hold the money until the photos are delivered and then they release the funds. Todd asked if there was a chance that we say yes and other cities say no and the project doesn't happen and she said that it is possible for that to happen. Randy Thomas suggested that we wait until the next meeting to see what some other cities decide. Todd asked if the amount of \$5957.00 was all they were asking for from us and she stated that it was. **Fire-** Jeff Coffelt stated that Centerton Day was a success and thanked everyone that helped. He said that it was by far the most successful year and that they should net well over \$12,000.00. He stated that we may have to look for other spaces to do it for next year and mentioned how many participants were in the Tiny Tot competition. He stated that they were still waiting to get final figures on quite a few of the corporate donations. He stated that they sold 5000 tickets for the gun raffle. **Water-** Jeff Coffelt stated that rates increased in July due to the sewer increase and that there will be another increase in January and

that it is the last increase scheduled. He stated that we should not be surprised to see more increases in a couple of years. He mentioned the expense of the new standards that Bentonville is dealing with the Federal Government. He said the standards can be met; it just costs a lot to do it because of the treatment process and waste haul off. He stated that the big water tower is painted and that they will be filling it soon. He stated that we shouldn't notice a change in pressure when they fill it but we may see a difference in water color. **Administration-** Jenny announced that there will be a Northwest Arkansas Preparedness Fair at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Bentonville on August 21st from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and gave details.

(8) Announcements- Mayor Griffith pointed out to the council that the July, 2010 Permits and Fire transactions were in the council's packets. She also announced that there will be an A&P meeting on August 18th at 7:00 a.m. at City Hall. She stated that there was a Personnel Committee meeting prior to the City Council meeting tonight to discuss a job description for the Street Superintendant position and whether we are going to hire one or not and how would go about hiring someone. She stated that we got pretty far in the meeting and we would be giving out information pretty soon. Mayor Griffith asked if there were any questions and there were not.

Randy Thomas made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Bobbie Griffith, Mayor

Todd Wright, City Clerk