

**CITY OF CENTERTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 7, 2013**

The city council was called to order by Mayor, Bill Edwards. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The prayer was offered by Keith Higginbotham. Those Present and answering roll call were Mayor Bill Edwards, Keith Higginbotham, Skye Petty, Misty Elam, Robin Reed, Josie Reed and Tommy Laird. Those present and not answering roll call were Todd Wright, Jennifer Robinson, Brian Rabal, Planning Director Lorene Burns, Police Chief Lance Johnson, Water & Sewer Superintendant Frank Holzkamper, Street Superintendant Rick Hudson and Animal Control Supervisor Terry Sanchez. Fire Chief Delton Bush was absent. Mayor Edwards also recognized Mayor Charles Linam and Water & Sewer Superintendent James Boston from Decatur as well as Mike Echols from the West Side Observer.

- (1) **Council Minutes-** Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the minutes from the June 11, 2013 city council meeting and with a 2nd from Misty Elam. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (2) **Planning, Board of Zoning Adjustments, Parks & Recreation and Water & Sewer Minutes-** Keith Higginbotham made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the May 28, 2013 Planning and Board of Zoning Adjustments, April 2, 2013 Parks & Recreation and May 9, 2013 Water & Sewer minutes with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (3) **City and Court Financials-** Mayor Edwards stated that we are 50% through the year and we have received 66% of our revenue. He stated that our expenditures are a little over 53%. Skye Petty made a motion to accept the June 2013 City and Court financials with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (4) **Approval of an Additional Police Officer-** Mayor Edwards addressed the council and explained the need for a new police officer, pointing out the recent loss of Officer Martinez to Workman's Compensation for at least 4-6 months. He stated that the State pays 66% of his salary. He stated that we will not need a new vehicle. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to approve the hiring of an additional

police officer with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(5) Department Reports- Building Inspection- Robert Coffelt provided a Building Permit Report in the council's packets. He gave details to some of the current projects going on in the city. He pointed out that one of the homes in Oak Tree that was showcased during the Parade of Homes was 6500sf. He stated that it was the most expensive home we have ever had built in our corporate city limits at \$960,000.00. He stated that it sold before the parade was through. Robert stated that weeds and grass were getting better and detailed some of the issues he has to deal with. Mayor Edwards stated that we may have to come up with some tougher ordinances. Robert stated that Cherie was doing a real good job. **Police-** Chief Lance Johnson pointed out the stats for June 2013 and asked if there were any questions. He stated that there were 9 D.W.I. arrests, which is a record for the 13 years that he has been here. He said there were 5 drug arrests that made the paper today. He said we are up to 900 police reports for the year and we had 1200 all of last year and he appreciated the approval for new help. Robin asked Lance how many officers we would need at the new high school and Lance said we would need 1 but train 2. He explained how it currently works at BHS where the district pays for the officer and the car and that they are ours when school is out. Lance detailed speeding issues in the city and how it is patrolled. He said 4th of July went smoothly with few incidents. Lance stated that all of the vehicles were up to snuff and that the audio/video in the interview room at the PD was complete. **Street-** Street Superintendant Rick Hudson stated that he spoke to the contractor on the HWY102 project last week and that they should still complete the project by November. He stated that APAC has since been awarded some other projects that they will be starting. Rick stated that the overlay crew did not get much work done. He said they only completed about 30% of what they had scheduled. He said he is hoping to get them back soon. He stated that the mowing is all caught up and are working on some drainage issues. He gave an update on Cass Street Park. Rick stated that we got funding for the walking trail that will be a small project to start with. He stated that he going to a trail grant lecture next week. He stated that they are getting back with the engineers on the design of the ballpark. Rick stated that he was working on a Master Street Plan for the city and there was a preliminary copy of the plan in the council's packets. **Planning-** Lorene Burns mentioned the Centerton-Gamble addition and that the ballpark had been submitted. She stated that the Quail Hollow preliminary plat had been approved with 120 lots in 3 phases with 35 lots in the first phase. She stated that Forest Park II submitted with 58 lots and is in the review process. She stated that Tri-City Granite submitted. Lorene stated that Benton County Solid Waste is really close to being finished. She stated that she re-posted the Planning Assistant position. Lorene stated that she heard back from CRS and that Centerton will be getting a 5% discount starting in October. Lorene presented the new zoning map and gave some details to the council. She said there would be changes. The last thing that Lorene stated was that Bonnie Coonfield was approved for wildlife rescue. **Fire-**

Fire Chief Delton Bush was absent. Mayor Edwards read an e-mail from Delton Stating: The part-time people have been doing great. Mayor Edwards stated that the response time has been great. Delton added that people in the public are surprised that we are not a full-time department. Delton also stated that we made it through all of the fireworks with no major calls. He stated that there was one injury due to a homemade firework. Keith stated that they were still working on their hose testing. Delton added that they were doing their annual SCBA testing will be on the 17th. Keith stated that they have had over 360 runs for the year..

Water- CWSD Superintendant Frank Holzkamper stated that they have been working on the Greenhouse Road, Hwy 102 and Bella Vista Bypass projects. He mentioned the Lead/Copper testing project. **Animal Control-** Terry Sanchez addressed the council and stated that they got their grant and got their shed up. He said that it was a \$2500 grant and they spent \$1500 on the shed. He is waiting on a bid to run electric to the shed. He stated that adoptions have been going really well. He stated that they currently have 7 dogs at the shelter. **Administration-** Jennifer stated that our audit was wrapping up and gave some details. She said there have not been any major issues and that it may be 6 months before we get the final report. **Mayor-** Mayor Edwards stated that the Cemetery Board had hired Brian Verneti and that he had been in communication with Brian Rabal. Mayor Edwards stated that he and Robin went to the Municipal League and gave some details. He stated his appreciation to all of the city employees that were able to help with Centerton Day. He stated that the preliminary total from the auction was \$6300 with more revenue coming in. Mayor Edwards stated that they upgraded the internet at City Hall at a lower cost. He stated that in the council's packets were a couple of donation deeds and gave details. He stated that we did not get the "Safe Routes to School" grant and told the council that we would apply again.

- (6) **Water & Sewer Presentation-** CWSD Superintendent Frank Holzkamper addressed the council and stated that after 2-3 years of research to find an alternative for our wastewater, they had 3 options, 1) Go to NACA. 2) Stay with Bentonville. 3) Partner with Decatur. Frank gave details, stating that they have drawn up a contract. He stated that their goal was for the cost of treatment to remain the same when this project is completed. There was discussion. Frank stated that if the council would authorize this tonight, the next step would be to talk to ADEQ, followed by the securing of funds. Frank stated that they would like to start this project at the end of September or first of October and hopes it will be just a one year project. There was discussion. Keith asked if there was any issue with us leaving Bentonville and Frank said there was not a buyout or penalty. There was discussion. Frank stated that they had to petition the State to allow them to finance \$8.5 million for 30 years and were approved. Frank went through some of the details of each section of the contract. He stated that CWSD would train with Decatur, that we would be able to review the DWSD annual budget; the initial rate would be \$3.10 per 1000 gallons, with a commercial rate of \$3.68 per 1000 gallons. Frank gave more details. There was discussion about current phosphorous levels in Decatur. James stated that they were currently at 1

and they are at a .2 or .3 on their everyday discharge. He said they are in the process of financing a piece of equipment that will take the levels even lower. Frank stated that we have agreed to pay \$30,000.00 up front to upgrade their pumping station. Frank and James detailed how expansion and growth would be handled. Frank gave details on the termination clause. Mayor Edwards stated that the Decatur City Council approved this contract at their last meeting. Tommy Laird made a motion to allow CWSD to enter into a contract with Decatur for a Wastewater Treatment Project with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carries.

(7) Other Business- Mayor Edwards addressed the council and requested that Cherie's title be changed to Permit Clerk/ Backup Building Inspector and change her hourly rate to \$17.88/hr. Skye Petty made a motion to approve the title and salary change for Cherie with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(8) Announcements- Mayor Edwards gave an update on the 2nd High School presentations and Vote Yes Committee. Mayor Edwards stated that Coffee with the Mayor is Saturday July 3rd at 9:00 a.m.

There was no more business or announcements. 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