

June 10, 2019
Six o'clock P.M.
North Little Rock City Hall Council Chambers
300 Main Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas

The regular meeting of the North Little Rock City Council scheduled for Monday, June 10, 2019, was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor JOE A. SMITH.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, BETH WHITE, LINDA ROBINSON, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, and JANE GINN (6/0), a quorum was declared. Council Members MAURICE TAYLOR and CHARLIE HIGHT were absent. City Clerk Diane Whitbey and Assistant City Attorney Marie Bernard-Miller were also present.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were led by Council Member Ross.

On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting held on *Tuesday*, May 28, 2019, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (6/0).

Mayor Smith announced two Special Call meetings.

1. June 6, 2019

Special Meeting of the North Little Rock City Council

Honorable Members of the North Little Rock City Council:

The purpose of this e-mail is to advise you that Mayor Smith has called a special meeting of the North Little Rock City Council at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2019, at City Hall Council Chambers, North Little Rock, Arkansas. The following will be on the agenda:

R-19-108 - Authorizing the limited waiver of permit fees, plans review fees, and inspection fees for victims of the May/June 2019 flood. Sponsor: Mayor Joe A. Smith

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 9079, you are entitled to 72 hours' *electronic* notice of this meeting. Please acknowledge receipt of this e-mail as soon as possible by replying to the same. A copy of your reply will automatically be sent to City Clerk Diane Whitbey.

Amy Beckman Fields
City Attorney

Special Call R-19-108 (RESOLUTION NO. 9686 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LIMITED WAIVER OF PERMIT FEES, PLANS REVIEW FEES, AND THE INSPECTION FEES FOR VICTIMS OF THE MAY/JUNE 2019 FLOOD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

2. June 7, 2019

Special Meeting of the North Little Rock City Council

Honorable Members of the North Little Rock City Council:

The purpose of this e-mail is to advise you that Mayor Smith has called a special meeting of the North Little Rock City Council at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2019, at City Hall Council Chambers, North Little Rock, Arkansas. The following will be on the agenda:

R-19-109 – Accepting the Proposal from Crowder Gulf for a pre-event contract for disaster recovery assistance; authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a pre-event contract. Sponsor: Mayor Joe A. Smith

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 9079, you are entitled to 72 hours' *electronic* notice of this meeting. Please acknowledge receipt of this e-mail as soon as possible by replying to the same. A copy of your reply will automatically be sent to City Clerk Diane Whitbey.

Amy Beckman Fields
City Attorney

Special Call R-19-109 (RESOLUTION NO. 9687 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL FROM CROWDER GULF FOR A PRE-EVENT CONTRACT FOR DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A PRE-EVENT CONTRACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 2, and 3 were not read, but were accepted and filed (6/0).

1. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: Restaurant Mixed Drink – Change of Manager from Timothy Anderson, for Hideaway Pizza, 5103 Warden Road, by Kevin Taylor.

2. John Owens, President NLR Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Activity Report Q2 2019.
3. The Circuit article re: Verizon Arena 2018 Venue Sales and comparison to similar locations.

Without objection, Mayor Smith called for public comment. Mr. Gene Pfeifer thanked the Mayor and City Council members for running a city which is a great place to do business. North Shore Business Park had tremendous support during the recent flood event. Chief of Staff Danny Bradley was available to answer questions. City Engineer Chris Wilbourn made several trips to the area to inspect the water level, check pad mounted transformers and discuss concerns regarding sewage backup. The Sewer Lift Station was shut down for a few hours. Mr. Michael Clayton, North Little Rock Wastewater and his crew were on the scene and got things going. They remained on site during the duration of the event. There was also a rumor going around regarding the Entergy Substation. Mr. Pfeifer contacted Council Member Harris who connected him to the proper people at Entergy who dispelled the rumor. Mr. Pfeifer also thanked North Little Rock Police Chief Mike Davis for providing a police presence to ensure the safety of their property. The 40 businesses in the Business Park are thankful. Mr. John Santoro is President of the Willow Beach Property Owners Association. He was also present to offer thanks to the Mayor, City Council and city employees who worked hard to protect their property during the event. The Police Department were extremely cordial and professional. City employees bagged sand on very hot days for the residents. Mr. Patrick Lane, Scott Springer, and Steve Shields were also very helpful. Everyone learned a lot that will help in the event of a similar event in the future. Mr. Santoro said there was an issue on Colonel Maynard. Residents have been advised that they have to be up to (city) code on their electrical. A couple of professional electricians have checked the properties and advised they were okay. Mr. Santoro asked if the city could review each property individually. Many of the residents did not have insurance. Mr. Lee Jeffery is with the Dixie CDC. He also thanked the Mayor, Council Members, city employees and volunteers for their efforts in the Dixie Community during the recent flooding. There was no way to stop the flood, but efforts were made to slow the progress. There is still a lot of work to be done. Mr. Jeffery thanked State Representative Carlton Wing for bringing his church volunteers to the community. He also thanked the Mayor for bringing Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson out to view the damage. Mr. Jeffery said Council Member Robinson was there every day checking on residents and offering assistance.

Mayor Smith announced citizen comment on legislation. Mr. James McGlough asked if O-19-67 was being pulled from the agenda for one-year, or indefinitely. Mayor Smith said it is off the agenda for now. The sponsor can refile it in the future. Mr. McGlough said information has already been provided to council members. Residents want the zoning to stay the way it is (residential). Mr. McGlough said there are already a lot of commercial properties in the city. This neighborhood is prestigious, clean and has low crime rates.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

O-19-67

AN ORDINANCE RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT WINDSONG DRIVE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM R-2 TO C-3 AND TO THE GREENBELT ZONING CLASSIFICATION BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 7697 OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; ADOPTING AN AMENDED LAND USE PLAN FOR THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read one time May 13, 2019, was read a second time, May 28, 2019, was called and withdrawn by the sponsor, Ron Harris. (*applicant: Half +Marlar*)

O-19-72 (ORDINANCE NO. 9135 – COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR)

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 9037 TO REVOKE A SPECIAL USE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2001 PARKER STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read one time, May 28, 2019, was called and read a second time this date. On the motion of Council Member Robinson, and seconded by Council Member Ross, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its third and final reading. On the motion of Council Member Robinson, and seconded by Council Member Ross, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (6/0). Emergency clause adopted (6/0).

CONSENT AGENDA

None filed.

NEW BUSINESS

R-19-105 (RESOLUTION NO. 9688 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REAPPOINTMENT OF EDDIE POWELL TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS WATER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). Mayor Smith acknowledged Mr. David Johnson, Legal Counsel for Central Arkansas Water who was present.

R-19-106 (RESOLUTION NO. 9689 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, INCLUDING THE 45TH YEAR (2019) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (“CDBG”) AND THE 2019 HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (“HOME”) PROJECTS AND BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Robinson, and seconded by Council Member Baxter. Mayor Smith convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-19-107 (RESOLUTION NO. 9690 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE AMOUNT OF A CLEAN UP LIEN TO BE FILED WITH THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3618 GUM STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read.

A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson. Mayor Smith convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount - \$5,125.30*)

O-19-74 (ORDINANCE NO. 9136 – COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A WAIVER OF SECTION 14.115 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW AN ELECTRONIC CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN ON CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 11601 KINARD ROAD IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read.

On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (6/0). On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (6/0). Emergency clause adopted (6/0).

O-19-75 (ORDINANCE NO. 9137 – COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR)

AN ORDINANCE RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 500 NORTH MAGNOLIA STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM I-1 ZONING CLASSIFICATION TO C-6 ZONING CLASSIFICATION BY AMENDING

ORDINANCE NO. 7697; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (6/0). On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (6/0). Emergency clause adopted (6/0).

O-19-76 (ORDINANCE NO. 9138 – COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR)

AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING A SPECIAL USE FOR MULTIPLE USES IN A C-6 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 500 NORTH MAPLE STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read.

On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (6/0). A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Baxter. Council Member Ross asked about parking of commercial vehicles. The applicant, Mr. George Collins owns the property. He previously operated a landscaping company from the location where he stored his truck, trailer and backhoe. He would like to lease the property to Sharee Young who wants to open an

ax throwing business. Ms. Young would like to have outside seating and tables. She is currently working on parking details and would like to use the space around the building. Mr. Shawn Spencer, Planning Director said there are no parking requirements for a C-6 Classification (see above - this address was rezoned to C-6 by Ordinance No. 9137). Council Member Ross asked if the outdoor area would remain gravel. She also asked if alcoholic beverages would be served outside. Ms. Young said the business would be for recreational ax throwing. Mr. Spencer said the (previous) zoning change would allow the applicant to use the property for his landscaping business in the future if desired. Council Member White asked what the outside area would be used for. Ms. Young said they could have prepared food or rent the facility for parties (like birthday events). Council Member Robinson asked Mr. Spencer if this would be an event center. Mr. Spencer said it would be rentals for people/customers participating in ax throwing to rent the facility. Council Member Ross asked if alcohol would be served inside the facility. Ms. Young said she is working with her insurance agent on this. At this time, there will not be alcohol. Council Member Ross asked if Ms. Young was considering a food truck on site. Ms. Young said long-term she may provide prepared food. Council Member White asked if customers could bring in alcohol. Ms. Young said not at this time. On the previous motion, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (6/0). Emergency clause adopted (6/0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

See above.

Mayor Smith provided the following update regarding the May/June 2019 flood event. He agreed with previous comments regarding the efforts of city employees who went above and beyond. An (appreciation) event will be held for them in the near future. Next week, there will be an after-action meeting to discuss things that went well and areas where improvement is needed. Another will follow in approximately six-weeks. Dickey Stephens Ball Park field has two large sink holes. The issues from three years ago are back due to the recent record flood level. Mayor Smith met with Mr. James Lee Witt, former Director of FEMA who advised the ball field should be covered under FEMA because the city owns it. Approximately ten days ago, the city had pumps and generators brought in. Generators were to power pumps in case of a power outage. Each was over \$20,000.00, which the mayor approved due to the emergency. Legislation will be filed for the next meeting. North Hills Boulevard may reopen by tomorrow (June 11, 2019) afternoon. Riverfront Drive should reopen by Thursday (June 13, 2019). There are a few streets that remain closed in Dark Hollow and Dixie. As of now, there are only 20 residential (electric) meters that have not been reconnected. These locations are on Willow Beach, Colonel Maynard and West 37th Street. The river was at 22.6 feet this morning, which is down from almost 30 feet. By Thursday, it should be down to 18 feet. Mayor Smith asked that residents return sand bags back to the location where they got them. In some cases, volunteers delivered them by trailer to residents. Robert Birch said volunteers should be able to help with collection from residences. Mayor Smith said people need to wear gloves when handling anything that came into contact with the flood water. If people are unable to get the sand bags to the curb, residents

are asked to call the Street Department for assistance. Mr. Jeffery's asked if residents can use the sand in low spots in their yard. Mayor Smith said they could. Information on contacting FEMA was also referenced and is on the City's website. (Household) trash pickup will continue as scheduled. The city will pick up debris (damage) from the flood. Mayor Smith said it will take a while. The city provided (and filled) over 100,000 sand bags to residents and businesses.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. (8/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, June 24, 2019, at six o'clock p.m. in the City Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 300 Main Street, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

APPROVED: _____
MAYOR JOE A. SMITH

ATTEST: _____
DIANE WHITBEY, CITY CLERK