



Special Council Meeting Minutes-7/9/20
Council Chambers

- I. **Call to Order:** was called to order by Mayor Gastineau @ 6:30pm
 - a. Prayer
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance

- II. **Roll Call:** by City Clerk Ruble. Council members Barrentine - present, Wier – present, Hefner - here, McMinn – here, and Brooke – present. We have a quorum.

- III. **New Business**
 - a. **RESOLUTION 2020-18:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF WARD TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE ONE REPLACEMENT PUMP FOR THE VACUUM STATION; WAIVING BIDDING REQUIREMENTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES: Mr. Brooke made a motion to accept R-2020-18, second Mr. McMinn. Discussion. Mr. Jones (Water/Wastewater Department Head) explained the existing pump did go down and we had a spare pump to get it up and running. We need to have a spare pump incase the spare we used would go down. We are going to see if the broken pump can be repaired. If the pump can't be repaired then we will need to purchase one. If this pump goes down it will affect many homes. Motion passes with a 5-0 roll call vote. Wier-Yea, Hefner-Yea, McMinn-Yea, Brooke-Yea, and Barrentine-Yea.

 - b. **Discussion Concerning the Wearing of Masks Within the City Limits**

Discussion by Mayor Gastineau explained the Governor put out guidance for a resolution to the cities that strongly encourages our citizens to wear masks. Then the Governor along with Arkansas Municipal League put out an ordinance to the cities as an example that they can use. The Mayor also explained the difference between a Resolution and an Ordinance. Discussion was continued with council members. Mr. McMinn asked why we would not make this a law because masks are not just protecting you, but saving lives of others. Mayor Gastineau shared his opinion that it is not the job of these individual cities to make it mandatory as it would make it harder to enforce and if the Governor wants this across the state then it needs to come from his level so it can be uniform from one city to another. Public comment: read by City Clerk Ruble "I am for the wearing of masks giving not only the number of positive cases, but the number of hospitalizations and number on ventilators". Mrs. Barrentine asked how we would enforce this? Mayor Gastineau replied "That is just it, we would have a hard time enforcing it" he also explained this ordinance has no enforceability and it would be fine if businesses want to have the requirement to wear a mask then that is up to them and it can be enforced. Mrs. Hefner commented "she feels it is

not the governments place to tell people to wear a mask and thinks the businesses should be telling them and we should just be wearing them on our own." Mr. McMinn expressed his feelings that these masks save lives and does not want to see these businesses have to shut down because people didn't wear masks.

Public Comment: Read by City Clerk Ruble "I spent two weeks in quarantine because I literally came face to face with someone that tested positive, two days after that they had symptoms I never got it. I don't believe its that contagious. I say not to masks".

ORDINANCE 2020-07: AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY OF WARD REGARDING THE USE OF MASKS IN RELATION TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. Mr. McMinn Makes a motion to approve O-2020-07, second by Mrs. Barrentine. Discussion: City Attorney Lacy said "You cannot pass this ordinance as it is written it would have to be another Ordinance. It has no enforcement, it is not stronger then the resolution, no sunset clause and it is not ADA compliant. You would be telling the citizens they have to do it, but you will not be able to enforce this." Mrs. Barrentine retracted her second. Mr. McMinn retracts his motion to approve O-2020-07.

RESOLUTION 2020-19: A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF WARD, ARKANSAS ENCOURAGING THE USE OF MASKS IN RELATION TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. Mr. Brooke made a motion to accept R-2020-19, second by Mrs. Barrentine. Discussion. Motion failed with a roll call vote. Mrs. Hefner-nay, Mr. McMinn-nay, Mr. Brooke-yea, Mrs. Barrentine-yea, and Mr. Wier-nay.

IV. Announcements


- City Council Meeting: July 20, 2020 at 6:30 pm
- Planning Commission: July 27, 2020 at 7 pm
- City Council Meeting: August 17, 2020 at 6:30 pm
- Planning Commission Meeting: August 24, 2020 at 7 pm
- Ward City Cleanup: Saturday, October 3, 2020 from 8:00am – 3:00pm
- Ward Earth Day Cleanup: Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 8:00am

V. Adjournment


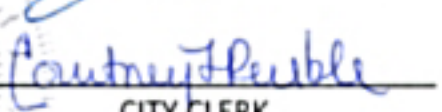
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59pm with a motion by Mr. McMinn, second by Mrs. Hefner. Motion to adjourn passed with a 5-0 voice vote.

We, the undersigned Mayor and City Clerk for the City of Ward, do hereby verify the foregoing to be true and correct record of proceedings of the City of Ward Regular Meeting held on Monday, July 9th, 2020 at 6:30pm.

APPROVED DATE: August 17, 2020



MAYOR

ATTEST:
CITY SEAL  

CITY CLERK