

October 23, 2023
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, October 23, 2023, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.

Council members had the option of attending the council meeting in person or participate virtually. The Council Chambers were open to the public.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, NATHAN HAMILTON, MAURICE TAYLOR, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, and VINCE INSALACO, III, (6/0). Council Member Taylor entered the council chambers at 6:03 p.m. City Clerk and Treasurer Diane Whitbey, Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Talor Shinn, and City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were led by IT Director John Barber.

On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting held Monday, October 9, 2023, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by City Clerk Diane Whitbey (6/0).

On the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Insalaco, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 2, 3, and 4 were accepted and filed (6/0).

1. Felicia McHenry, Code Enforcement Director email re: Hattie Temple complaint regarding housing conditions.
2. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *application for restaurant mixed drink maximum permit – new application (#41599)* for Ay Caray Sports, Bar, 4000 Vali Court, by Jose Velasquez.
3. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *application for grocery store wine, retail beer off premises, small farm winery – retail permit – change of manager (#41658)*, for Casey's #4250, 3300 Springhill Drive by Lindsey Rogers.
4. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *application for combination of restaurant beer & wine permit – new application (#41655)* for 711A Main Street, by Matthew Quin.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Hartwick invited Mrs. Colleen Bailey, Economic Development Director to come forward and provide an update on the status of the Health Clinic in Rose City. The building is approximately 6,000 square feet. The lobby will hold approximately 73 people (1,458 square feet). Her presentation

included photos of the building design and the current construction status. The presentation also included the floor plan and the use of each room. The project is currently under budget. Council Member Ross asked about the estimated completion date. Chief of Staff Mike Davis said mid to late May (2024).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

R-23-203 (RESOLUTION NO. 10669 – COUNCIL MEMBERS ROBINSON AND TAYLOR) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED AGREEMENT TO REHABILITATE PROPERTY FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 213 (219) CROCKETT STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ross. The owner, Rabbi Yosef Kramer was present. Council Member Ross asked Rabbi Kramer if he understood the terms of the rehabilitation agreement. He said he understood it was six (6) months. City Attorney Fields said it will be from the date the Mayor and City Clerk sign the agreement. Mayor Hartwick asked if anything had been done at the property. Rabbi Kramer said he had a property manager who worked on the structure but did not pull any (building) permits. The new property manager (McKimmy – Joshua Lefever) met with the Code Enforcement Rental Officer to do a walk through with his licensed contractor to find out what needed to be done. Council Member Baxter asked Mrs. Felicia McHenry Code Enforcement Director about the initial rehabilitation agreement and if any of the items had been completed. Mrs. McHenry said a stop work order had been issued. Council Member Baxter referenced the initial agreement and said the current agreement was different. Mrs. McHenry said the amount of a bond would be \$5,895.00 to cover the cost if the city has to demolish the structure. Mrs. McHenry said some of the things that were fixed previously were covered up. Inspectors need to be able to check plumbing and electrical. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Council Member Baxter, who voted no, the resolution was adopted (5/1).

R-23-216

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO REHABILITATE PROPERTY FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 214 WEST 14TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called. The applicant, Mr. Bruce Tate was not present. The legislation was held at the request of the sponsor.

O-23-77

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW A TYPE 2 SHORT TERM RENTAL IN AN R1 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4426 ARLINGTON DRIVE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held by the sponsor, Council Member Hamilton. The applicants, James and Stacie Henson were not present.

O-23-79

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW YOUTH MENTORING IN AN R3 ZONE 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 called. The legislation was amended and motion to adopt as amended made on September 25, 2023. The applicant could not attend the meeting due to an emergency. The legislation was held by the sponsor, Mayor Hartwick.

CONSENT AGENDA

None filed.

NEW BUSINESS

R-23-218 (RESOLUTION NO. 10670 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO PARTNER WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ARDOT) FOR THE HIGHWAY 70 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT; 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 resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-23-219 (RESOLUTION NO. 10671 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK HOUSING AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE (TBRA); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Hamilton. Ms. Bailey Noland, Community Development Director was asked to come forward to review the purpose of the assistance program. Ms. Noland said it is part of the Home Investment Partnership American Rescue Plan (ARP) allocation. Funding came about during the COVID Pandemic and was tailored to help people who are homeless or at immediate risk of homelessness. One stipulation is the categories funds can be applied to. The city has the option of development in support of affordable housing, tenant-based rental assistance, provision of supportive services for those qualifying populations, as well as the acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units. When working with HUD (Housing Urban Development) Funds there is a lengthy consultation period where community stakeholders are included. A lot of data and numbers are reviewed. The (North Little Rock) Housing Authority is an agency which is eligible to provide services. Tenant-based assistance would work like a voucher by providing assistance tied to an individual. The person receiving a voucher would be able to use it and find their own housing (single-family home, apartment, etc.). There are stipulations to ensure the properties are up to code to ensure people are being placed in safe accommodations. Home ARP funds will be treated as a separate voucher program. Council Member Ross said there are families with school age children who may be living in a vehicle. She asked if a request could be made to give those individuals priority. Ms. Noland said the (North Little Rock) School District (Homeless) Liaison has participated in their discussions. Being homeless doesn't mean

sleeping on the street. Sleeping in a vehicle or on a friends couch would be considered homeless. There is not a specific requirement in this legislation, but those individuals would qualify. Ms. Noland said she talked with Council Member Robinson about some specific circumstances which would qualify. Once funds are available applicants would go through a process for approval. Funds would be allocated on a first-come first-serve basis. A person on another waiting list would be able to apply for the ARP funds as well. Council Member Ross asked how many families could be impacted. Ms. Noland did not have an answer and advised there are a lot of factors to consider including funding. She added that participants are evaluated annually based on income, etc. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (\$720,656.00)

R-23-220 (RESOLUTION NO. 10672 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH RIVER CITY MINISTRY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING OR NON-CONGREGATE HOUSING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Taylor. Council Member Ross asked if this was the same program (see previous legislation R-23-219). Ms. Noland said this is another part of the ARP program. Funds have been set aside (\$300,000.00) to work with River City Ministry which would acquire property then manage and oversee it. Property could be used for affordable rental housing, or non-congregate housing. This would allow occupants to have their own living space (bedroom, bathroom, kitchen). Council Member Ross said these funds would not be used for group homes. Ms. Noland agreed. Following COVID the intent was to split people up by making sure they had their own space. This would not be a group home setting. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (\$300,000.00)

Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing on the following condemnations:

R-23-221 – 300 East 19th Street	owner: Imran Borha
R-23-222 – 317 Short Street	owner: Shirley Ann Simpson c/o Paula Link
R-23-223 – 715 West 41st Street	owner: Brian Knight
R-23-224 – 812 North I Street	owner: Retta M. Gilliam
R-23-226 – 1109 West 24th Street	owner: Victoria E. Bowman
R-23-227 – 1823 Franklin Street	owner: iRemodel Properties LLC
R-23-228 – 3011 Gribble Street	owner: Robert Glasgow
R-23-229 – 1722 Magnolia Street	owner: Jorge Marquez and/or Manuel Henriquez

Ms. Mary Waller spoke regarding R-23-224 – 812 North I Street. The house belonged to her mother Retta Gilliam who is deceased. Ms. Waller said one of the grandchildren would like to take over the property and they were in the process of getting signatures from other family members. Mayor Hartwick asked if Ms. Waller was requesting more time and she said she was. He said he will hold the legislation until the next meeting, Monday, November 13, 2023. Ms. Waller said her granddaughter wants to tear the house down and rebuild (on the lot). Mrs. McHenry spoke with Ms.

Waller and advised the process if a structure is condemned along with possible assistance available for debris removal. Mrs. McHenry said the issue is the grandchildren do not own the property. Ms. Waller said one grandchild is torn between giving up both lots. She then asked if the process would start over for the new owner. City Attorney Fields said it would not. The new owner would be given 30 days to demolish the structure which would keep the city from having to remove the structure and put a lien against the property. Mr. Robert Glasgow spoke regarding R-23-228 – 3011 Gribble Street. Mr. Glasgow said he has been working on the property which was damaged by a fire. He has put in new windows and has covered the structure with Tyrex, put in a new door to secure the building, and removed damaged sheetrock. Mr. Glasgow said he raised his children there for the past 10 years. He asked the council to not tear down his house. Mayor Hartwick asked Mrs. McHenry to send someone to the property to obtain current photos for the next council meeting. Council Member Taylor asked if Mr. Glasgow lived at the address. Mr. Glasgow said he currently lives in Prothro Manor Apartments. Mayor Hartwick said he will hold this item. Council Member Taylor asked how long it would take to finish the project. Mr. Glasgow said 47 weeks as he is doing all the work himself and doesn't have any financial backing. Mr. Glasgow said electrical and plumbing work needs to be done, but he does not have the money to cover cost (estimated at \$25,000.00). If the job ends up being too much for him he may sell the house. Council Member Ross referenced a rehabilitation agreement which would give him 180 days. City Attorney Fields advised Mr. Glasgow of the rehabilitation process and requirement of a bond in an amount to cover the cost of demolition. Mayor Hartwick advised he would hold the legislation until the next meeting. Mrs. McHenry said Mr. Glasgow can work on the property but had to pull permits because it is a fire damaged structure. There being no one else wishing to be heard, Mayor Hartwick adjourned the public hearing.

R-23-221 (RESOLUTION NO. 10673 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 300 EAST 19TH 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 read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*owner: Imran Bohra*)

R-23-222 (RESOLUTION NO. 10674 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 317 SHORT 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 read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*owner: Shirley Ann Simpson c/o Paula Link*)

R-23-223 (RESOLUTION NO. 10675 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 715 WEST 41ST 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 read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted 6/0). (*owner: Brian Knight*)

R-23-224

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 812 NORTH I 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 Hartwick at the request of the deceased owner's daughter, Ms. Waller. (*owner: Retta M. Gilliam*)

R-23-225 *note: this item was presented for filing but withdrawn prior to the deadline, therefore it is not part of the agenda.*

R-23-226 (RESOLUTION NO. 10676 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 2401 MOSS 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 read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*owner: Victoria E. Bowman*)

R-23-227 (RESOLUTION NO. 10677 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 1823 FRANKLIN 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 read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*owner: iRemodel Properties LLC*)

R-23-228

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 3011 GRIBBLE 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 Hartwick, at the request of the owner, Mr. Glasgow. (*owner: Robert Glasgow*)

R-23-229 (RESOLUTION NO. 10678 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 1722 MAGNOLIA 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 read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*owner: Jorge Marquez and/or Manuel Henriquez*)

Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing on the following Clean Up Liens:

R-23-230 - 1114 North G Street	\$6,401.27
R-23-231 - 210 East 17th Street	\$7,951.66
R-23-232 - 1301 West 18th Street	\$8,151.64
R-23-233 - 1502 Crutcher Street	\$2,014.78
R-23-234 - 2516 Parker Street	\$6,079.60
R-23-235 - 1406 West 10th Street	\$7,149.18
R-23-236 - 611 Pollock Street	\$5,023.08

There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned.

R-23-230 (RESOLUTION NO. 10679 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 1114 NORTH G STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount – \$6,401.27*)

R-23-231 (RESOLUTION NO. 10680 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 210 EAST 17TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; 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 resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount – \$7,951.66*)

R-23-232 (RESOLUTION NO. 10681 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 1301 WEST 18TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; 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 resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount – \$8,151.64*)

R-23-233 (RESOLUTION NO. 10682 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 1502 CRUTCHER STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount – \$2,014.78*)

R-23-234 (RESOLUTION NO. 10683- MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 2516 PARKER STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; 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 resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount – \$6,079.60*)

R-23-235 (RESOLUTION NO. 10684 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 1406 WEST 10TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Insalaco, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount – \$7,149.18*)

R-23-236 (RESOLUTION NO. 10685 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 611 POLLOCK STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Insalaco, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*amount – \$5,023.08*)

R-23-237 (RESOLUTION NO. 10686 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

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 hear was adjourned. On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

O-23-86 (ORDINANCE NO. 9614 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND ABANDONING A CERTAIN UNUSED WASTEWATER EASEMENT ON PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TULIP FARM DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKKANSAS; 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 (6/0). On the motion of 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 adopted (6/0). Emergency clause adopted (6/0). (*request made by Thomas Pownall - Thomas Engineering Company*)

O-23-87 (ORDINANCE NO. 9615 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 4 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 9263) TO REMOVE THE WASHINGTON AVENUE OVERLAY DISTRICT); DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Taylor 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 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 adopted (6/0). Emergency clause adopted (6/0). (*removing Section 1: 4.6.5 (Washington Avenue Overlay District) A. Maximum Height*)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Robert Gullett lives on Dooley Road in Park Hill. Mr. Gullett said he continues to have problems on Dooley Road and Skyline Drive due to Mr. Chris Olsen’s violations of the zoning law. He said Mr. Olsen is misusing the area as a party and wedding event center. There have problems with parking. Mr. Olsen does put out no-parking signs, but visitors to his business still block residential driveways. Police have had to respond due to loud music and guests. A few months ago, MEMS had to send an ambulance and administer emergency care to a young woman who had passed out. There have been intoxicated people walking up and down the street who leave beer bottles and drink cups in the neighborhood (often in yards). Many of the same people get in their vehicles and drive through the neighborhood. Mr. Gullett said he haf talked with the Mayor, City Clerk, City Attorney, Council Member Ross, and the Planning Director regarding these issues. They (neighbors) have done their

own research and found the area is zoned R1, not commercial. Ordinance 8838 allows Historic Home Tours of owner occupied residents. Mr. Olsen’s business license is for Historic Tours only. On his application he attested that he did not serve food or alcohol and that the home was (owner) occupied. Mr. Gullett said none of this is true. Mr. Gullett said he had pictures to prove Mr. Olsen does not live at the location. Since September 1 (2023) there have been six (6) weddings, five (5) rehearsals, two (2) dinners, two (2) tours, and other parties. Each time there is a wedding he circumvents at least nine (9) city functions. Mr. Gullett said Mayor Hartwick had advised he would speak to Mr. Olsen and later said Mr. Olsen could have no more than 12 weddings a year. Mr. Gullett said the mayor could not give a waiver to break the law and Mr. Olsen cannot legally do what he is doing, where he is doing it. The city is charged with enforcing the law. Ms. Cassandra Williamson lives in Richsmith Lane Apartments. She continues to have issues at her apartment. She said she has receipts from where she paid her rent, however, she is being charged late fees of \$25.00 (first day) then \$5.00 per day after. She said Section 8 Housing may not be paying their part but she is paying hers. Mayor Hartwick asked if she had talked to Ms. Belinda Snow, Housing Authority Director. Ms. Williamson said she (Ms. Snow) won’t talk to anyone and never did call. Mayor Hartwick said he would call Ms. Snow on her behalf. Ms. Williamson said she would like for someone to go over the ledger with her. Her payment is \$254.00. This is effecting her credit score.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m. (6/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, November 13, 2023, 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