

**CITY OF CENTERTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 18, 2014**

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 and Josie Reed. Tommy Laird was absent. Those present and not answering role call were Todd Wright, Jennifer Robinson, Brian Rabal, Police Chief Lance Johnson, Water & Sewer Superintendent Frank Holzkamper, Planning Director Lorene Burns, Fire Chief Delton Bush, Street Superintendent Rick Hudson, Animal Control Supervisor Terry Sanchez and Building Inspector Robert Coffelt.

- (1) **Council Minutes-** Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the minutes from the October 14, 2014 city council meeting with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (2) **Planning, Advertising and Promotions and Water & Sewer Minutes-** Keith Higginbotham made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the September 23, 2014 Planning minutes, 12, 2014 A&P minutes and the September 18, 2014 Water & Sewer minutes with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (3) **City and Court Financials-** Mayor Edwards stated that we are 83% through the year and that we have received 98% of our revenue. He stated that our expenditures are at 71.5%. Josie Reed made a motion to accept the October 2014 City and Court financials with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (4) **Department Reports- Building Inspection-** Robert Coffelt addressed the council. He pointed out the report that he had prepared for the council that was in their packets and asked if there were any questions. There were none. Robert stated that the trusses were up on the Nursing Home, that Featherstone e-mailed him asking him about moving in and doing the project in phases, to which he answered no, because it is not designed that way. He said Mercy got their C of O today and will be seeing patients tomorrow. He said the inspections at the High School are going well. He said the framing is going on at Pomeroy Place that he is having a Pre-Con meeting with Aspen Mini-Storage tomorrow and that NWA Restore-It got the corrected codes and is moving forward. Robert stated that permits are up way. **Planning-** Lorene Burns addressed the council and pointed

out the Planning Project Status Report in the council's Dropbox packets. She detailed some highlights in the report. Lorene stated that Joey Ingle was approved for appointment to the Planning Commission. **Police-** Police Chief Lance Johnson addressed the council and pointed out the stats for October 2013 and 2014. He said that there was nothing that stood out. He stated that he had 2 openings for officers since Jamie Yarborough resigned. He stated that Mike McCallister is a new officer that starts Thursday, filling one of those openings. Lance stated that the posting for the remaining opening closes out 12/5/14. Lance stated that they have just received new booklets for promotions. He said the vehicles are in good shape and the roof leak at the PD has been repaired. Lance stated that the Corporals and the Lieutenant are taking on-line Supervision training courses. He said the 2 Corporals will go to Lonoke, Ar. For more Supervisor training in December. Lance stated that Shop-with-a-Cop will be 12/11/14 and that there are 8 children. Lance stated that he is looking at changing uniforms from Blauer to 511 to save \$\$ for the department. **Street-** Rick Hudson addressed the council and pointed out his report in the council's packets and went through that report with them. Rick pointed out that there is 40,000-70,000 yards of extra soil from the High School project and that part of that will be used for widening our part of Gamble Road and part of it will be used at the Sports Park. He said it will be about \$150,000.00 worth of material to us. Rick pointed out the improvement that has already been done to Hwy72 and Main Street. Rick also pointed out that the city overlay projects have been completed. He said that in preparation for winter weather, they purchased a new snow plow, giving us 2 truck mounted snow plows and our tractor mounted snow plow. He said that there are 2 tanks set up to apply the brine. Rick also outlined current certifications and ongoing training. Rick also outlined current P&R projects included in his Dropbox report. **Fire-** Fire Chief Delton Bush stated that they have had 645 fire runs for the year and that they have 36 firefighters at this time. He said that they will be doing some new volunteer training this Saturday if the weather cooperates. He said that he has not heard anything back yet on the ISO Audit, but hopes to hear something in December. Delton said that he is thinking "Santa in the Neighborhood" will be 12/13/14. **Water-** Frank Holzkamper addressed the council and stated that construction on the Decatur line was moving forward with line being installed and that they were boring under the railroad in Decatur. He said that the on-line account access is live and a flyer will be in the next statement. Frank mentioned that Joby was in the hospital with some heart problems. **Animal Control-** Mayor Edwards addressed the council and stated that everything was going well at the shelter. He said that DJ told him there were 12 dogs currently at the shelter. He said that Terry had his procedure and that he was doing well. **Administration-** Jennifer Robinson addressed the council and stated that she would have the amended budget ready by the next council meeting. **Mayor-** Mayor Edwards stated that he spoke with Standard and Poor and that we should hear about our new rating next week. He said that the next step on the bond process will be at our 12/9/14 council meeting. He said that we are working on the process to be able to order the new fire truck at that same meeting. Mayor Edwards stated that Pig Trail Harley will have a Toy Run on 12/13/14 with around 1000 participants and he said that he

thought they should get to Centerton by 11:30 a.m. He reminded the council that there will be a Christmas Bizarre 9-3 on 12/6/14, followed by the parade at 4:30 p.m., followed by cookies and hot chocolate with Santa. He told the council that there will be a Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Living Waters Church 11:00-1:00 on Thanksgiving Day. He said he is working on getting the meat donated for the event.

- (5) Ordinance 2014-37- AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE CENTERTON CITY LIMITS BELONGING TO C HOLDINGS, LLC FROM RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM DENSITY (R-2) TO RESIDENTIAL HIGH DENSITY (R-3) FOR SINGLE FAMILY HOMES.** Mayor Edwards addressed the council and explained the need for this ordinance, stating that the plan for the development to be for single family homes was included in the ordinance. Hunter Haynes was also present and told the council of his plans for single family homes. Skye Petty made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2nd from Misty Elam. All council members 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 voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (6) Ordinance 2014-38- AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENTS ALONG BROOKESIDE ROAD AND SOUTH MAIN STREET AND A 15' UTILITY EASEMENT DEDICATED BY JANIS VANDIVER PER TRACT SPLIT.** Mayor Edwards and Lorene Burns addressed the council and explained the need for this ordinance. Lorene stated that the city has the right to dedicate easement right-of-way in tract splits and also that no records of a utility easement could be found. Robin Reed made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2nd from Skye Petty. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the ordinance by title only. Josie Reed made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2nd from Misty Elam. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried. Skye Petty made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2nd from Misty Elam. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (7) Resolution 2014-20- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF**

CENTERTON, AN AGREEMENT WITH CEI ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR A FLOOD IMPROVEMENT STUDY FOR THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS. Mayor Edwards and Lorene Burns addressed the council and explained the need for this resolution. Adam Lesso was present, representing CEI and detailed the options included in the resolution. There was discussion. Robin Reed stated that she needed more information and would like more time to look at the proposal. Skye Petty made a motion to table the resolution with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(8) Jeff Hatley- Ozark Regional transit Update- Jeff Hatley from Ozark Regional Transit addressed the council and gave an update. There was no action taken.

(9) Contracted Attorney and Prosecutor Interviews for 2015 Services- Mayor Edwards addressed the council and stated that every year we interview potential candidates for the positions of Contract Attorney and Prosecuting Attorney. He stated that he sent out requests for qualifications from Brian Rabal, Brian Verneti and Howard Slinkard. He stated that he only received qualifications back from Brian Verneti. Brian Verneti Addressed the council, expressing interest in both positions and sharing his experience and qualifications. Brian Rabal also addressed the council and stated that his qualifications are the same as last year. The council requested copies of those qualifications again. Brian did state that he would like for his hourly fee be raised from \$150/hr. to \$160/hr. and stated that his Prosecutorial fee would be \$800/month. There was discussion. Brian stated that the City's Municipal Code Book needs quite a bit of work to keep the city from possible future liability. Jennifer Robinson asked that there be a more responsive and proactive role by the Contract Attorney and Brian stated that it was a fair assessment, adding that the position needs to be allowed to have a more active role in the city, as the city continues to grow, and to not be left out for the fear of being billed. There was more discussion. Mayor Edwards stated that he had expressed his concerns a year ago and received a pretty negative e-mail in response. Brian Rabal stated that his job requires that he represent the City, not the Mayor or the Council as individuals. He stated that sometimes the position makes him out to be the "Bad Guy", but that is his job.

(10) Appoint Joey Ingle to Planning Commission- Mayor Edwards addressed the council and recommended the appointment of Joey Ingle to the Planning Commission. Joey addressed the council. Skye Petty made a motion to accept the appointment of Joey Ingle to the Planning Commission with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(11) **Discuss Yearly Levelization Pay** – Mayor Edwards addressed the council and commended the city employees. He stated that we have approved this Levelization Pay in previous years. He pointed out that the actual figures per employee were listed for the council in Dropbox and that it was the same as last year for both Full-Time and Part-Time employees. Skye Petty made a motion to approve the Levelization Pay as presented in Dropbox to be the same as last year with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(12) **Approve A&P Funds for Playground Equipment-** Mayor Edwards reminded the council of their approval at the last council meeting to use Tips/Taps to purchase up to \$72,000.00 in playground equipment for the City Park. He just wanted to make the council aware of that purchase using A&P funds. The council acknowledged the purchase.

(13) **Other Business-** There was discussion about when to have the Centerton Employee Christmas Party. It was decided that the party will be held 12/11/14 at 6:00 p.m. at Centerton City Hall. Robin Reed reminded all the Council members that The Municipal League Meetings will be held January 14-16, 2015 in Little Rock.

Misty Elam 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

