

Monday, October 28, 2024
Six o'clock p.m.
North Little Rock City Hall Council Chamber
300 Main Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas

The regular meeting of the North Little Rock City Council scheduled for Monday, October 28, 2024, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.

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

The roll was called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, NATHAN HAMILTON, MAURICE TAYLOR, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, VINCE INSALACO, III and CHARLIE HIGHT (7/0). Council Member LINDA ROBINSON was absent. Chief Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Katelyn Thomas, Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Talor Shinn, Deputy City Clerk/Enforcement Officer Jim Scott, 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 Hight and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting held on Monday, October 14, 2024, were approved, accepted, and filed as prepared by City Clerk Diane Whitbey (7/0).

On the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Hight, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 were accepted and filed (7/0).

1. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *New Restaurant Mixed Drink Minimum Application* for Pizza Pub Corporation, 4000 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, by Jess McMullen.
2. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *Replacement / New Owner Retail Beer off Premises and Small Farm Winery - Retail Permit* for Exxon Fuel Stop fka Exxon Fuel Mart, 3800 Camp Robinson Road, by Rajbir Singh.
3. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office memorandum re: *New Restaurant Mixed Drink Minimum Application* for Ol' Bart at Diamond Bear, 600 North Broadway Street, Suite B, by Brad Houck.
4. Ember Strange, Chief Financial Officer – Chair Energy Risk Management Committee memorandum to City Clerk Diane Whitbey re: Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) rate for November, 2024 (\$0.0068kWh [positive]).
5. Luther Green, Petition for Speed Hump on West 44th Street between Lynn Lane and Division Street (27 signatures – for).

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Hartwick asked North Little Rock Mayor's Youth Council Director Jan Scholl to come forward. Mayor Hartwick then presented Mrs. Scholl with a memento from the students of the North Little Rock Mayor's Youth Council. Ms. Scholl thanked the mayor, city and her students.

Mayor Hartwick asked Fire Chief Gerald Tucker to come forward. Chief Tucker introduced North Little Rock Fire Lieutenant Hunter Moix who recently reported to Camp Robinson in response to an emergency call of a woman with an injured leg who had to be removed from the top of Pinnacle Mountain. Lt. Moix said three (3) other North Little Rock Fire Fighters hiked up the mountain with medical equipment to stabilize the patient. The rescue was a coordinated effort between multiple departments including Lake Maumelle, (State) Park Rangers, North Little Rock Firemen and Arkansas Helicopter Rescue Team. The North Little Rock Fire Department has been training with Arkansas Helicopter Rescue for several years. This is their first big rescue. A video was then shown to the City Council. Lt. Moix said the rescue took place on the east summit of the mountain. The victim had a fractured leg. In any rescue of this nature the victim has an individual harness and connection to the helicopter.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING

None scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

O-24-68

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2, ANIMAL CONTROL; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held by the sponsor, Council Member Insalaco, III. (*Chickens*)

CONSENT AGENDA

By voice vote and all members present having voted "aye", consent agenda items R-24-222, R-24-223, R-24-224, and R-24-225, were adopted (7/0). R-24-226 was pulled and called under new business.

R-24-222 (RESOLUTION NO. 10939 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF LAURA BUTLER TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

R-24-223 (RESOLUTION NO. 10940 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MISSIE SMITH TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK AIRPORT COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

R-24-224 (RESOLUTION NO. 10941 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO ESCAMILLA EXCAVATING, LLC, FOR UNFORESEEN REPAIRS ON THE PROJECT FOR GUM STREET IMPROVEMENTS BETWEEN 15TH STREET AND 16TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0). (\$14,211.80 for a total of \$392,481.80)

R-24-225 (RESOLUTION NO. 10942 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO EMERSON POWER AND WATER SOLUTIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE REPLACEMENT AND INSTALLATION OF UPGRADES TO THE GOVERNOR SYSTEM OF THE MURRAY HYDROELECTRIC PLANT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0). (\$1,945,645.00)

NEW BUSINESS

R-24-226 (RESOLUTION NO. 10943 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO REHABILITATE PROPERTY FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 213 CROCKETT STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Insalaco, III. The applicant/owner Mr. Yosef Kramer was present. Council Member Ross asked if he understood the process and deadlines. He said he did. Council Member Baxter asked if Mr. Kramer would have someone local oversee the process. Mr. Kramer said he was local. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Council Member Hamilton who abstained, the resolution was adopted (6/1). (\$4,780.30)

R-24-227 (RESOLUTION NO. 10944 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 225 CHERYL STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, 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. Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing. Ms. Karen Boshier asked about a rehabilitation agreement. She said she had planned to fix up the property but didn't have the funds. She said she recently sold the property and the person who purchased the property is a contractor who plans to redo it. Code Enforcement Supervisor Ward Reese advised he spoke with Ms. Boshier in the past and was told she was trying to sell the property. The property is still in her name. As the listed owner, she would be the only one who could enter into a rehab agreement. City Attorney Fields advised Ms. Boshier to call her office to enter into an agreement. There being no one else wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. On the motion of Council Member Insalaco, III, and seconded

by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (*owner: Karen Bosher*)

R-24-228 (RESOLUTION NO. 10945 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 1000 NORTH H STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, 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. Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing. Mr. Hiawatha Lewis asked for time to abate the nuisance. He advised he worked for the city for 27 years and is a minister. He used his funds for his church. He had issues with electricity which required a new deposit. There being no one else wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hight. Council Member Ross referenced a letter attached to the legislation which included information about repairs from 2019. She said there was also a permit pulled for a roof. She asked Mr. Lewis if he had been working on the property for five (5) years. Mr. Lewis said he had financial issues. He said his electricity was turned off about 2 ½ years ago due to a mix up. Mr. Lewis said he had some funds coming and was a disabled veteran. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present the resolution was adopted (7/0). (*owner: Hiawatha Lewis*)

R-24-229

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 1703 WEST 19TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, 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 withdrawn by the sponsor, Mayor Hartwick as the property recently sold. (*owner: Novenia Young*)

R-24-230 (RESOLUTION NO. 10946 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 1711 WEST LONG 17TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, 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. 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 Hight and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (*owner: Delia Hernandez*)

R-24-231 (RESOLUTION NO. 10947 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 5821 ALTA VISTA DRIVE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, 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. Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing. Mr. Rob Wade said he lives on Alta Vista (next to the burned property) and has made several attempts to purchase the property from the mortgage company. An older couple lived in the home before it was repossessed by the mortgage company. The house had been vacant but homeless people started living there. Attempts were made to secure the property which eventually caught on fire. Mr. Wade said he went to the mortgage company in Fort Worth (Texas) to try to purchase the property. He was told by the person who maintains the property there was an insurance payoff. He said if he could buy the property he would clean it up and use the parcel as a yard. There being no one else wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. Council Member Ross said the city is unable to assist regarding the sell/purchase of the property. Mr. Wade said the company (owner) had changed names several times. Council Member Baxter had talked with Mr. Wade in the past and is hopeful the condemnation would benefit him in his efforts. City Attorney Fields said once the structure is demolished, a lien will be placed on the property (usually within a couple of months). She suggested Mr. Wade reach back out to the mortgage company at that time. On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (owner: RMAC Trust Series 2018 G-CTT)

R-24-232 (RESOLUTION NO. 10948 – 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 614 WEST 22ND STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; 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 Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (\$5,387.13)

R-24-233 (RESOLUTION NO. 10949 – 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 2211 WEST SHORT 17TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; 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 (7/0). On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (7/0). (\$5,199.46)

R-24-234 (RESOLUTION NO. 10960 – 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 2211 WEST SHORT 17TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; 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 Hight and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0). (\$5.199.46)

R-24-235 (RESOLUTION NO. 10961 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CERTIFYING AMOUNTS OF LIENS TO BE FILED WITH THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY 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 Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0).

O-24-76 (ORDINANCE NO. 9711 – COUNCIL MEMBER BAXTER)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW AN EVENTS CENTER IN AN C3 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 13509 CRYSTAL HILL ROAD IN THE CITY NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; 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 (7/0). A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Insalaco, III. Council Member Ross asked if the location was previously an event center and the capacity. Council Member Baxter said it had not been an event center. It is an out-building with six units in front of Wal-Mart with several vacant units. The applicant is in business now but has to rent venues to hold her events. Planning Director Shawn Spencer said the Fire Marshal will go to the location and measure the square footage which would determine occupancy, required parking spaces, etc. On the previous motion, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0). (*applicant: Lois Jones Ross*)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deputy City Clerk Shinn advised the upcoming City Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 11, 2024, which is a holiday (Veteran's Day). City Attorney Fields said the meeting would be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 as allowed in the council's policies and procedures. Council Member Baxter asked when the Leaf Vacuum pickup will begin. Mayor Hartwick said it will begin in mid-November (November 18, 2024). Council Member Hight said

early voting will continue at Laman Library and Shorter College through Saturday, November 2, 2024. Election Day is Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m. (7/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting scheduled for Monday, November 11, 2024, will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 (in lieu of Veteran's Day holiday) 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