

February 22, 2021
Six o'clock P.M.
North Little Rock City Hall Council Chambers
300 Main Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas

The regular meeting of the North Little Rock City Council scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2021, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Terry C. Hartwick. Agenda items were filed as a Special Call due to inclement weather February 16 – 19, 2021, which resulted in city offices being closed.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, NATHAN HAMILTON, MAURICE TAYLOR, LINDA ROBINSON, STEVE BAXTER, JANE GINN and CHARLIE HIGHT (7/0). Council Member RON HARRIS was absent. City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey, and City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

Note: the majority Council Members participated in the meeting electronically. Mayor Hartwick, City Clerk Whitbey, City Attorney Fields and Council Member Ginn were present in the council chambers.

The prayer was led by Council Member Ginn.

Mayor Hartwick announced a Special Call meeting.

February 16, 2021 (1:57 p.m.)

Special Meeting of the North Little Rock City Council

Honorable Members of the North Little Rock City Council:

Due to the weather, the agenda for Monday night's meeting is being sent to you by the procedure provided by ordinance for a special meeting.

The purpose of this e-mail is to advise you that Mayor Hartwick has called a special meeting of the North Little Rock City Council at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 22, 2021, at City Hall Council Chambers, North Little Rock, Arkansas. The following will be on the agenda:

CONSENT AGENDA

R-21-20 Ratifying the Contract with Cinergi Contractors for the North Little Rock Sidewalk Program for 2021 and 2022; authorizing the extension of said Contract through December 31, 2022. Sponsor: Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.

- R-21-21** Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a Prepurchased Food Agreement with Arkansas Foodbank (\$20,000.00). Sponsor: Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.
- R-21-22** Amending the 2021 Budget for the City of North Little Rock to reauthorize and include additional expenditures for specified departmental budgets. Sponsor: Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.
- R-21-23** Amending the 2021 Budget for the North Little Rock Electric Department to reauthorize and include additional expenditures for specified departmental budgets. Sponsor: Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolutions

- R-21-24** Approving and certifying amounts of Liens to be filed with the Pulaski County Tax Collector against certain real properties in North Little Rock as a result of grass cutting expenses and abatement of other nuisances. Sponsor: Terry C. Hartwick.

ORDINANCES

- O-21-17** Amending the Master Street Plan (Ordinance No. 8601) to add Denton Road as a Collector Street. PUBLIC HEARING. Sponsor: Terry C. Hartwick
- O-21-18** Renaming Gregory Street between East 12th Street and East 13th Street to Smothers Street. PUBLIC HEARING. Sponsors: Terry C. Hartwick, Council Members Nathan Hamilton and Debi Ross.
- O-21-19** Granting a Conditional Use to allow a Tattoo Studio in a C3 zone for certain real property located at 2323 North Poplar Street. Sponsors: Council Members Debi Ross and Nathan Hamilton.
- O-21-20** Granting a Conditional Use to allow for a Sheet Metal Fabrication Business with Outdoor Storage in a C4 zone for certain real property located at 3609 MacArthur Drive. Sponsor: Council Member Ron Harris.

Pursuant to North Little Rock Ordinance No. 9079, you are entitled to 72 hours' *electronic* notice of this meeting. Please acknowledge receipt of this e-mail as soon as possible by replying to the same. A copy of your reply will automatically be sent to City Clerk Diane Whitbey.

Amy Beckman Fields
City Attorney

SPECIAL CALL

On the motion of Council Member Ginn and seconded by Council Member Ross and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (7/0).

On the blanket motion of Council Member Ginn and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, communications #2, 3, and 4, were accepted and filed (7/0).

2. Ember Strange, Finance Director – December Financial Update and verbal report.
3. Mayor Terry C. Hartwick – letter to City Council Members re: Greyhound Bus Terminal and negotiation of a sales price.
4. Chief of Staff Danny Bradley – letter to Mayor Hartwick re: Retirement effective March 6, 2021.

On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Ginn, and by consent of all members present, communication #1 was read, accepted and filed (7/0).

1. Kenny Stephens, Traffic Services Director email re: completed Traffic/Speed Study on Toltec Drive. Posted speed 25 mph. 85% of vehicles speed was 26 mph. No bump recommended.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

O-21-16

AN ORDINANCE REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 307 W. 18TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM R3 TO R4 ZONING CLASSIFICATION, BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9263; ADOPTING AN AMENDED LAND USE PLAN FOR THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held by the sponsor, Council Member Hamilton. (*applicant: Bond Consulting Engineers*)

CONSENT AGENDA

On the motion of Council Member Ginn and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and all members present having voted “aye”, consent items R-21-20, R-21-22, and R-21-23 were adopted (7/0). R-21-21 was pulled and called under new business.

R-21-20 (RESOLUTION NO. 9998 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CONTRACT WITH CINERGI CONTRACTORS FOR THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK SIDEWALK PROGRAM FOR 2021 AND 2022; AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF SAID CONTRACT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

R-21-22 (RESOLUTION NO. 9999 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO REAUTHORIZE AND INCLUDE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR SPECIFIED DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

R-21-23 (RESOLUTION NO. 10000 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2021 BUDGET FOR THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT TO REAUTHORIZE AND INCLUDE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR SPECIFIED DEPARTMENTAL BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (7/0).

NEW BUSINESS

R-21-21 (RESOLUTION NO. 10001 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A PREPURCHASED FOOD AGREEMENT WITH ARKANSAS FOODBANK (~~\$20,000.00~~ \$35,000.00); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton. On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was amended as follows: *change \$20,000.00 to \$35,000.00* (7/0). On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present the resolution was adopted as amended (7/0).

R-21-24 (RESOLUTION NO. 10002 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CERTIFYING AMOUNTS OF LIENS TO BE FILED WITH THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES IN NORTH LITTLE ROCK AS A RESULT OF GRASS CUTTING EXPENSES AND ABATEMENT OF OTHER NUISANCES; 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 Hight, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (7/0).

ORDINANCES

O-21-17

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MASTER STREET PLAN (ORDINANCE NO. 8601) TO ADD DENTON ROAD AS A COLLECTOR STREET; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held by the sponsor, Mayor Hartwick.

O-21-18 (ORDINANCE NO. 9333 – MAYOR HARTWICK, COUNCIL MEMBERS HAMILTON AND ROSS)

AN ORDINANCE RENAMING GREGORY STREET BETWEEN EAST 12TH STREET AND EAST 13TH STREET TO SMOTHERS STREET; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (7/0). Council Member Robinson asked why Smothers was being extended. Planning Director Shawn Spencer said there have been issues regarding two streets with the same name in the city. He referred to them as “short” Gregory and “long” Gregory Streets. Semi-trucks coming from the west side of town were turning at the first “short” Gregory Street and running into issues with navigating 90 degree turns. By renaming the street, directions would be to the “long” Gregory Street location which is to the east. The name Smothers is due to it being the next street down from Beech Street and would follow the order of other existing named streets in the area. “Short” Gregory is one block long and there are no addresses (numbers) assigned within the block. 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 Ginn and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0).

O-21-19 (ORDINANCE NO. 9334 – COUNCIL MEMBERS ROSS AND HAMILTON)
AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE TO ALLOW A TATTOO STUDIO IN A C3 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2323 NORTH POPLAR STREET; 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 (7/0). 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 adopted (7/0). Emergency clause adopted (7/0). (*applicant: Matthew O’Baugh*)

O-21-20 (ORDINANCE NO. 9335 – COUNCIL MEMBER HARRIS)
AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE TO ALLOW FOR A SHEET METAL FABRICATION BUSINESS WITH OUTDOOR STORAGE IN A C4 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3609 MACARTHUR DRIVE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (7/0). On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Hight, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (7/0). (*applicant: Harper Sheet Metal Works*)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Hartwick advised Council Member Hamilton will be taking the Bar Exam and wished him well. Council Member Hight received calls regarding the work of city employees during the winter weather event. The Street Department did a great job clearing streets and drains to help with transportation. Council Member Hight announced the Sanitation Department will run normal routes/schedule this

North Little Rock City Council Meeting Monday, February 22, 2021

DRAFT COPY - not approved by council

Page 5 of 6

week. Recycling routes will not run until the next scheduled pickup which is next week. Council Member Baxter also commended the Street Department and the city for having Sanitation trucks at Fire stations and other locations Friday/Saturday for residents to drop off household garbage. Mayor Hartwick commended multiple city departments for their efforts during the winter weather event and included the Parks Department warming center. He also expressed appreciation to all city employees and council members for their efforts. City Clerk Whitbey read an email from Central Arkansas Water CEO Tad Bohannon commending the city of North Little Rock for team for outstanding cooperation during the unprecedented snow storm. This support enabled CAW to continue to provide water service to all customers. He commended multiple departments including police and fire and the mayor's office. All were instrumental in helping locate broken water mains and ruptured fire services which were causing flooding in vacant buildings. These broken/ruptured lines were putting a strain on the water distribution and treatment systems. (Mayor Hartwick) never said "It's not my problem", but dug in and supported CAW's team. Due to this cooperation, CAW did not lose pressure anywhere within their distribution system. Everyone worked together, and by doing so avoided the headlines of Texas and other Arkansas communities. A complete report will be provided to the city at a later date.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Hamilton and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. (8/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, March 8, 2021, 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