

**CITY OF CENTERTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 8, 2011**

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, Skye Petty, Josie Reed, Keith Higginbotham, Tommy Laird and Robin Reed. Patricia Thornhill was absent. Those present and not answering role call were Todd Wright, Jennifer Robinson, Howard Slinkard, Tiffany Burnett, Lorene Burns, Rick Hudson, Lance Johnson, Robert Coffelt, Jeff Coffelt and Brian Rabal.

- (1) Council Minutes-** Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the minutes from the January 11, 2011 council meeting with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (2) Planning, Water & Sewer, Parks & Rec and A & P Minutes-** Tommy Laird made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the January and February 2011 Planning minutes, January 2011 Water & Sewer minutes, January 2011 Parks & Rec Advisory Council minutes and the January 2011 A & P Commission minutes with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (3) City and Court Financials-** Mayor Edwards stated that these financials were for February, 2011 and that we have received 25% of our revenue and have spent 15%. Skye Petty made a motion to accept the February, 2011 City financials with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Tommy Laird asked Jennifer why the Worker's Comp was so high and she stated that we had an experienced loss percentage that was tacked on from the state. She stated that it is annual and all the communities around us also received it. Josie Reed made a motion to accept the January, 2011 Court Financials with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (4) Michael Savard Memorial-** Mayor Edwards addressed the council, pointed out a drawing in their packet from him and Robert Coffelt and gave details for the layout for a memorial bench to be placed along the walking trail for Michael Savard and stated that the bench has been ordered. Michael's father addressed the council as well. Josie Reed asked if there would be something about Michael's personality on the plaque and his father said there would. Keith Higginbotham pointed out that we might be setting a legal precedence for future memorials and Howard replied that we might look at setting up a policy or some guidelines to cover it for future incidents. Mayor Edwards agreed. Josie Reed made a motion to

accept the plan for the bench with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (5) **Boy Scout Project-** Mayor Edwards addressed the council and stated that there is a picture contained in the council's packets from Jake Sheppard's request for his Eagle Scout project. Mayor Edwards gave details of the 2 sided information board to be placed in the city park. He stated that the cost of the project is around \$800.00. Tommy Laird made a motion to accept the project as presented with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (6) **Resolution 2011-05- A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BANK ACCOUNT AT FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF ROGERS, CENTERTON BRANCH, FOR THE DEPOSIT OF CASH BONDS; TO DESIGNATE INDIVIDUALS AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM VARIOUS ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON WITH REGARD TO SAID ACCOUNT; AND FOR OTHER PERPOSES.** Rick Hudson addressed the council and stated that this resolution was to set up a separate account for bond and cash monies and make it easier to document these funds. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. Howard read the resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (7) **Resolution 2011-06-** This resolution has no title. Jennifer Robinson addressed the council and stated that our issued bonds have a continuing disclosure on them that states that we have to have a full audit done every year. She said that the State Auditor requires that we have agreed upon procedures and a compilation. She stated that this resolution changes the continuing disclosure to what the State says they are going to do for us. She said that David Menz actually did the resolution for us with a review from Howard Slinkard. Howard clarified the need for the resolution. Josie Reed made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (8) **Resolution 2011-07- A RESOLUTION AMMENDING THE POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL OF THE CENTERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AS PROMULGATED BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** The Mayor introduced the resolution and gave details. Police Chief Lance Johnson gave details of the difference between Auxiliary and Part-Time 2 Officers and the need for this resolution. Tommy Laird asked what the cost would be for each Part-Time 2 Officer and Lance stated that it would likely be between \$1500.00-

\$1800.00 and gave details. Robin asked if we hired a new officer and Lance stated that he tested today and he should know tomorrow. Robin Reed made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the resolution by title only. Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the emergency clause. Skye Petty made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Lance asked if he could hire 2-6 part-timers now or wait. Tommy Laird stated that he would like to wait until June to look at the budget. He stated that it takes anywhere from 2 weeks to 2 months. Robin Reed made a motion to allow Lance to look for part-time officers now with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (9) **Ordinance 2011-04- AN ORDINANCE ORDERING THE CLEAN-UP OF PROPERTY AND THE REMOVAL AND RAZING OF CERTAIN STRUCTURES LOCATED IN CENTERTON, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PUPOSES.** Robert Coffelt addressed the council and stated that this ordinance would allow him to proceed with the process leading to the cleanup of property on Ginn Road and gave details. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance 3 times with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the emergency clause. Skye Petty made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (10) **Ordinance 2011-05- AN ORDINANCE ORDERING THE CLEAN-UP OF PROPERTY AND THE REMOVAL AND RAZING OF CERTAIN BURNT OUT TRAILER AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV) LOCATED IN CENTERTON, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PUPOSES.** Robert Coffelt addressed the council and stated that this ordinance would allow him to proceed with the process leading to the cleanup of property at 13240 LC Hickman Road and gave details. Josie Reed made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Tommy Laird. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance 3 times with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion

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

- (11) **Ordinance 2011-04- AN ORDINANCE AMMENDING CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 18.04, TITLED SIGNS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PUPOSES.** Mayor Edwards addressed the council and stated that the changes to the sign ordinance were passed by the Planning Commission at their last meeting and has been a long time coming. Robert Coffelt addressed the council and gave details of the changes. Tommy Laird made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the ordinance by title only. Tommy Laird made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance 3 times with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried. Howard read the emergency clause. Tommy Laird made a motion to adopt the emergency clause with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (12) **Department Reports- Police-** Police Chief Lance Johnson stated that the stats were in the packet and that they were in line with being one officer short and having one part-time. He stated that the new vehicle is in production and that he had a low bid for lighting for the car. **Street-** Rick Hudson stated that the D Street project has been advertised and should start 15-30 days after a bid is accepted. He stated that it has slowed down a little since the last council meeting and that they were working on completing the new Street building. **Water- Planning-** Robert Coffelt stated that the reports the council have been receiving as far as permit \$\$ are incorrect because it has not been showing all permits and also shows refundable deposits. He gave the council details and examples. Lorene stated that the plat and letter have been filed for Willow Crossing and they have requested to post a cash bond. She stated that Matthew Horton was attending training in Little Rock for planning. She stated that the appeal period for the F.E.M.A. Flood Study will go from March 11, 2011 to June 15, 2011. **Fire-** Fire Chief Jeff Coffelt stated that the number of fire runs is at 130. He stated that they did a training burn 2 weeks ago and that they will be having another one in 2-3 weeks and 2 more after that. Jeff stated that we will be taking possession of the Hwy 102 Fire Sub-station in the next week. He said there is some plumbing, walls, dirt work and cement left to do. He said that he hoped to be completed by the end of March with both sub-stations and in them by the first or second week in April. Jeff stated that Station #2 will be on Hwy 72 and Station #3 on Hwy 102. He stated that they will be drive-through stations, so they will not be backing in. He reminded the council that Centerton Day is coming in July and asked for volunteers. **Water-** Jeff stated that they took bids on the Bella Vista By-pass and that a company in Hot Springs was the apparent low bidder and hopes to have a

pre-construction meeting in the next 2-3 weeks. He said the job is supposed to be done in September and that they have not even started yet. Jeff stated that they are finalizing the contract with the Highway Department on the widening of Hwy 102. He stated that the project is only about 95% re-payable to the Water & Sewer Department for their work and that they will be out of pocket \$75,000.00-\$100,000.00. He stated that they will be done tomorrow with tying in the Highfill water lines. **Administration-** Jenny stated that we should start seeing new census payments in March, which is earlier than expected. She stated that we were able to transfer \$250,000.00 out of the General Fund back into the Investor Fund. Jenny reminded the council that the audit should start next week. **Mayor-** Mayor Edwards stated that there is another Habitat house coming in April and a banquet May 2nd to honor those that assisted in the last house. He stated that the new trash service should be sending out letters any day now and a letter from the Mayor. He stated that the 3rd Saturday of each month there will be a "Breakfast with the Mayor" and gave details. He detailed a push on weather radios and stated that they had given another 500 away in the last 7-10 days. Mayor Edwards stated that the portion of repaid expenses for the snow clean up would be about \$7000.00 so far and that we might be able to add another couple of day's worth of equipment use. He announced that Dick Trammel, our Highway Commissioner, will be at Lifepointe Church on Monday, March 21st at 6:30 p.m. He mentioned the need for help with the snack pack program for Centerton-Gamble Elementary and stated that he would send out a list of needs. He also announced the Benton County Clean-up on April 9th, 2011 for bulky items and stated that he will be working on a clean-up for our city.

- (13) **Other Business-** Michael Finke with the Centerton Area Chamber of Commerce addressed the council and gave an update on the chamber and some of its plans for the year. Mayor Edwards stated that he would like to join the Chamber and asked for the council's approval. He stated that the annual cost would be \$333.00. Michael stated that with the membership for the city, he would give 100 free radio ads to be used throughout the year. Robin Reed made a motion to join the Centerton Area Chamber of Commerce with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Mayor Edwards asked if there was any other business and there was not. Tommy Laird made a motion to adjourn with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Bill Edwards, Mayor

Todd Wright, City Clerk/ Recorder