

**CITY OF CENTERTON  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 8, 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 Mayor Griffith, Tommy Laird, Keith Higginbotham, Josie Reed and Randy Thomas. Patricia Thornhill and Kathy Huber were absent from the meeting. Those present and not answering roll call were Jan Dolan, Todd Wright, Bert Johnson, Lance Johnson, Jeff Coffelt, Lorene Burns, Howard Slinkard, Andrew Huntsinger and Brian Rabal.

- (1) **Council Minutes** - Tommy Laird made a motion to adopt the minutes from August 11, 2009 and the special meeting on August 24, 2009 with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (2) **Water & Sewer Minutes** - Keith Higginbotham made a motion to accept the Water & Sewer minutes from July, 2009 with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All members present voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (3) **Financials** - Mayor Griffith stated that with 66.67% of the year gone, we have received 73% of our budgeted revenue and have spent 57%. Josie Reed made a motion to the city financials, including court financials, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. All council members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (4) **Ordinance-09-23 - AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE RE-PLAT OF MCKISSICK CREEK ESTATES, CENTERTON, BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS; THE DEDICATION OF UTILITY EASEMENTS, STREETS, AND OTHER PUBLIC WAYS THEREIN; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.** Lorene Burns addressed the council and stated that this was a plat that had come before the council before, vacating some easements causing need for this re-plat on lots 6, 7, 8, and 9. She said that it was approved by the planning commission on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the ordinance by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the ordinance 3 separate times with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the emergency clause. Keith Higginbotham 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.

- (5) **Resolution 09-17 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RATE OF PROPERTY TAX FOR THE CITY OF CENTERTON FOR THE YEAR 2009 TO BE COLLECTED IN 2010.** Mayor Griffith stated to the council that this resolution was to declare our millage rate and to approve it which is required each year. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Randy Thomas. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (6) **Resolution 09-18 - A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE CLOSING OF AN EASEMENT LOCATION ON LOTS 21 AND 22 OF THE WILLOW CROSSING SUBDIVISION.** Lorene Burns addressed the council regarding this and the next 2 resolutions and a public hearing was set for 6:30 p.m. on October 13, 2009. Tommy Laird made a motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (7) **Resolution 09-19 - A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE CLOSING OF AN EASEMENT LOCATION ON LOTS 96 AND 111 OF THE WILLOW CROSSING SUBDIVISION.** Keith Higginbotham 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. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Tommy Laird. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (8) **Resolution 09-20 - A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE CLOSING OF AN EASEMENT LOCATION ON LOT 126 OF THE WILLOW CROSSING SUBDIVISION.** Tommy Laird made a motion to read the motion to read the resolution by title only with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All members voted in favor and the motion carried. Andrew read the resolution by title only. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the resolution with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.
- (9) **Department Reports – Planning** - Lorene said there would be a Flood Study meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. She also said she received a letter from F.E.M.A. saying that they would be reviewing the study and there would be a meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. **Street** - Bert Johnson stated that the 3 overlay projects for Gamble, Bliss and the Police Department would start the 14<sup>th</sup> and be done in about 2 weeks. He said it would be an extra \$2800.00 to do the Fire Department. **Police** - Chief Johnson stated that the P.D. got the \$5450.00 grant and that we purchased 2 more cameras that put digital video cameras in every car. He said they will be pulling 2 faulty cameras out of inventory. He said they

ordered 8 GB memory sticks from Staples for the cameras. He said they are going to buy another digital camera for crime scenes. He said they are still waiting for approval on Tiffany's bullet proof vest. Lance stated that they will need to replace 5 vests next year. He stated that the Chief's Conference will be September 21-24, 2009 and that Randy Clark will be in charge during that time. Lance asked for a personnel meeting for Oct. 1, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. **Water** - Jeff Coffelt addressed the council and stated that the rate increase he had spoken of before would take effect January 1, 2010 and that it would be a 3 step increase, one every 6 months. He said that he thought the first increase would be 12%, the June 2010- 25% and the January 2011 increase of another 25%. He said the Drive-by meter change-out is about 1 ½ weeks to completion. He said the water tower next to ours would be painted soon. He said that our two system project is about 99% complete. **Fire**- Chief Coffelt stated that we have had about 452 fire runs this year so far. He said his budget is pretty close to the edge. He said about \$25,000.00 was spent making the repeaters work for the radios where every department in the city can communicate on one of 3 frequencies. He said that the radio system will be on a backup system if power goes down. Jeff said that the Centerton Day total is at about \$8900.00 for this year. **Administration** - Jan Dolan pointed out that we purchased new doors for the Community Room. She asked the council to approve her to appoint a C.P.A. firm to do our City Audit. She stated that the Legislative Audit people left a lot to be desired. After shopping a few other firms, she stated that Frost C.P.A. out of Fayetteville will do 2007 and 2008 for \$15,000.00 and would do 2009 for an \$9500.00 in March or April , 2010.. She stated that we had money in our legal fees to cover the \$15,000.00. She said that they would do the audit in a week as opposed to the 6 months that it took last time, with a preliminary report to us within 3 weeks. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to approve the money to be spent for the audit with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Randy Thomas. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- (10) **Announcements** - Mayor Griffith stated that there were 12 new permits in the packets. She said there would be an A&P Commission meeting on September 17, 2009 at 7:00 a.m. and breakfast would served by Sonic.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

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Bobbie Griffith, Mayor

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Todd Wright, City Clerk