



CITY OF WARD

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

City Council Meeting Minutes – 6/20/2022 Council Chambers

- I. **Call to Order:** was called to order by Mayor Gastineau @ 6:30pm.
 - Prayer – Art Brooke led the prayer
 - Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Gastineau led the pledge
 - Due to Mrs. Courtney Ruble resignation at the last council meeting; Mayor Gastineau requested that Deborah Staley record the minutes.

- II. **Roll Call:** by Deborah Staley. Council Members Rummel- present, Morris- present, Harbort– present, Hefner–present, McMinn-absent, and Shetron– present. We had a quorum.

- III. **Review/approval of May 16, 2022 Council Minutes**
Council Member Morris made a motion to approve the May 16th, 2022 Council Minutes, second by Council Member Harbort. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote

- IV. **Department Reports and Financials:** Council Member Rummel made a motion to approve the department reports, second by Council Member Morris. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote.

- V. **Planning Commission Report:** Chairman Jerry Peters presented the monthly report. Chairman Peters informed the Council of the plans for Ms. Pamela Ottenbacher has with the property at Elm and Second Street. After discussion; Council Member Harbort made a motion to approve the Planning Commission Monthly Report as presented by Mr. Peters, second by Council Member Shetron. Discussion. Motion passes with a 5-0 voice vote.

- VI. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. **Election of City Clerk:** Two Candidates were presented.
 - Arthur Brooke, Mr. Brooke stated he was experienced in public service. He spent 42 years with the Air Force in infrastructure and current is working as The GM for Southern Oaks Golf Course in Jacksonville,

Arkansas. He is married and has 3 sons, 11 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

- Krystal 'Nikki' Rummel. Ms. Rummel is currently serving as a Council Member for Ward 1 Position (serving the remainder of her husband Steve Rummel's term). Mrs. Rummel is currently completing her education for a Master degree. She is interested in assisting the City in anyway possible and at this time has she has the time available to do this. She has 3 children – one is married and not living in this state, 1 just graduation from high school and 1 that is a senior in high school this next school term.
 - Mayor Gastineau distributed voting slips. Each council member with the exception of Mrs. Rummel completed the slips. Attorney Chris Lacy gathered the slips and tabulated the votes, the vote was 2 for Mr. Brooke and 2 for Mrs. Rummel. Mayor Gastineau ask the vote be repeated. The results were 2 for Mr. Brooke and 2 for Mrs. Rummel. Council member Hefner motioned to table this issue until next month; seconded by Council member Shetron. Discussion. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0 voice vote.
- b. **Ordinance 2022-08:** Mayor Gastineau stated that he was recommending to table this matter for now since it is addressed in the UDO that will be presented at a later date. Council member Harbort motioned to remove Ordinance 2022-08, seconded by Nikki Rummel. Discussion. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0 voice vote.
- c. **Discussion of Water Bill Due Date:** Mayor Gastineau suggested that after researching the neighboring water/wastewater systems that the Ward Water and Sewer System change the lock off process to a \$25.00 non-payment fee and lock off be on or about the 21st of each month. The bill is due upon receipt, a 10% late penalty is assessed after the 10th of the month and if payment is not received by the 21st of the month the account will be locked off. This should assist with the confusion that now exists. After discussion with the Council and public and addressing each question or comment; Council member Hefner motioned to change the non-payment fee to \$25.00, adding the late fee after the 10th of the month and if payment is not received by the 21st the account be disconnected, seconded by Council member Morris. Discussion. Roll Call vote Council members Shetron – no, Rummel – yes, Morris – yes, Harbort – no and Hefner – yes. Motion passed with a vote of 3 yeas and 2 nays. Mayor will present an ordinance in accordance with the vote on the water bill due date.

- d. **Noise Ordinance Discussion:** Mayor Gastineau presented a noise ordinance. Council member Morris motioned to table the noise ordinance until there is a need for the ordinance, seconded Council member Wanda Shetron. Discussion. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0 voice vote.

- e. **Annexation Issue – Fowler Ridge Subdivision (Shamsie and Farrah Dr.)**
Mayor Gastineau stated that there has been an error that was found with 28 lots in Fowler Ridge Subdivision. The lots as shown as in the county at with the assessor office. The subdivision final plat was approved in 1999 as all the lots within city limits and city services have been provided all this time. After discussion with our Attorney Chris Lacy, Municipal League legal department and the State GIS office it appears to be a clerical error. The issue is being addressed to find the correct process to correct this error. Mr. Waymack resides at one of the lots designated as being in the County and he stated that he voted in the last city election for the City of Ward.

VII New Business:

- A. **RESOLUTION 2022-14: A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF WARD TO PARTICIPATE THE FEDERAL LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHWAP).** Mayor Gastineau presented Resolution 2022-14. Mayor Gastineau ask Deborah Staley to read the resolution. This is a federal program to assist low income households with a one time grant to pay a water/wastewater bill that is in arrears and/or facing disconnection. The water/wastewater department is required to be a vendor for this program for our customers to take advantage of the program. Council member Shetron motioned to accept resolution 2022-14 in order to participate in the Federal Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program, Seconded by Council member Hefner. Discussion. Roll Call vote Council members Shetron – yes, Rummel – yes, Morris – yes, Harbort – yes and Hefner – yes. Motion passed with a vote of 5 yeas and 0 nays.

- B. **RESOLUTION 2022-15: A RESOLUTION TO TEMPORARILY MODIFY THE WATER DISCONNECT REQUIREMENT UNDER CITY OF WARD ORDINANCE 2014-07, SECTION 5 FOR THOSE HOUSEHOLDS WHO HAVE RECEIVED BENEFITS UNDER THE FEDERAL LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHWAP).** Mayor Gastineau presented Resolution 2022-15. Mayor Gastineau ask Deborah Staley to read the resolution. Due to the requirement in the agreement with the Federal Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program we are required not disconnect the customer for 90 days after we receive the payment for the account. This resolution allows for that requirement and also

states an end date for the resolution. Council member Shetron motioned to accept Resolution 2022.15, seconded by Council member Morris. Discussion. Roll Call vote Council members Shetron – yes, Rummel – yes, Morris – yes, Harbort – yes and Hefner – yes. Motion passed with a vote of 5 yeas and 0 nays.

c. **(If Presented) ORDINANCE 2022-09: 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; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; REPEALING AND REPLACING WARD ORDINANCE 2001-04; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.** This has been tabled.

d. **Executive Session** – Mayor and Council adjourned to executive session. No public comment was required from the executive session.

VIII. **Mayor's Report:** presented by Mayor Gastineau. Mayor Gastineau presented his report see attached.

IX. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:** None

X. **Announcements – (COVID-19 Protocols Apply, as needed)**

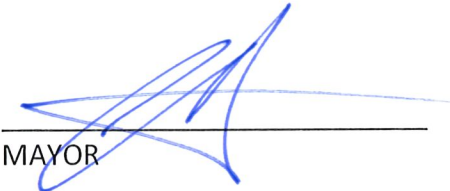
- Planning Commission: June 27, 7 pm
- July 4 – City Offices Closed
- July 4th Celebration: July 4 at the Ward Park
- City Council: July 18, 7 pm
- Planning Commission: July 25, 6:30 pm
- Election Petitions Due: Aug 3 – Aug 10 (Noon)

XI. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with a motion by Council Member Morris, second by Council Member 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 Council Meeting held on Monday, June 20, 2022 at 6:30PM.

APPROVED DATE: July 18, 2022



MAYOR

ATTEST:



Intermin

CITY CLERK

CITY SEAL