August 9, 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, August 9, 2021, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.

Due to the rise in COVID-19 cases and Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson reinstating a state-wide public health emergency, council members had the option of attending the council meeting in person or participate virtually. The Council Chambers were open to the public and social distancing and the use of masks were requested for those attending the meeting in person.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, NATHAN HAMILTON, MAURICE TAYLOR, LINDA ROBINSON, RON HARRIS, JANE GINN, and CHARLIE HIGHT (7/0). Council Member STEVE BAXTER was absent. *Note: Council Members Hamilton and Ginn were present in the Council* Chambers. City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey and City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

The prayer was led by Council Member Ginn.

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 meeting scheduled for Monday, July 26, 2021, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk, Diane Whitbey (7/0).

On the motion of Council Member Ginn and seconded by Council Member Hight, and by consent of all members present, communications #1 and #2, were accepted and filed (7/0).

1. Ember Strange, Chairman Energy Risk Management Committee, memorandum re: PCA Rate August, 2021 (.0018/kwh negative).
2. Marc Gill, Petition requesting Speed Hump on North Hills Boulevard (19 signatures for) (specific address not included).

PRESENTATIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA
None filed.

NEW BUSINESS
R-21-103 (RESOLUTION NO. 10080 – MAYOR HARTWICK)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK FOR ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS FOR THE PIKE AVENUE BIKE/PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. Mayor Hartwick said this project is from the round-about to 15th Street. The approximate amount of funds is $3 million. Another project will include 16th Street to Pershing Boulevard. Council Member Ross said this area has been dangerous for pedestrians and under consideration for some time. Council Member Hight said the long-range plan is to go to Pershing, then connect to the Levy Trail. On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Harris, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (*Central Arkansas Regional Transportation (CARTS) Area Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)*

R-21-104 (RESOLUTION NO. 10081 – MAYOR HARTWICK)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT APPLICATION FOR FUNDS UNDER THE 2021 EDWARD BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson. Mayor Hartwick 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).

R-21-105 (RESOLUTION NO. 10082)
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. Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ginn, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0).

PUBLIC COMMENT
Mayor Hartwick advised the city has recommended people wearing masks (due to the increase in COVID-19 cases). However he is not going to mandate it at this time. Mayor Hartwick also encouraged everyone to get their vaccination. Pulaski County Circuit Court Judge, Tim Fox ruled (Arkansas) Act 1002, which prohibits mandating face coverings to be unconstitutional.

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 6:08 p.m. (7/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, August 23, 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