

August 8, 2016
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, August 8, 2016, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Joe A. Smith.

The roll having been called and the following Aldermen answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, BETH WHITE, MAURICE TAYLOR, LINDA ROBINSON, BRUCE FOUTCH, CHARLIE HIGHT, and MURRY WITCHER (7/0). Alderman STEVE BAXTER was absent. City Clerk Diane Whitbey, Deputy City Clerk LaTonya Braggs and City Attorney C. Jason Carter were also present.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were led by Alderman Hight.

On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting and a Special Call meeting held on Monday, July 25, 2016, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (7/0).

On the blanket motion of Alderman Taylor and seconded by Alderman Foutch, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, were accepted and filed (7/0).

1. Karen Scott, Finance Director, Chairman Energy Risk Management Committee memorandum to City Clerk Diane Whitbey re: ECR August, 2016 (\$.0047) Credit.
2. Glinda Craigmyle, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *Restaurant Mixed Drink - NEW for Hideaway Pizza*, 5103 Warden Road, by Timothy D. Anderson.
3. Glinda Craigmyle, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *Native Beer & Malt Beverage - NEW for Mugs Café*, 515 Main Street, by Amanda J. Carpenter.
4. Glinda Craigmyle, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *Restaurant Mixed Drink – Change of Manager from Nicholas Cooper for Courtyard by Marriott*, 4339 Warden Road, by Bradley D. Watkins.
6. Mayor Joe A. Smith letter to Johnny K. Campbell, President and CEO Sundance Square, (Fort Worth, Texas) re: thank you for information and hospitality shared with the delegation during our visit last week.

On the motion of Alderwoman Ross and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the communication #5 was read by title only, accepted and filed (7/0).

5. Karen Scott, Finance Director, re: City of North Little Rock Electric Department Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report, December 31, 2015 and 2014.

Finance Director Scott advised the report was in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The report is more extensive this time due to the inclusion of GASB. Mrs. Scott commended Mr. Joe Folen and the accounting staff at the Electric Department on their work.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

None filed.

NEW BUSINESS

R-16-124

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 218 MOUNT OLIVE STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND CONDEMNING SAID STRUCTURES; PROVIDING A PERIOD OF TIME FOR PROPERTY OWNER TO ABATE SAID NUISANCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held by the sponsor, Mayor Smith. (*owner: Emmit Gober*)

R-16-125 (RESOLUTION NO. 9037 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CERTIFYING AMOUNTS OF LIENS TO BE FILED WITH THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS AS A RESULT OF GRASS CUTTING EXPENSES AND ABATEMENT OF OTHER NUISANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Taylor and seconded by Alderman Witcher. 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 (7/0).

O-16-50 (ORDINANCE NO. 8830 – MAYOR SMITH)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ORDINANCE NO. 8828 REGARDING ISSUANCE OF A PROMISSORY NOTE TO PROVIDE SHORT-TERM FINANCING UNDER AMENDMENT NO. 78 TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARK; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Foutch and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members the readings were suspended (7/0). A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderwoman Ross. Mr. Carter said the amendment was to change “shall” to “may” within the ordinance. On the previous motion, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0).

O-16-51 (ORDINANCE NO. 8831 – MAYOR SMITH)

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF ACCESSORIES FOR THE AVATAR ROBOT UNIT USED BY THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was

read. On the motion of Alderwoman Ross and seconded by Alderman Taylor, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading (7/0). On the motion of Alderwoman Ross and seconded by Alderman Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the rules were again suspended and the ordinance was placed on its third and final reading (7/0). A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Foutch. Mr. Carter said this vendor is the sole source of the parts. On the previous motion, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Whitbey introduced Deputy City Clerk LaTonya Braggs. Mr. Hank Klein referenced a letter City Attorney Carter sent to Cash Max (Loan Services) advising them to close current operations. Mr. Klein also referenced media coverage regarding the same. The city has demanded the business close. However, they have not. Mr. Klein asked what action would be taken next. Mr. Carter sent a letter based on the type of licensing issued and the type of business being conducted at the location. Mr. Carter referenced Arkansas Amendment 89 regarding the maximum lawful interest rate in the State of Arkansas (shall not exceed 17%). Mayor Smith asked Mr. Carter what the next step will be if the letter is ignored. Mr. Carter said someone will have to go through the process of borrowing money and then file a complaint regarding the 200%+ interest. An individual can do this through private counsel. The city can also pursue it on behalf of a citizen. Normally, this would be the role of the State Attorney General. Mr. Klein went to the business (last) Friday and waited for someone to enter the business. He spoke to a lady who was there for over an hour and was denied a loan. He spoke to another lady who was there 15 minutes and had visited the business to question their lending procedures. Mr. Klein contacted the Attorney General's Office and was told they have not been contacted by the City Attorney regarding this matter. Mr. Bobby Taylor said sanitation isn't being picked up in Rose City. Mayor Smith asked for addresses. Mr. Jerome Tramble spoke regarding code enforcement issues in Faulkner Crossing. There are residents who do not mow their lawns. There are other neighbors who mow and put their grass clippings in the street. Mr. Tramble shared photos of several homes with the counsel. Alderman Taylor offered to meet Mr. Tramble at Faulkner Crossing following the council meeting to observe the issues. Alderwoman Robinson continued to have concerns regarding power outages in her neighborhood and asked to attend an Electric Department meeting when outages are discussed. Mr. James Bray, General Manager, North Little Rock Electric said outages the 14th and 15th (July) were due to weather. An outage on the 30th was due to issues with Entergy's grid. Power had to be rerouted from the Dixie Station and Palm Street Station to Sherwood, West Gate and Galloway Substations. Alderwoman White said she recently spoke to Danny Dillon, Traffic Services Department employee who has a sick child. Mr. Dillon wanted to thank the City of North Little Rock for the policy that allows employees to transfer vacation and personal time to other employees to use

when they have a serious illness (either personally or within their immediate family). Alderwoman White then announced her candidacy for reelection as Alderman, Ward 1. Ward 1 is made up of a unique blend of neighborhoods and residents. She has learned a lot and will continue to listen to and support neighborhood groups. Alderwoman White said a lot of improvements have been made by the city council. She is also a Certified Arkansas Municipal Official through the Arkansas Municipal League. Alderwoman White also introduced her husband Tom.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Alderman Taylor and seconded by Alderwoman Ross, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m. (7/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting which will be held on Monday, August 22, 2016, 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