

**CITY OF GENTRY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 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 October 3, 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 (virtually)
Jimmy Thorburn- Absent
Cindy Philpott- Present
Jason Williams- Present

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Jimmy Thorburn

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, James Ferguson, James Krein and, Randy Moll (virtually).

REVIEW OF MINUTES: September 12, 2022- Regular Council Meeting

Motion: Williams- ta accept the minutes as presented

Second: Philpott

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

Motion passed. Motion passed.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

Public Comment (Items Not on Presented Agenda): James Ferguson addressed council regarding the possible purchase of the current Grand Savings Bank building. Mr. Ferguson expressed thoughts that the building structure is very dated and small, with limited parking available. He also stated, in his opinion, the money used to purchase said building, would be better utilized by putting it back for a future build that would better suit the needs of the city, suggesting a true need should be established first and, asked that city officials reconsider the idea of this purchase before doing so.

1. **Main Street Gentry Chamber of Commerce – Janie Parks** presented her monthly report to the council which included: The Downtown Revitalization Meeting scheduled for October 4th, was being rescheduled for a date yet to be determined. Pickin' Time on 59, as well as the glow ride, were both big successes. Janie stated the glow ride itself had over 300 people, including 145 that were bike riders. Janie also thanked the Gentry city workers, as well as the Gentry Police and Fire Departments for all their help with setup and safety control. Trick or Treat on Main Street will be October 31st, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and, the Gentry Christmas Parade is set for December 10th at 6:30 and, the Chamber of Commerce Quilt Show will be January 13-20, 2023. A ribbon cutting for Knead Knot Worry Massage is scheduled for October 5th at 2:00p.m. and, one for Honeywheat Bakery is still to be determined. Janie also announced a new business coming to town- Hwy 59 Brewing Company, which will be located on Main Street, next to the Chamber of Commerce.
2. **Gentry Public Schools-** Terrie Metz was unavailable but, Jason Barrett announced homecoming week is this week and, Fall break will be next Monday, October 10, 2022.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1) **Water Storage Facility Update:** Larry Gregory with Garver stated site issues were being addressed and, wanted all to know about the upcoming chance to vote for "tank of the year" by visiting tankoftheyear.com and casting their vote. Voting ends October 14, 2022. Larry also mentioned the ANRC had authorized up to five million dollars in funds to be dispersed to cities that qualify, if all criteria are met, including that the money must be spent prior to December 31, 2026, with city construction having begun before December 2023. Deadline for submission of applications is November 4, 2022.
- 2) **Wastewater Master Plan Update:** Larry stated reports regarding the smoke testing would be wrapping up this week.
- 3) **Ambulance Service Update:** Mayor Johnston stated the city was working on follow up as well as negotiations and, there would be more information provided at the November council meeting.
- 4) **Safety Committee (Various Topics) Update:** Mayor Johnston stated no meetings had taken place yet but, he hoped to have an update at the November council meeting.
- 5) **City Hall Hours Amendment Ordinance:** City Attorney Joel Kurtz provided council with two options for review and consideration: An Ordinance Amending the City Personnel Handbook to Remove the Hours of Operation for City Hall; and for Other Purposes, **AND-** An Ordinance Amending the Gentry Municipal Code to Include the Hours of Operation of City Hall; and for Other Purposes. After consideration and discussion:

Motion: Erskin- to suspend the rules and read by heading only the ordinance removing the hours of operation

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Williams- yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes
 Erskin-yes Page-yes Pilpott-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only: An Ordinance Amending the City Personnel Handbook to Remove the Hours of Operation for City Hall; and for Other Purposes:

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

Second: Erskin

Roll Call: Williams- yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes
 Erskin-yes Page-yes Pilpott-yes

Motion passed.

- 6) **Building Permit Fees Amendment Ordinance:** An Ordinance Amending the Gentry Municipal Code to Provide for the Waiver of Building Permit Fees for Public Entities; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration. After review:

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

Second: Williams

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
 Crawford-yes Erksin-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: Williams

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes
 Crawford-yes Erksin-yes Page-yes

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Annexation Acceptance Ordinance (CC 2022-24, SVM22 Homes, LLC):** An Ordinance Accepting the Annexation of Certain Lands to the City of Gentry; Assigning Lands to a Ward; Designating the Zoning of Said Lands; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration. Afterwards:

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

Second: Barrett

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

Motion passed.

2. **Pioneer Woods Phase 5 Final Plat Approval Ordinance:** An Ordinance Accepting the Final Plat of Pioneer Woods Subdivision, Phase 5, Gentry, Arkansas; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration. Following discussion:

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

Second: Erskin

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

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only

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

Second: Williams

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

Motion passed.

3. **Water Advisory Committee:** Mayor Johnston touched base with council members with regard to the new training requirements and advised those that needed to complete the training would need to do so by end of the year. He also suggested the creation of a non-voting advisory committee and the requirements needed to do so. Mayor Johnston and City Attorney Joel Kurtz will compile something to be reviewed by council at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

***Planning Commission Meeting, October 20, 2022 @ 7:00p.m.**

***Citywide Fall Cleanup Event, October 22-23, 2022 from 8:00a.m. to 4:00p.m.**

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

There being no other new business:

Motion: Barrett

Second: Crawford

All in favor. None opposed.

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.


CITY CLERK:
JENNY TROUT


MAYOR: KEVIN JOHNSTON
CITY OF GENTRY