

March 8, 2021  
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, March 8, 2021, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, NATHAN HAMILTON, MAURICE TAYLOR, LINDA ROBINSON, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, JANE GINN and CHARLIE HIGHT (8/0). City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey, and City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

*Note: the majority of Council Members participated in the meeting electronically. Mayor Hartwick, City Clerk Whitbey, City Attorney Fields and Council Members Hamilton and Ginn were present in the council chambers.*

The prayer was led by Council Member Taylor.

On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hight and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council (SPECIAL) meeting scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2021, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (8/0).

On the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 2, and 3, were accepted and filed (8/0).

1. Ember Strange, Finance Director/Chair Energy Risk Management Committee memorandum to City Clerk Diane Whitbey re: Power Cost Adjustment Rate for March, 2021 (.0031/kwh) negative.
2. Petition requesting Speed Hump Delhaven/Medford/Amber, filed by Michael Davis (20 signatures – for).
3. Petition requesting Speed Hump (assume Chandler Street since all petitioner's addresses are on Chandler) via U.S. Mail (Petition does not indicate for or against).

### **PRESENTATIONS**

*None.*

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

O-21-16

**AN ORDINANCE REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 307 W. 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM R3 TO R4 ZONING**

CLASSIFICATION, BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9263; ADOPTING AN AMENDED LAND USE PLAN FOR THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and withdrawn by the sponsor, Council Member Hamilton.  
(applicant: Bond Consulting Engineers)

O-21-17 (ORDINANCE NO. 9336 – MAYOR HARTWICK)  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MASTER STREET PLAN (ORDINANCE NO. 8601) TO ADD DENTON ROAD AS A COLLECTOR STREET; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing. There being no one wishing to be heard, Mayor Hartwick adjourned the public hearing. On the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and the roll having been called, and all members having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted (8/0). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0).

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ross, and all members present having voted “aye”, consent items R-21-25, R-21-26, R-21-27, and R-21-28 were adopted (8/0).

R-21-25 (RESOLUTION NO. 10003 – MAYOR HARTWICK)  
A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING TODD LARSON TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-21-26 (RESOLUTION NO. 10004 – MAYOR HARTWICK)  
A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DAN SCOTT TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PRUPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-21-27 (RESOLUTION NO. 10005 – MAYOR HARTWICK)  
A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DR. ARNESSA BENNET TO THE POSITION PREVIOUSLY HELD BY BERNADETTE RHODES ON THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-21-28 (RESOLUTION NO. 10006 – MAYOR HARTWICK)  
A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN CITY-OWNED ITEMS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS; PROVIDING FOR AUCTION THEREOF; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

R-21-29 (RESOLUTION NO. 10007 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION IN THE 93<sup>RD</sup> ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT IMPOSES ENHANCED SENTENCING FOR CONVICTIONS OF MISDEMEANORS AND FELONIES ASSOCIATED WITH CRIMES COMMITTEED AGAINST VICTIMS BASED ON BIGOTRY AND PREJUDICE (HATE CRIMES); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. Todd Larson advised the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Group and others have expressed support for support of this legislation. It is important to state and local economic development. Arkansas is one of three states that have not passed a Hate Crimes Bill. When cities (and towns) vie for new business, a lot of elements are considered in the decision making process. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0).

### ORDINANCES

O-21-20 (ORDINANCE NO. 9337 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPREHENSIVE LOSS AND BUSINESS INTERRUPTION INSURANCE FOR THE MURRAY HYDROELECTRIC PLANT; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INSURANCE AGREEMENT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). Council Member Hight said the city pays a lot of money for insurance at the Hydro Electric Plant. Mr. Eric Herget advised this is “shopped” in the market place (to approximately 20 companies/insurance carriers). There are a number of elements to be considered. One being that the facility is in the river and sometimes under water. The city has \$50 million in flood damage coverage on the facility. The second closest quote offered \$5 million in flood coverage. Mr. Herget said the policy covers “all risks of direct physical loss or damage including boiler explosion, machinery breakdown, flood, earthquake, storm and business interruption”. This is a comprehensive package. Mr. Herget also referenced the amount of the premium in 2012 and 2013 which was over \$300,000.00. On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted (8/0). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$286,216.00)

O-21-21 (ORDINANCE NO. 9338 – COUNCIL MEMBER ROSS)

AN ORDINANCE REZONING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1700 NORTH OLIVE STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM C3 TO R2 ZONING CLASSIFICATION, BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9263; ADOPTING AN AMENDED LAND USE PLAN FOR THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; 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 readings were suspended (8/0). On the Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and the roll

having been called and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted (8/0). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0). (*applicant: Crystal Stanfield*)

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Council Member Harris asked for an update with regard to public meetings. Mayor Hartwick said the Governor may ease policies March 31, 2021. After speaking with several staff members, Mayor Hartwick said he would wait until after Spring Break to see how the numbers look. It will likely be the end of April (2021). Mayor Hartwick thanked everyone for their condolences regarding the recent passing of his mother. Ms. Whitbey introduced retired North Little Rock Police Lieutenant Jim Scott who has joined the City Clerk’s Office team. Council Member Ross said newly appointed Police Chief Patrick Thessing was also present. Council Member Ginn said the North Little Rock Community Center has allowed the Patrick Henry Hays Senior Center Pickle Ball players to use their space during renovations of the ball room. Council Member Robinson said her constituents are happy the city has a Pandemic Resource Center. She has encouraged them to contact the Mayor’s Office for more information. She commended Code Enforcement for stepping up in the east side of town.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m. (8/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, March 22, 2021, 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 TERRY C. HARTWICK

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DIANE WHITBEY, CITY CLERK