

**CITY OF GENTRY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Gentry, Arkansas, met in a virtual session at the Council Chambers and, at various locations at 6:30 p.m. on July 6, 2020. Mayor Kevin Johnston called the meeting to order. Given the circumstances it was agreed the invocation would be by-passed for this session.

Prior to roll call, Mayor Johnston addressed the Council asking permission to add a Resolution regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, to this agenda. A motion was then made by Mr. Barrett to add the Resolution to this evening's agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams. All members responding were as follows: Arnold-yes; Barrett-yes; Crawford-yes; Erskin-yes; Philpott-yes and Williams-yes. The motion was passed that the Resolution would be added as #5 under the New Business section of the agenda.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ANSWERING ROLL CALL:

Janice Arnold	Jason Barrett	Michael Crawford	Dan Erskin
Cindy Philpott	Jason Williams	Kristi Reams, though having technical difficulty, was also present	

Absent Members: Jimmy Thorburn

Others in attendance: Randy Moll, City Attorney Joel Kurtz, City Clerk Jenny Trout, Fire Chief Vester Cripps, Janie Parks, Police Chief Clay Stewart and Rick Craft.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: June 1, 2020- Regular Council Meeting

Motion: Williams- to approve the minutes as presented

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Arnold-yes Barrett -yes Crawford- yes Erskin-pass
 Reams- yes Philpott-yes Williams- yes

Motion approved.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- 1. Public Comment (Items Not on Presented Agenda) None.**
- 2. Main Street Gentry Chamber of Commerce – Janie Parks** announced Pickin' Time on 59 should proceed as planned, as well as the Glow Ride; new business continues to open and new members have joined the Chamber.

3. **Gentry Senior Activity Center-** Maxine Foster was not present this meeting, but it was stated the Center remains closed at this time due to effects of the Pandemic.
4. **Gentry Public Schools** – Jason Barrett, on behalf of **Terrie Metz**, stated High School Graduation ceremonies are scheduled to take place Friday, July 10, 2020 at 7:30p.m. and face masked are a requirement for those in attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) **Dawn Hill East Bridge Update:** Mayor Johnston was happy to announce progress continues to move forward.
 - a. **Change Order- Fisher Circle Connection;** A Resolution Conditionally Approving Change Order on Dawn Hill East Bridge Project Upon Approval by ARDOT, was presented for review and consideration.

Motion: Barrett- to approve the Resolution as presented

Second: Williams

Roll Call: Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes
 Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes

Motion passed.

- b. **Speed Limit Ordinance:** An Ordinance Establishing a 25-Mile-per-hour Speed Limit on Portions of Dawn Hill East Road Located within the City Limits of Gentry, Arkansas, and for other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration:

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

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Erskin-yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes Williams-yes
 Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-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: Erskin-yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes Williams-yes
 Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-ye

Motion passed.

- 2) **Park Master Plan Update:**

- a) **10721 Browning Rd. Property Purchase Update:** Mayor Johnston stated he had been working with those at McKee regarding an annexation petition.
 - i. **Annexation:** Mayor Johnston will proceed with works currently in progress and continue to update the Council on said progress.

- ii. Site Sample Report: Mayor Johnston stated the soil sample reports looked good.
- iii. Site Plan: Mayor Johnston stated there are potential options at hand and he will continue to provide information as the project develops.

b) **Splashpad Update:** Mayor Johnston stated he will continue to provide information as the project progresses. A conceptual layout and design was presented in the packet.

c) **Outdoor Recreational Grant Resolution:** A Resolution Authorizing Application for Outdoor Recreation Matching Grant from the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Williams- to accept the resolution as presented

Second: Erskin

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes

Motion passed.

d) **TAP Grant Update (S. Smith Trail Improvement):** Mayor Johnston updated that 30% drawings had been submitted to ARDOT for Right-of-Way review. Further design will be continued with ARDOT concurrence.

e) **RTP Grant Update (Pedestrian Bridge @ FNCA):** Bid Acceptance Resolution: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Gentry, Arkansas to Enter into a Contract with Diamond Construction Company Pursuant to its Bid for the Pedestrian Bridge at Flint Creek Nature Area Project and Requesting ARDOT Approval for the Bid, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Arnold- to accept the resolution as presented

Second: Williams

Roll Call: Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes
Erskin-yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes

Motion passed.

3) **Water Storage Facility Update:** Plans had previously been submitted to the Arkansas Department of Health. ADH provided comments. A response has been submitted to address each comment. Once approval is given by ADH, the bid documents will be prepared for advertisement.

4) **Hwy 12/43 Waterline Relocation Change Order Resolution:** A Resolution Conditionally Approving Certain Change Orders Submitted by Hargan Construction Co. in connection with Waterline Relocation Project Upon Approval by ARDOT, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Williams- to accept the resolution as presented

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes
Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes

Motion passed.

- 5) **Condemnation Process Update- 317 S. Collins Ave:** Mayor Johnston stated verbal conversations had been had with the property owner, but matters had not been addressed as they should have been. Mayor Johnston also stated a demolition permit was expected.
- 6) **Condemnation Process Update- 119 N. Nelson Ave:** Mayor Johnston stated verbal conversations had been had with the property owner, but matters had not been addressed as they should have been.

After discussion about both property matters, it was decided that should matters not be addressed promptly, a Notice of Public Hearing must be provided to the property owners and lien holders in order to move forward

Motion: Arnold- to proceed with Public Hearing, on August 3 at 6:30p.m. for condemnation of both properties

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Erskin- yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes Williams-yes
Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes

Motion passed.

- 7) **Engine Brake Ordinance:** An Ordinance Prohibiting the Use of Engine Brakes withing the City of Gentry, Arkansas; Providing for Penalties Therefore; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration:

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

Second: Erskin

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only.

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

Second: Erskin

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Pine Ave. Lift Station Property Purchase Resolution:** A Resolution Authorizing Purchase of 0.15 Acres of Land within the City of Gentry, Arkansas, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Arnold- to accept the resolution as presented

Second: Erskin

Roll Call: Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
 Crawford- yes Erskin- yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes

Motion passed.

2. **Golf Cart Ordinance:** An Ordinance Permitting and Regulating the use of Golf Carts within the City of Gentry, Arkansas; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration:

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

Second: Crawford

At this time Council Member Williams interjected stating he had some questions and concerns. After lengthy discussion with the presented Ordinance:

Motion: Arnold- to amend previous motion and to table this matter; to be sent to the Safety Committee for further discussion and return to the Council at a later date

Second: Crawford

Roll Call: Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes
 Erskin-yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes

Motion passed.

3. **Hwy 59/12 Intersection Turn Lanes- East/West Legs:** Mayor Johnston stated steps are being taken in looking into "unprotected turn lanes". Further updates to follow.

4. **Safety Committee, Additional Topics of Discussion:**

a.) **Speed Limits- City Wide:** Several suggestions were made regarding this issue, including the possibility of a city-wide pole being taken in order to consider all streets and, the possibility of changing the speed limits on those streets. Safety Committee will continue to review per council request.

b.) **Side by Side Use on City Streets:** Mayor Johnston informed the Council about the utilization of side by sides on city streets and, the hope for better clarification in the future. It was decided this matter would remain as stated within Arkansas State Law, at this time.

5. **COVID-19 Resolution:** A Resolution by the City of Gentry, Arkansas Regarding the Use of Face Coverings in Relation to the COVID-19 Pandemic, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Williams- to accept the resolution as presented

Second: Arnold

Roll Call: Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes
 Erskin-mic muted Reams-yes Philpott-yes

Motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

*Planning Commission Meeting, July 16, 2020 @ 7:00p.m.

* ARDOT Virtual Public Involvement 6/21-7/13/2020
WNSConnector.TransportationPlanRoom.com

* City Sales & Use & County Tax for 2018, 2019 & 2020 were listed.

There being no other new business the Mayor entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Crawford- to adjourn this meeting

Second: Arnold

All in favor. None opposed.

Motion passed; meeting adjourned.



**CITY CLERK:
JENNY TROUT**



**MAYOR: KEVIN JOHNSTON
CITY OF GENTRY**