

**City Of Centerton  
City Council Meeting  
January 13, 2009**

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

- (1) **Council Minutes** - Keith Higginbotham made a motion to accept the minutes from the Public Hearing on Dec. 9, 2008, City Council Meeting on December 9, 2008 and the Special City Council Meeting on January 5, 2009 with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (2) **Planning Minutes and Water & Sewer Minutes including Financials** - Mayor Griffith mentioned that in the Water & Sewer minutes, The Commission agreed to take back the \$515,000.00 debt on the Kinyon property loan from the city Kathy Huber made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the minutes from the Planning Commission meeting on November 25, 2008 and for Water & Sewer from November, 2008, including financials, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (3) **Financials** - Keith Higginbotham made a motion to accept the court financials for December, 2008, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Randy Thomas. Sustaining votes were recorded for all council members and the motion carried.
- (4) **Ordinance 09-01 - An Ordinance Amending The Budget For The Operation Of The City Of Centerton, Arkansas For The Calendar Year 2008: Declaring An Emergency: And For Other Purposes.** Kathy Huber made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. Roll call votes in favor were recorded for all council members and the motion carried. Randy Thomas made a motion to suspend the rule of having to read the ordinance 3 times with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. Sustaining votes were recorded for all council members and the motion carried. Andrew read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Randy Thomas. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the emergency clause. Randy Thomas made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (5) **Ordinance 09-02 - An Ordinance Authorizing The Amendment Of The City Of Centerton Municipal Code 2.04.01 Operation As First Class City: And Declaring An Emergency.** Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the

ordinance by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Randy Thomas. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule of having to read the ordinance 3 times with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Randy Thomas. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the ordinance by title only. Kathy Huber made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. Sustaining votes were recorded for all members of council and the motion carried. Andrew read the emergency clause. Kathy Huber made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Randy Thomas. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (6) **Resolution 09-01 - A Resolution Appointing an Attorney To Serve As Primary Attorney For The City Of Centerton, Arkansas.** Mayor Griffith stated that the state requires that the city council annually by resolution to appoint a duly licensed attorney at law to fill the position of Primary Attorney and to fix the pay for said position for the calendar year. Mayor Griffith stated that Howard Slinkard has been the city attorney for a long time and that Howard and Andrew have agreed to attend the City Council meetings at no charge, but will continue to work for the city at a rate of \$150.00 per hour. Keith Higginbotham stated that he thought that the council had agreed that the elected attorney would serve as the primary attorney, to which Mayor Griffith stated that was not how the resolution that was drawn up. Jan Dolan pulled the resolution for the council to review. Kathy Huber made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Randy Thomas made motion to adopt the resolution with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Patricia Thornhill. Sustaining votes were recorded for all council members and the motion carried.
- (7) **Resolution 09-02 - A Resolution Appointing a City Prosecutor For The City Of Centerton, Arkansas.** Mayor Griffith stated that the current prosecutor is Tim Hutchinson and that this resolution would retain him as the city prosecutor at a sum of \$700.00 per month. Randy Thomas made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Patricia Thornhill. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Randy Thomas made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. Sustaining votes were recorded for all council members and the motion carried.
- (8) **Resolution 09-03 - A Resolution Expressing The Intent Of The City Of Centerton, Arkansas To Reimburse Preliminary Costs Pertaining To The Construction Of Betterments And Improvements To The Water System Of The City Of Centerton, Arkansas From The Proceeds Of The Issuance Of A Water And Sewer Revenue Bond; And Other Matters Pertaining Thereto.** This resolution is in regards to the bond to finance the cost of constructing a new booster pumping station and water main connections to interconnect the Centerton water system with the Benton County Development Authority system. Josie Reed made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Patricia

Thornhill. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Randy Thomas made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. **Notice was given that a Public Hearing will be held on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in regards to the bond.**

- (9) **Department Reports** - Jan had nothing to report from **Administration**. **Police**- Chief Johnson reported that the dept. lost Jim Johnson to the Lowell Police dept. and that he had 14 responses to the add for hiring a replacement. He stated that Officer Martinez would be filling the narcotics training slot. Lance stated that by the next council meeting, he should have a 4 year report on the activities of the police dept. for the council to review. Chief Johnson detailed the officer interview process for the council. Lastly, Lance said that the dept. would be purchasing 2 new digital cameras. **Water** - Jeff Coffelt stated that tonight's bond resolution is the next step in the process for the 2 system tie-in. Jeff said that the new two-ton water tower is the largest in the United States and that the Bentonville tower is the largest in Arkansas. Jeff also said that the G.P.S. studies will be beginning soon for water meters. **Fire** - Chief Coffelt stated that there have been 27 fire runs already this year. He said that the quarterly fire meeting will be next week and that annual elections will be held as well as that Jimmy and Matt Thompson are on the county board. **Street** - Street Superintendent Bert Johnson reported he will hopefully have the drainage report/manual done by the next council meeting. As far as street projects, he stated that Gamble, Kimmel and Morningside are ready for an overlay. Bert said that Tycoon road needs a lot of work and that we would sub-grade and base it ourselves with what is left of the F.E.M.A. money. He stated that there were a lot of projects, but not enough people to get them done. Bert stated that curb and top soil was coming for Bliss and that they are getting to a couple of the graffiti spots a month.

- (10) **Announcements** - Mayor Griffith stated that the December 2008 building permits and Fire and Street transactions were in the councilman's packets. Mayor Griffith said that the A&P Commission would meet Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Conference room, and that the Parks & Rec. would be meeting Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Randy Thomas made a motion to adjourn the city council meeting with a second from Josie Reed. Sustaining votes were recorded for all council members and the motion carried.

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Bobbie Griffith, Mayor

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Todd Wright, City Clerk