



## CITY OF WARD

P.O. BOX 237 • WARD, ARKANSAS 72176 • 501-843-7686

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### Council Meeting Minutes August 21, 2023 at 6:30 PM

- I. **Call to Order:** by Mayor Gastineau @ 6:30pm. Prayer was offered by council member Steven Hall followed by the pledge of allegiance.
- II. **Roll Call:** by City Clerk Rummel. Hall-present, Chapman-present, McMinn-present, Hefner-present, Brooke-present, Ruble- present. We have a quorum.
- III. **Review/approval of Council Minutes:** Council member Brooke made a motion to approve the July 17, 2023 council minutes, second by council member Hefner. Discussion. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.
- IV. **Department Reports and Financials:** Council member Hall made a motion to approve the department reports and July's financials, second by council member Brooke. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.
- V. **Planning Commission Report:**  
Chairman Peters presented the Planning Commission report. Council member Ruble made a motion to approve the final plat for Plex subdivision, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion passed with a 6-0 voice vote. Council member Hefner made a motion to approve as presented, seconded by council member Ruble. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.
- VI. **Old Business:**
  - A. **ORDINANCE 2023-14: AN ORDINANCE TO DEFINE LOUD AND UNNECESSARY NOISE THAT CONSTITUTES A PUBLIC NUISANCE TO THE CITIZEN OF WARD, ARKANSAS; ESTABLISHING PROHIBITION AND PENALTIES WITH RESPECT THERETO; REPEALING AND REPLACING WARD ORDINANCE 2001-04; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (SECOND READING)**  
Austin Briley voiced his concerns against the ordinance. Council member Hall made a motion to approve O-2023-14 on its second reading, seconded by council member Chapman. Roll call: Hall-yes, Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-no, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes. Motion passes with a 4-2 vote. This item will be on the agenda next month for the third reading.

VII. New Business:

**A. CITY OF WARD DRAINAGE REPORT – PHASE 1 (AARON ROBINSON, BOND ENGINEERING)**

Council member Hefner made a motion to approve the drainage report as presented, seconded by council member Ruble. Motioned approved by a 6-0 voice vote.

- B. ORDINANCE 2023-06: AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION OF NON-OWNER-OCCUPIED SHORT-TERM RENTALS FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF WARD, PROVIDING FOR PERMIT REQUIREMENTS, RULES FOR OPERATING A SHORT-TERM RENTAL, AND FOR PENALTIES AND FINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. (FIRST READING)** Council member Hall made a motion to approve O-2023-06, seconded by council member Ruble. Roll call: Chapman-yes, McMinn-yes, Hefner-no, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes. Motion passes with a 4-2 vote. This item will be on the agenda next month for its second reading.

**C. RESOLUTION 2023-21: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TELECOMP HOLDING, INC FOR A NEW VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL (VOIP) PHONE SYSTEM FOR CITY HALL COMPLEX**

Council member Hefner made a motion to approve R2023-21, seconded by council member Hall. Roll call: McMinn-yes, Hefner-yes, Brooke-no, Ruble-yes, Hall-yes, Chapman-yes. Motion passes with a 5-1 vote.

**D. DISCUSSION ON CREATION OF A YOUTH COUNCIL DISCUSSION (COUNCIL MEMBER MCMINN)**

Council member McMinn requested to move this to next month. Council member Ruble made a motion to table to the next month, seconded by council member Hefner. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.

**E. REORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPT (MAYOR GASTINEAU)**

Discussion. No action taken.

**F. 2024 ECLIPSE PREPARATION (MAYOR GASTINEAU)**

Discussion. No action taken.

**G. DISCUSSION ON PURCHASE OF CHRISTMAS TREE WITH WARD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (MAYOR GASTINEAU, WARD CHAMBER PRESIDENT MCMINN)**

Council member Chapman made a motion to work with the Chamber of Commerce to purchase the tree with the understanding that the Chamber would reimburse half of the cost. Council member Hefner seconded. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.

**H. STREET AID OVERLAY PROPOSAL UPDATE (MAYOR GASTINEAU)**

Discussion. No action taken.

**I. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT UPDATE (MAYOR GASTINEAU)**

Discussion. No action taken.

**VIII. Mayor's Report:** Council member Ruble made a motion to approve costs associated with the widening of Hwy 319 to Campbell Street from 18 feet to 20 feet, not to exceed \$2000. Council member Hall seconded. Motion passed with a 6-0 voice vote. Council member Hall made a motion to enter into an MOU with Arkansas Energy Office Energy Performance Loan Lease Fund, seconded by council member McMinn. Motion passes with a 6-0 voice vote.

**IX. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**

**X. Announcements**

- Mayor's Virtual Town Hall Meeting: August 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30
- Planning Commission Meeting: August 28<sup>th</sup>, 7pm
- Offices Closed in Observance of Labor Day: September 4<sup>th</sup>, all day
- City Council Meeting: September 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30
- Great American Eclipse Event: April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**XI. Executive Session:** Council member Hefner made a motion to go into an executive session for a personnel issue, seconded by council member Chapman. Motion approved with a 6-0 voice vote.

**XII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58pm pm with a motion by Council Member Ruble, second by Council Member Hefner. Motion to adjourn passed with a 6-0 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 Council Meeting held on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 6:30PM.

APPROVED DATE: September 18, 2023

  
MAYOR CHARLES GASTINEAU

ATTEST:

  
CITY CLERK KRYSTAL RUMMEL

CITY SEAL