

**CITY OF GENTRY
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2019**

The City Council of the City of Gentry, Arkansas, met in a special session at the Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. on February 27, 2019. Mayor Kevin Johnston called the meeting to order.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ANSWERING ROLL CALL:

Janice Arnold	Jason Barrett	Michael Crawford	
Cindy Philpott	Kristi Reams	Jimmy Thorburn	Jason Williams

Absent Members: Dan Erskin

Others in attendance: City Clerk Jenny Trout, City Attorney Joel Kurtz, Mayor Kevin Johnston, Fire Chief Vester Cripps, Janie Parks, Mike Parks, Maxine Foster, Kevin Browsers, Shelia Browsers, Delton Williams, Randy Moll, Wanda Meyer, Jim Kooistra, April Allen, Emily Smith, Steve Smith, Josh Kimberly, Fred Tennant, Mark Smithson, Teresa Lowry, Leon Wilmoth, Lewis Wilmoth and others.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Rezone Request-Fox Trot Ridge Subdivision (Portion)

Motion: Barrett- to Suspend the Rules and Read by Heading Only the Ordinance on this agenda.

Second: Arnold

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

City Attorney Joel Kurtz Read by Heading Only: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX B OF THE CITY OF GENTRY MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING ZONING OF CERTAIN LANDS LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The floor was then open for public comment and discussion.

Mr. Browsers asked how many units would be built within the new development. A representative of Economic Growth Corporation stated those numbers were not yet finalized; at which time Mayor Kevin Johnston stated the rezone is the only thing being considered at this meeting, and explained there are many more steps to come before those numbers are available.

The question was raised as to what the “emergency” was. City Attorney Joel Kurtz explained that for purposes of city government it is common language that basically means the wish is to pass the ordinance sooner, rather than waiting the 91 days.

The question was then asked, what the hurry was? It was stated within the Ordinance; “sale of the described Property is dependent upon a rezone.”

Concerns regarding traffic on Highways 59 & 12 were voiced.

Mayor Kevin Johnston provided an example of why the need for the development was important to the City of Gentry by informing those present of the number of students within the community that are currently on free or reduced lunches within the Gentry school district, which is at an alarming 63%.

Some stated the fear of the rezone passing was due to not knowing what is to come. After lengthy discussion on all points made:

Motion: Arnold- to Pass on Three Readings with a Single Vote

Second: Thorburn

Roll Call: Barrett- yes Crawford- no Reams- yes Philpott- yes
Thorburn- no Williams- no Arnold- yes

Having a 4 to 3 vote, Mayor Kevin Johnston voted yes to pass on a single vote

Motion passed

Motion: to pass on Emergency Clause

Being none, the Emergency will be stricken from the Ordinance and therefore will not go into effect for 91 days

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

Motion: Barrett- to adjourn

Second: Crawford

All in favor. None opposed.

Motion Approved: Meeting adjourned


CITY CLERK:
JENNY TROUT


MAYOR: KEVIN JOHNSTON
CITY OF GENTRY