

March 14, 2022
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 14, 2022, 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 encouraged 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, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, JANE GINN and CHARLIE HIGHT (8/0). Note: Council Members Ross and Hight participated virtually. City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey and City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

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

(Note: All council members were present in chambers, with the exception of Council Members Ross and Hight who were present electronically, via Ring Central. Several members present were also present via Ring Central to provide visual to those in chambers and Council Members Ross and Hight).

On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, February 28, 2022, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk, Diane Whitbey (8/0).

On the blanket motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 were accepted and filed (8/0).

1. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *application for Retail Beer Off Premises, Small Farm Winery – Retail Permits – Additional Permits*, for Argenta Mart, 623 North Cypress, by Baljinder Singh.
2. Via email – Dan Lambe, Arbor Day Foundation Chief Executive letter to Mayor Terry C. Hartwick re: North Little Rock recognized as a 2021 Tree City USA, city.

3. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *Retail Beer Off Premises, Small Farm Winery – Retail – replacement / new owner application*, for KSC Shell, 6915 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, by Kyoungmi Yoon.
4. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *restaurant mixed drink maximum permit – replacement / new owner*, for Crazy Habachi Company, 2907 Lakewood Village Drive, by Kiyen Kim.
5. Derrell Hartwick, North Little Rock Chamber President – Economic Development Activity Report – Q1 2022.

PRESENTATIONS

Anna Sawyer – Community Garden Winter Video presentation which included gardening tips for winter. Winter is a good time to add soil amendments like super soil, mulch and compost. The North Little Rock Community Garden program has partnered with American Composting for over a decade. In 2021, over 200 cubic yards of materials were added to community gardens around the city. They also partner with 2 Twenty 1, a coffee shop in Little Rock, by collecting used coffee grounds for garden fertilizer. Coffee ground are high in nutrients which encourage plant growth. In preparation for spring, they have started over 600 seeds in their greenhouse which include tomatoes, collard greens, kale, okra and more. The video also encouraged the public to grow pollinator friendly plants. Pollinators move pollen on flowers and other plants which helps produce the seeds for the next generation of plants. Community gardens also use beehives to increase produce production. There are many types of pollinators including honey bees, mason bees, bumble bees, butterflies, beetles and birds. By supporting pollinators through habitat planting, we can help support diversity in the community. Plants like dandelions and clover are also important for pollinators because they grow early and late in the season. Broadcasting seed for clover does not require tilling soil. Miss Sawyer said 10 Garden Grant applications have been approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

O-22-04

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW LARGE VEHICLE AND IMPLEMENT OUTDOOR STORAGE IN A C4 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1101 EAST BROADWAY STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held at the request of the sponsor, Council Member Taylor. (*applicant: Ester Jackson*)

CONSENT AGENDA

On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ginn, and by voice vote, consent agenda items R-22-51 and R-22-52 were adopted (8/0).

R-22-51 (RESOLUTION NO. 10237 – 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).

R-22-52 (RESOLUTION NO. 10238 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3700 EAST BROADWAY STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS FROM KELLERS MOBILE HOME PARK, LLC; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

NEW BUSINESS

R-22-53

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RETAIL STRATEGIES, LLC FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTING SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and withdrawn by the sponsor, Mayor Hartwick. (*\$35,000.00/per year*)

O-22-16 (ORDINANCE NO. 9437 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

AN ORDINANCE REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF RIVER ROAD AND PAUL DUKE DRIVE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM R3 TO RU 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 Taylor and seconded by Council Member Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). Council Member Baxter asked about sidewalks. Planning Director Shawn Spencer indicated a sidewalk will be required. A fill or cut permit will be required by the City Engineer. Council Member Harris asked about widening River Road and getting bicycles off (for the safety of riders). City Engineer Chris Wilbourn said there is a trail (bike) from the marina that goes around to the river. The trail is adjacent to River Road. The cost of the project is around \$125,000.00. Council Member Taylor called for a Point of Order as the discussion was not related to the item before the council. On the motion of Council Member Hamilton, and seconded by Council Member Robinson, 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: Jess Griffin for the Tyler Group*)

O-22-17 (ORDINANCE NO. 9438 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND ABANDONING AN UNUSED PORTION OF A RIGHT OF WAY LOCATED AT 800 MAIN STREET, IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; 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). On the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was amended as follows: *see revision provided this date* by City Attorney Fields (8/0). On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and the roll having been called and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted as amended (8/0). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0). (*requested by Eric Holloway for Holloway Engineering*)

O-22-18 (ORDINANCE NO. 9439 – COUNCIL MEMBER ROSS)

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND ABANDONING A CERTAIN UNUSED EASEMENT ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 12000 PAUL EELLS DRIVE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Harris and seconded by Council Member Baxter and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). On the motion of council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ginn, 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). (*requested by The Links at the Rock Management Group*)

O-22-19 (ORDINANCE NO. 9440 – COUNCIL MEMBER HARRIS)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE FOURTEEN (“THE SIGN ORDINANCE”) OF ORDINANCE NO. 7967 TO INCLUDE THE COLLINS INDUSTRIAL SIGN OVERLAY DISTRICT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of council Member Harris and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). Council Member Ross said this is an Industrial area. She wanted to make sure that Electronic Changeable Copy signs in the Sign District will only be on six (6) foot monument signs, no pole signs. Mr. Spencer said that is correct. The only way to avoid that is to come before the city council. Council Member Ross said the requirement is the same for all Changeable Copy Districts in the city. Mr. Spencer confirmed the same. 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 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). (*requested by Council Member Harris on behalf of his constituents*)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council Member Harris asked about barricades around Broadway and said there may not be enough directional signs directing traffic or barrels defining the area. Mr. Wilbourn said Broadway was closed for the installation of steel girders which should be brief. Mr. Wilbourn will ask the (North Little Rock) Traffic Services Department to review the area and said the project will continue for about 3 ½

years. Council Member Ross reminded everyone March 29-30, 2022, there will be an Electric Recycling event at Simmons Bank Arena. The times are 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. each day. Items that can be recycled include phones, TVs, copiers, printers, computers, etc. Council Member Harris asked when the new trash collection program will begin. Mayor Hartwick said it could be in May, 2022. Employees will need to be trained to operate the equipment. All four (4) wards will start at the same time. Council Member Taylor updated the council regarding a request at the previous meeting for Wastewater services on Holt Road. An estimate was provided which was over \$400,000.00 to extend the line to the location. Council Member Taylor said other houses in the area are on Septic systems.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Harris, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m. (8/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, March 28, 2022, 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