

Monday, February 24, 2025
Six o'clock p.m.
North Little Rock City Hall Council Chamber
300 Main Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Note: the regular meeting of the City Council was preceded by a Strategic Planning meeting scheduled by North Little Rock Library Director Crystal Gates. The meeting began at 5:00 p.m. and was led by a facilitator hired by the Library. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the future of the system which had evolved over the past 10 years. All eight (8) Council Members were present: Debi Ross, Nathan Hamilton, Nicole Hart, Linda Robinson, Steve Baxter, Ron Harris, Scott Fowler and Vince Insalaco, III (by telephone).

The consultant reviewed the Strategic Plan, Vision and Mission Statements and Core priorities. A Task Force made up of North Little Rock Library Commissioners, staff and others met and came up with *SOAR – Strength, Opportunities, Aspiration and Results*. The consultant asked Council Members to share what they thought the library provided. Responses included: (its) not just books (includes e-readers and more), passport applications, food access, educational opportunities for children, computer access, community outreach, notary public services, meeting space, cultural exposure, mobile book mobile “ROVER”, ability to check out tools, games, etc., electronic checkout and return of eBooks.

Council Members were asked what additional services they would like to see: additional hours of operation – open on Sunday, woodworking workshops for adults similar to those offered at the Innovation Hub with access to tools like table saws, etc., additional education opportunities for all ages. Director Gates advised she was looking into ways to extend and provide future programs to the community. This would include removing financial barriers like a membership fee for the Innovation Hub.

There being no additional discussion the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The regular meeting of the North Little Rock City Council scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2025, 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, NICOLE HART, LINDA ROBINSON, STEVE BAXTER, RON

HARRIS, SCOTT FOWLER and VINCE INSALACO, III (8/0). Note: Council Member Insalaco, III participated by telephone). City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey, 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 Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting held on Monday, February 10, 2025, were approved, accepted, and filed as prepared by City Clerk Diane Whitbey (8/0).

On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Fowler, and by consent of all members present, communication #1 was accepted and filed (8/0).

1. Ms. Ember Strange, Chief Financial Officer memorandum to City Clerk Diane Whitbey re: Energy Risk Management Committee Power Cost Adjustment Rate (PCA) for March, 2025 – \$0.0077 kWh (positive).

PRESENTATIONS

None.

SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

O-25-07 (ORDINANCE NO. 9750 – COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW AN EVENTS CENTER IN AN I2 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 305 PHILLIPS ROAD IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, read one time January 27, 2025, read a second February , 2024, was called and read a third and final time this date. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Hart. Council Member Robinson said she was okay with the hours of operation. On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was amended as follows:: *Section 2: 3. insert* EVENTS WITH ATTENDANCE OF 500 PEOPLE OR MORE WILL REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF TWO (2) LICENSED SECURITY GUARDS (8/0).

Council Member Robinson said there was a church across the street from the proposed event center. The pastor is okay with an event center. He did say he needed access to his parking during church (services), events, funerals, etc. A barber in the same area said he needed access to his parking. Mayor Hartwick opened discussion on the proposed amendment. Mrs. Shirley Abel is a resident of Rose City. She reminded the council the event center location is less than

7/10 of a mile from the nearest residence. Lighting for the area is a concern. There is no lighting in the Comedy Club (next door) parking lot. There are two (2) small lights on the proposed event center building. There is lighting to the rear of the building. Residents would like to see additional lighting in the area for the safety of police officers and attendees of the event center. They want to see progress in the neighborhood. New buildings in the area are listed for \$199,000.00 and higher. Residents don't want disruption, noise issues or traffic. This business will bring in minimal tax dollars. Council Member Harris asked for clarification on the location of the church referenced. Council Member Robinson said it is across the street, in the shopping center. The applicant, Mr. Norman Clifton, referenced a building to the right on an illustration provided during the meeting. The barber shop is next door to the church. Mr. Clifton referenced the parking area (on his property) that is paved and gravel parking area. Council Member Hart asked if there was a concern that parking would overflow to the shopping center. Mr. Clifton said (based on the Fire Marshal's estimate) he would need 129 parking spaces for an occupancy total of 641. He said the applicant (Santos Rodriguez) was willing to reduce his occupancy to 500 which would require 100 parking spaces. The area that is (currently) paved would hold 48 paces. The other area would allow for 110 parking spaces for a total of 158 parking spaces. Mayor Hartwick asked Planning Director if the parking load stated by Mr. Clifton would be adequate. Mr. Spencer said the requirement is one (1) parking space for every five (5) people which would include traffic aisles, parking spaces and handicap parking. Council Member Robinson said the city should follow policy and everyone treated the same. There have been churches in the city that had to pave their parking lot and plant trees. Council Member Hart asked for clarity regarding the proposed parking by the applicant and if it was paved. Mr. Clifton referenced 48 paved parking spaces and room for 110 spaces in the back that was not paved. He said it was in the Special Use that passed in the Planning Commission. Mr. Clifton said there have been multiple waivers granted to businesses in the past. Gravel areas would be for overflow parking. He said the proposed restriction (paving requirement) would kill the project. In the future, the applicant might want to improve the parking surface if he has a successful business. On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and the following members having voted yes: Ross, Robinson and Baxter, and the following members having voted no: Hamilton, Hart, Harris, Fowler and Insalaco, III, the following amendment failed: ~~strike through Provide (1) on-site parking space per 5 occupants per the Fire Marshal's approved occupancy load, and insert ALL REQUIRED PARKING/DRIVE AISLES ARE TO BE PAVED/CONCRETED AND MEET THE FIRE MARSHAL'S REQUIREMENTS FOR WEIGHT LOAD BEFORE A BUSINESS LICENSE CAN BE ISSUED (3/5).~~ Ms. Darlene (last name not given) said she was a minister and retail owner. She wanted to see positive things in the community. She referenced the church mentioned earlier in the meeting which she had attended several times when there were maybe 10 people present. She had visited the barber shop and said it was open about an hour each day. She supported the event center and would support it through her outreach program. Chief Fire Marshal Brent Almon said he provided an occupant load calculation based on a drawing provided to him and the assumption the facility is set up in the way it was presented to him. He

cannot give allowances on life-safety aspects for egress or capacity, etc. If the City Council agrees to an occupant load less than what he proposed, the council can issue a variance on the number of parking spaces. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was amended as follows:: LIMIT THE NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS TO 500 (8/0). On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hart, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was amended as follows:: Section 2: 4. *was renumbered and amended to* WITH A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS LIMITED TO 500 (8/0). A motion to adopt as amended was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Hart. Council Member Ross said this legislation sets a precedence. The council had waived three (3) or (4) (parking spaces) in the past. She could not support 100. On the previous motion, and the following members having voted yes: Hamilton, Hart, Harris, Fowler, and Insalaco, III, and the following members having voted no: Ross, Robinson and Baxter, the ordinance was adopted (5/3). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0). (*applicant: Clifton Family LLLP*)

CONSENT AGENDA

By voice vote and all members present having voted “aye”, consent agenda items R-25-26, R-25-27, R-25-39, R-25-40, R-25-41, R-25-42, R-25-43, R-25-44, R-25-45, R-25-46, R-25-47, and R-25-48 were adopted (8/0). R-25-28, R-25-29, R-25-30, R-25-31, R-25-32, R-25-33, R-25-34, R-25-35, R-25-36, R-25-37, and R-25-38 were pulled and called under new business.

R-25-26 (RESOLUTION NO. 11019 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DAN SCOTT TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-25-27 (RESOLUTION NO. 11020 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING COLLEEN BAILEY TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK PUBLIC BUILDING AUTHORITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-25-39 (RESOLUTION NO. 11021 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH IRIS PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). (\$3,335.00)

R-25-40 (RESOLUTION NO. 11022 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH EDGEMONT IN PARK HILL, LLC FOR THE SKYLINE COMMUNITY GARDEN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). (\$2,000.00)

R-25-41 (RESOLUTION NO. 11023 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE LAKEWOOD PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). *(\$5,000.00)*

R-25-42 (RESOLUTION NO. 11024 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH GREATER SHILOAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). *(\$5,000.00)*

R-25-43 (RESOLUTION NO. 11025 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH BOONE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GARDEN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). *(\$5,000.00)*

R-25-44 (RESOLUTION NO. 11026 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH RIVER CITY MINISTRIES FOR THE TEA HOUSE COMMUNITY GARDEN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). *(\$1,500.00)*

R-25-45 (RESOLUTION NO. 11027 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). *(\$5,000.00)*

R-25-46 (RESOLUTION NO. 11028 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY GARDEN LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE PLACE FOR THE URBAN SOL COMMUNITY GARDEN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was *(\$1,500.00)*

R-25-47 (RESOLUTION NO. 11029 – MAYOR HARTWICK)
A RESOLUTION WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPREHENSIVE LOSS AND BUSINESS INTERRUPTION INSURANCE FOR THE MURRAY HYDROELECTRIC PLANT; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INSURANCE AGREEMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was *(\$350,329.01)*

R-25-48 (RESOLUTION NO. 11030 – MAYOR HARTWICK)
A RESOLUTION WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO AMERICAN HYDRO LLC FOR THE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT

PACKING GLANDS FOR THE MURRAY HYDROELECTRIC PLANT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0). (\$152, 399.00)

NEW BUSINESS

R-25-28 (RESOLUTION NO. 11031 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS FOUNDATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross. Council Member Hamilton made a motion to amend as follows: *Resolution Section 2: strike through \$17,500.00 and insert \$35,000.00, and add ALREADY APPROVED AND LEGALLY APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, and remove Section 3.; (renumber section 4 to 3); and amended Agreement item 3. following “Services” insert AS PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE, THE CITY WILL MAKE A LUMP SUM PAYMENT TO AMFA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000.00 and removed existing text.* Council Member Harris asked what the amendment would do. Council Member Hamilton said the (current) agreement is not in-line with the appropriation made within the (2025) budget. Mayor Hartwick asked Chief Financial Officer Ember Strange to come forward. Council Member Hamilton said he learned about splitting these appropriations a couple of weeks ago. He said he was concerned with the phrase “if funding is available”. The council had already appropriated the money, the budget was balanced and reserves were strong. The city spends millions of dollars on other things without this language. He asked if there was a financial crisis and advised this procedure would change a 20 year (city allocation) practice. He said three (3) of the proposed appropriation resolutions did not contain the same language. CFO Strange said splitting the allocation was brought to her by a council member. She referenced a freeze on Federal funding and advised it appeared the Federal Government was looking to take away some Grant funds already legally allocated, which could result in litigation. Federal employees have until 11:59 p.m. to email their previous weeks accomplishments, failure to do so would be seen as a resignation. If the city and/or surrounding communities have a lot of Federal employees laid off, it could affect city funding. Sales Tax revenue make up about 48 percent of city governmental funds. She referred to Sales Tax as a Consumption Tax and said if an individual does not have the funds to purchase taxable items, it would affect the amount of tax revenue the city would receive. CFO Strange said the city had released funds to non-profits in a lump sum in the past. This is not what all municipalities do and this change would be a “best practice” for the city. The Government Finance Officers Association advised members to keep funds in their account as long as possible to earn interest on the funds. One of the organizations not affected was the North Little Rock Police Athletic League which provides invoices to the city for payments. Council Member Hamilton asked if funds appropriated to (the police department) had conditions. CFO Strange said all (city) funds are conditioned on if funds are available. She provided an example of: if a department were to send in a request to hire a new employee and sales tax revenue was reduced she might have to advise the mayor funds are not available. Council Member Hamilton asked why the designation to split funds was being made now. He

said the amount of Federal funding was a pass-through, it comes in and goes back out. The General Fund is funded by Sales Tax, Property Tax, Intergovernmental Franchise Fees, etc. There was \$12 million in Special Appropriations. He referenced a miscellaneous appropriation for \$6 million. CFO Strange said the \$6 million was Carry Forward funds used to balance the budget (funds earned in prior years, used for a one-time expense). The best practice is for budget revenue and expenses to equal/balance, and not rely on Carry Forward funds. Council Member Hamilton said he was not aware of this change until two (2) weeks ago. Council Member Robinson said the role of Council Members was Fiduciary. Non-profits would receive half of the allocation now and the other half in July. She asked if non-profits were relying on the city to sustain them. CFO Strange said one non-profit reached out to her and advised they had spent their funds at the beginning of the year, then asked if they could anticipate receiving the balance of the funds. CFO Strange said she could not guarantee that and that these organizations should not rely on the city to stay open. She said this would raise the question of if the agency was a stand-alone entity or an arm of the city. Council Member Hamilton referenced policy. He asked the City Attorney what “if funds are available” meant and who made the decision on whether funds were available or not. City Attorney Fields, said finances are evaluated in July. If there were funding issues, an item(s) would be brought back to the City Council. The City Council would have to make hard decisions if it reached that point. CFO Strange said as long as the city was within budget, payments could be made. Council Member Hamilton asked why seven (7) organizations were signaled out. Council Member Hart asked if it had been a practice of local municipalities to declare something similar to an emergency. She referenced speculation versus facts and asked if something had happened to cause uncertainty. CFO Strange said Federal Grant portals where the city received funding had been shut down. Her staff had to make sure ever (Grant) reimbursements were entered to be eligible for payment. The last time the current administration was in office (Federal) HUD funding was drastically cut. She anticipated this happening again. Council Member Robinson said she worked in State Government 32 years where employees never knew when they would be laid off. She said the city does not require non-profits to provide an invoice or monthly performance report. Council Member Hart said she used to run a non-profit and referenced how funds were received and allocation. This discussion was about funding the city had already approved. She said she was concerned about the two-week window. Federal funding does not affect the city’s ability to function. CFO Strange said city funding included Federal Grants and Sales Tax revenue. Sales Tax revenue is down from the past year. Council Member Hart asked if the (legislation) allocation needed to be made now. CFO Strange said applicants who received funding had been calling about their payments. If the council does not pass the legislation, the city cannot payout any funds. Council Member Hamilton referenced Rock Region Metro’s (RRM) allocation. CFO Strange advised the city is billed monthly by RRM. City Attorney Fields said these contracts are unusual in that the city does not generally pay for goods and services not yet received. On the previous motion of Council Member Hamilton, and seconded by Council Member Robinson, and the roll having been called and the following members having voted yes: Hamilton, Hart and Insalaco, III, and the following members having voted no: Ross, Robinson, Baxter, Harris, Fowler, the motion to

amend failed (3/5). *Note:* Council Member Harris made a motion to expunge the vote during the vote which was not a valid motion. Council Member Harris said these entities are dependent on a strong city. The passage of the legislation was good for both parties. Council Member Hamilton said he would provide an amendment that the same policy apply to all non-profits. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and the following members having voted yes: Ross, Baxter, Harris, Fowler, and Insalaco, III, and the following members having voted no: Hamilton and Hart, and Council Member Robison having stepped out of the chamber, the resolution was adopted (as filed) (5/2/1). (\$17,500.00)

R-25-29 (RESOLUTION NO. 11032 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN ENHANCED COMMUNITY SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ARGENTA ARTS FOUNDATION DBA ARGENTA DOWNTOWN COUNCIL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton. A motion to amend was made by Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Hart, as follows: *Resolution Section 2: strike through \$120,000.00 and insert \$240,000.00, and add ALREADY APPROVED AND LEGALLY APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, and remove Section 3:, (renumber section 4 to 3); and amended Agreement item 3. following “Services” insert AS PROVIDED FOR IN PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE, THE CITY WILL MAKE A LUMP SUM PAYMENT TO ADC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$240,000.00 and removed existing text,* and the roll having been called and the following members having voted yes: Hamilton and Hart, and the following members having voted no: Ross, Baxter, Harris, Fowler, and Insalaco, III, and Council Member Robinson having stepped out of the chamber, the resolution was adopted (as filed) (5/2/1). On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Council Member Robinson who was not present in chambers, the resolution was adopted (7/1). (\$120,000.00).

R-25-30 (RESOLUTION NO. 11033 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ARGENTA CONTEMPORARY THEATER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Council Member Robinson who was not present in chambers, and Council Member Insalaco who abstained, the resolution was adopted (6/1/1). (\$95,000.00)

R-25-31 (RESOLUTION NO. 11034 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A PREPURCHASED FOOD AGREEMENT WITH ARKANSAS FOODBANK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Hamilton, and seconded by Council Member Ross. Council Member Hamilton said \$25,000.00 is the full

amount allocated to the Arkansas Food Bank which had a \$40 million budget. The reduced allocation to ACT was 15% of their total budget. The amount (reduced) allocation to Ozark Mission Project would affect them during the summer. Council Member Ross said the \$25,000.00 to the Arkansas Food Bank goes back into the North Little Rock Community. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$25,000.00)

R-25-32 (RESOLUTION NO. 11035 - MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$30,000.00)

R-25-33 (RESOLUTION NO. 11036 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH OZARK MISSION PROJECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$30,000.00)

R-25-34 (RESOLUTION NO. 11037 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A PROGRAM AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE; 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 resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$70,000.00)

R-25-35 (RESOLUTION NO. 11038 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN ENHANCED COMMUNITY SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RIVER CITY MINISTRY OF PULASKI COUNTY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$37,500.00)

R-25-36 (RESOLUTION NO. 11039 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN BUTTERFLY COMMUNITY (SEIS PUENTES PROJECT); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$42,500.00)

R-25-37 (RESOLUTION NO. 11040 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THEA FOUNDATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$35,000.00)

R-25-38 (RESOLUTION NO. 11041 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH POTLUCK FOOD RESCUE; 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 resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (\$15,000.00)

R-25-49

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 211 EAST 18TH 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 withdrawn by the sponsor, Mayor Hartwick. The property is currently going through Probate (Court). (*owner: J. F. Nolen c.o Sharon Emison*)

R-25-50 (RESOLUTION NO. 11042 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 4509 HAYWOOD 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 Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (*owner: Newman Capital Ventures LLC*)

R-25-51 (RESOLUTION NO. 11043 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 4503 HAYWOOD 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 as adjourned. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council

Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (*owner: Newman Capital Ventures LLC*)

R-25-52 (RESOLUTION NO. 11044 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 515 GORDON 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 Ross and seconded by Council Member Fowler, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0). (*owner: Roger J. Hawkins*)

O-25-16 (ORDINANCE NO. 9751 - MAYOR HARTWICK)

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AND NUMBERS OF EMPLOYEES FOR EACH DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK FOR 2025 (*also known as 2025 QUOTA ORDINANCE*); 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 motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Fowler, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was amended as follows:: *Section 29: Vehicle Maintenance Department – strike through (14) and insert 15 and Heavy Equipment Shop Foreman F10 strike through 1 and insert 2* (8/0). Several scripiter’s errors were also corrected. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, 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).

O-25-17 (ORDINANCE NO. 9752 - COUNCIL MEMBER HART)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW AN EVENTS CENTER IN A C6 ZONE FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 112 SMARHOUSE WAY IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Hart and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). Council Member Robinson said this item was before the council in May. Mr. Thomas Pownall, the applicant, said the owner of the property had the parking lot of the event center to the east of the building, which is not adjacent to the building. The owner purchased property to the west which is adjacent to the building and included the same number of parking spaces. Council Member Ross asked if this would be paved parking. Mr. Pownall said it would be paved. Council Member Baxter asked about parking in a fenced area. Mr. Spencer said the

parking lot being moved was not an issue. On the motion of Council Member Hart and seconded by Council Member Ross, 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: Thomas Pownall – Thomas Engineering*)

O-25-18

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9718, WHICH GRANTED A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW AUTO DETAILING IN A C5 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 815 EAST BROADWAY STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, TO REMOVE CERTAIN CONDITIONS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Fowler, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). The applicant was not present. Mr. Spencer, Planning Director said the applicant came before the council in 2024 and requested to be able to provide auto detailing. Zoning requirements the applicant had to meet ADEQ (Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality) include disposal of soapy water which cannot run into the street or stormwater drainage to the river. An oil interceptor (filter) is required in this case. The applicant is asking the council to waive that requirement. Mr. Spencer said he has been washing cars on Broadway for years. Council Member Ross said the requirement is on all car wash businesses. Council Member Baxter asked if the applicant was changing his business practice. Mr. Spencer said he (the applicant) did not want to follow state guidelines. Council Member Baxter referenced a document from Wastewater which did not have an issue with the interceptor. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Hart. On the previous motion, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted no, the ordinance failed (0/8). (*requested by: Kevin Watkins*)

O-25-19 (ORDINANCE NO. 9753 – COUNCIL MEMBER ROBINSON)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 11.3 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE (ORDINANCE NO. 9263) TO REQUIRE A CONDITIONAL USE FOR HEAVY MANUFACTURING, ASSEMBLAGE AND PROCESSING WITHOUT OUTDOOR STORAGE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the readings unanimously suspended (8/0). Mayor Hartwick convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned (8/0). On the motion of Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Ross, 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).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Whitbey announced Deputy City Clerk/Enforcement Officer would be leaving the City Clerk's Office. He will be going back to the North Little Rock Police Department to be the Fleet Manager. Mr. David Pettit, retired North Little Rock Police Officer and Court Bailiff will be leaving his position at the police department to join the City Clerk's Office Monday, March 3, 2025. Mayor thanked Mr. Scott for his service in City Hall.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Fowler and by consent of all members present, the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m. (8/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting scheduled for Monday, March 10, 2025, 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