

**CITY OF GENTRY REGULAR CITY
COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 7, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Gentry, Arkansas, met in person and virtually, at the Council Chambers and, at various other locations, at 6:30 p.m. on November 7, 2022. Mayor Kevin Johnston called the meeting to order. City Attorney Joel Kurtz gave the invocation.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ANSWERING ROLL CALL:

Janice Arnold- Present
Jason Barrett- Present
Michael Crawford- Present
Dan Erskin- Present
David Page- Present
Jimmy Thorburn- Present
Cindy Philpott- Present
Jason Williams- Present

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Others in attendance: Mayor- Kevin Johnston, City Attorney- Joel Kurtz, City Clerk- Jenny Trout, Police Chief- Clay Stewart, Chamber of Commerce Director- Janie Parks, Larry Gregory with Garver, Rick Craft, Fire Chief Vester Cripps, Sam Katz, Robert McGowan, Administrator of Public Safety for Benton County and Randy Moll.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: October 3, 2022- Regular Council Meeting

Motion: Williams- to accept the minutes as presented

Second: Crawford

Roll Call: Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes
Page-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

Public Comment (Items Not on Presented Agenda): Residents present from 420 S. Giles St. were present to address the council regarding a water leak in their area. It was stated that multiple requests had been made to the city water department to investigate the leak, without resolution. The water leak is causing an infestation of mosquitos in the area, as well as road deterioration due to excessive water.

Another matter was also brought to council's attention regarding a property nearby, 417 S. Giles, and the excess of rodents and pests.

Mayor Johnston apologized for the residents having to bring these matters before the council in order to get the issues resolved but assured them these matters would be addressed promptly.

1. **Main Street Gentry Chamber of Commerce** – Janie Parks presented her monthly report to the council which included: The Veteran’s Day Ceremony to be held Friday, November 11, 2022 at 10:45 a.m. at the Gentry Police Department. The Christmas parade is scheduled for December 10, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. and the Gentry Chamber of Commerce Quilt Show will be January 13th - 20th, 2023 in the McKee Room of the Gentry Public Library.

Janie also mentioned that this year’s trick or treat on Main Street was another success, having 1,140 children this year. She also expressed her gratitude to all of the city workers for replacing the flags along Main Street prior to Veteran’s Day.

2. **Gentry Public Schools-** Terrie DePaola was unavailable as she was at this evening's Honor Society Induction. Jason Barrett announced the High School football team is headed to the State playoffs at River Crest High School in Wilson, AR and, schools will be closed the week of Thanksgiving, November 21st -25th for break.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1) **Water Storage Facility Update:** Larry Gregory with Garver stated site issues were still being addressed and progressing. He also announced that though the contest wasn’t won for tank of the year, Gentry’s water tank placed 5th in the nation in the contest. Mr. Gregory also said the Arkansas Department of Agriculture ARPA Grant deadline was last Friday and that the Y City Rd. project had been submitted for consideration.
- 2) **Wastewater Master Plan Update:** Larry said the progress continues. He stated the smoke test reports were in and there were some issues that would be addressed. He also mentioned a request for the Arkansas Department of Agriculture ARPA Grant, had been submitted for installation of a parallel sewer system.
- 3) **Ambulance Service Update: Agreement Approval Resolution:** A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and Director of Finance to Enter into a Service Contract with Pafford Medical Services, Inc., was presented for review and consideration.

Motion: Barrett- to accept the resolution

Second: Page

Roll Call: Page-yes	Philpott-yes	Thorburn-yes	Williams-yes
Arnold-yes	Barrett-yes	Crawford-yes	Erskin-yes

Motion passed.

4) **Safety/Street Committee Recommendations:**

a. **Stop Signs along N. Otis Ave. Ordinance:** An Ordinance Establishing Stop Signs on North Otis Avenue at the Intersections with East Arkansas Street and East Crawford Street; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration.

Motion: Crawford- to suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Erskin

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes
 Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Page-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only

Motion: Crawford- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Barrett

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes
 Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Page-yes

Motion passed.

b. **Speed Limit Designation along Pioneer Ln. Ordinance:** An Ordinance Establishing a 25-Mile-Per-Hour Speed Limit on Pioneer Lane; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration.

Motion: Erskin- to suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Williams

Roll Call: Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
 Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Page-yes Philpott-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only

Motion: Arnold- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Williams

Roll Call: Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
 Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Page-yes Philpott-yes

Motion passed.

5) **CDBG Grant Update (West Main Street Drainage Project):** Mayor Johnston stated closing for bids will be at 2:00 p.m. November 15, 2022. Mayor Johnston will bring this matter back to council in December with updates.

6) **Water Advisory Committee:** Mayor Johnston reminded council members the deadline To complete the required training is the end of December.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Rezone Ordinance/SVM22 Homes, LLC:** An Ordinance Amending Appendix B of the City of Gentry Municipal Code Regarding Zoning of Certain Lands Owned by SVM22 Homes, LLC, and Located within the City; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration; having been approved by planning and zoning commission.

Motion: Williams- to suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Thorburn

Roll Call: Erskin-yes Page-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes
 Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only

Motion: Williams- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Erskin-yes Page-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes
 Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes

Motion passed.

2. **Rezone Ordinance/ Munoz:** An Ordinance Amending Appendix B of the City of Gentry Municipal Code Regarding Zoning of Certain Lands Owned by Jose Manuel and Ruth Noemi Munoz, and Located within the City; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration; having been approved by planning and zoning commission:

Motion: Crawford- to suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Page

Roll Call: Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Page-yes Philpott-yes
 Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only

Motion: Crawford- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Page-yes Philpott-yes
 Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes

Motion passed.

3. **Door to Door Sales:** After lengthy discussion and insight and advice from City Attorney Joel Kurtz, about what can and cannot be done with regard to door-to-door sales, as well as input from citizen Sam Katz, it was decided this matter would be tabled.

4. Benton County Fire Association Equipment Agreement Resolution: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Gentry, Arkansas to Enter into a Fire Equipment Loan Agreement with Benton County, Arkansas, was presented for consideration and review:

Motion: Barrett- to pass the resolution

Second: Thorburn

Roll Call: Williams- yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes
 Erskin-yes Page-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes

Motion passed.

5. 2023 Budget: Mayor Johnston presented council members with a budget proposal for the upcoming year and asked them to consider dates for the budget meeting. After discussion, members decided on November 16, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

***Planning Commission Meeting, November 17, 2022 @ 7:00p.m.**

***Citywide Fall Cleanup Update:** Mayor Johnston announced 150 cubic yards of trash, 153 tires and a full trailer load of electronics had been collected during the cleanup. He also stated 206 trees had been given away during that time stating Patty Erwin, who has been heading up the tree give away grant for many years, would be retiring and would be truly missed, expressing his appreciation for all her years of hard work and dedication to the project.

***Water Board Training-** reminder of deadline given

* At this time Mayor Johnston gave the floor to Fire Chief Vester Cripps who demonstrated the City's agency's new drone. Chief Cripps told the drone can take still shots as well as video, has thermal and regular sensors, has a 2-mile working radius and can run for 25 minutes on one battery.

*Janie Parks expressed appreciation to the Gentry Fire Dept. for raising \$2,563.00 for the Gentry United Way, during their boot drive.

City Sales and Use & County Tax numbers for 2020-2022 were listed

There being no other new business:

Motion: Williams

Second: Crawford

All in favor. None opposed.

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.


CITY CLERK:
JENNY TROUT


MAYOR: KEVIN JOHNSTON
CITY OF GENTRY