

July 26, 2021

REGULAR MEETING 1

The City Council of the City of Sherwood met for a regular meeting on July 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Those present were Mayor Virginia R. Young, City Attorney Steve Cobb, City Clerk Angela Nicholson, Council Members Brooks, Harmon, Lilly, McMinn, Heye-Townsell, Sanders, Williams and Broderick.

Council Member Tim McMinn led in prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Heye-Townsell, made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 28, 2021 as transcribed. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Mayor Young opened discussion for the June 2021 financials. No comments were made. Mayor Young announced the city is in receipt of ½ of the American Rescue Fund money. Discussions on the expenditures of the funds will be discussed at a later time.

Mayor Young opened discussion for the 2020 Legislative Audit Report. Council Member Williams inquired about the finding for the District Court. City Clerk/Treasurer Nicholson stated that the finding was due to a software migration and the new software should correct the issue for the 2021 audit.

Gary Sipes, of the Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police presented Sherwood Police Department with the Arkansas Association of Chief of Police Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. The Sherwood Police Department has met the requirements to become an accredited police department.

Chief Hagar presented Council Member McMinn with a shadow box for his service as the Sherwood Police Department Chaplain. Council Member McMinn began the chaplain service for the police department and has been a chaplain for twenty-six (26) years.

Council Member Brooks, Chairman of the Advertising and Promotion Commission, stated the commission did not meet. The 4th of July Family Celebration was successful. The next commission meeting will be August 4, 2021 at 3 p.m. at the Bill Harmon Recreation Center.

Council Member Harmon, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, stated the committee did meet. Council Member Harmon stated that six (6) members of the city and two (2) engineers from Cranford spent four (4) hours today visiting different sites in the city to go over the Master Park Study. Council Member Harmon stated another two (2) hour meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 27, 2021. Council Member Brooks inquired how long it was anticipated for the study to be completed. Council Member Harmon stated it would be in the fall before any documentation or public meetings would begin.

Council Member Sanders, Chairman of the Human Resources Committee, stated the committee did meet. Council Member Sanders deferred questions to Council Member Williams who chaired the meeting in absence of Council Member Sanders. Council Member Williams explained to the council the need for the positions that have been brought before the council from the Human Resources Committee. Council Member Williams explained that until recently the city contracted with a company that provided a probation officer. The company has recently withdrawn their services in Arkansas. Judge Milas "Butch" Hale, III and the Human Resources Committee are proposing the city employ a probation officer.

Ordinance No. 2376, entitled, "An ordinance creating the position of Probation Officer for the Sherwood District Court, appropriating fund for said position; declaring an emergency; and for other purposes" was read. Council Member Williams stated that the ordinance appropriates \$19,000 for the remainder of 2021, and the intent of the salary for a full year would be \$40,000.00. Council Member Williams, seconded by Council Member Sanders, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on

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the second reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the second time. Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Sanders, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the third time. Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member McMinn, made a motion to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous. The emergency clause passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Council Member Williams explained that currently the engineering department's number of inspectors versus the number of inspections per employ is one and one-half times than it used to be. Also, in the past the city has employed a Staff Engineer. This position has not been funded in the last five to six years.

Ordinance No. 2377, entitled, "An ordinance creating the position of Building Inspector, appropriating funds for the payroll of that position, funding the position of Staff Engineer; declaring an emergency; and for other purposes" was read. City Engineer Richard Penn addressed the council and explained the need for the additional inspector position and the funding of the staff engineer. Council Member McMinn, seconded by Council Member Harmon, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the second time. Council Member Harmon, seconded by Council Member Heye-Townsell, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the third time. Council Member McMinn, seconded by Council Member Heye-Townsell, made a motion to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous. The emergency clause passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Council Member Williams stated that the Public Works Department has forty-six positions, and there are thirteen vacancies which equates to a 28% vacancy in the work force.

Ordinance No. 2378, entitled, "An ordinance adjusting salaries in Public Works, making the salaries more competitive, declaring an emergency; and for other purposes" was read. Public Works Director Brian Galloway stated to the council that this ordinance request is a continuation of the salary survey that was conducted by the city two years ago. The adjustments in the salaries would allow him to publish a better starting salary to help recruit employees. Council Member Heye-Townsell, seconded by Council Member McMinn, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the second time. Council Member Heye-Townsell, seconded by Council Member Sanders, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the third time. Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Heye-Townsell, made a motion to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous. The emergency clause passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Council Member Sanders stated the Human Resources Committee's next meeting would be August 5, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bill Harmon Recreation Center.

A proposed ordinance entitled, "*An ordinance amending the official Zoning Districts map and for other purposes (Woodlands of Sherwood)*" was read. Mr. Lantrip stated to the council that he was opposed to the rezoning of this property from C-4 to PUD. Robert Middleton, Chairman of the Planning Commission addressed stating the property is proposed to be a mixed use of multi-family and commercial. The Planning Commission concerns was the property had only one way in and one way out, and parking. The rezoning was tabled at Planning Commission while Mr. Marcus Harper, the developer, worked on these issues. Council Member Heye asked that the language in the transmittal be more definitive. Council Member Williams asked that it be on record that these units would not be rental property. Mr. Harper confirmed they would not be rental. The ordinance was only read one time to enable Mr. Harper to make changes to the wording in the Planned Unit Development (PUD) transmittal.

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Ordinance No. 2379, entitled, "An ordinance amending the official Zoning Districts map and for other purposes (16 & 17 Ridgelea Addition)" was read. Robert Middleton, Chairman of the Sherwood Planning Commission stated that the request was to amend the designated area from a Single Family Residential (R-1) and a Neighborhood Commercial (C-1) to General Commercial (C-3). Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Williams, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the second time. Council Member Heye-Townsell, seconded by Council Member McMinn, made a motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the third time. Council Member Heye-Townsell, seconded by Council Member Brooks, made a motion to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Council Member McMinn, Chairman of the Sherwood Senior Citizen Center, stated that the attendance has begun to increase at the Senior Center. The center had its first monthly meal in July and there was a good turnout in attendance.

Council Member Lilly, Chairman of the Street Committee, stated the committee did not meet. The next meeting will be August 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bill Harmon Recreation Center.

Resolution No. 10-2021, entitled, "Resolution finding the structure located on Parcel #23S0250001900, commonly known as 8912 N. Claremont Avenue, also known as Lot 19, Kiehl Subdivision, Pulaski County, Arkansas, to constitute a public nuisance" was read. Bonnie Bowden, owner of property addressed the council and asked that she be given another opportunity to bring her home up to code. Code Enforcement Supervisor Sheila Reynolds informed the council that this is the third code violation issue with this property. In May of 2004 a meth lab was located on the property, the property was condemned on July 26, 2004 and released in August of 2004. There was a second violation, and now a third violation. Sergeant Keith Wilson of the Sherwood Police Department informed the council on the events that led to the third violation. Sgt. Wilson stated that on May 11, 2021 Sherwood Police Department responded to a domestic disturbance at the residence. A resident of the property had several warrants and upon the officer's entry into the home it was noted that the condition of the home was unsafe and unfit. Ms. Reynolds presented photos of the property that showed this residence is unfit for human habitation as it is a danger to the health and safety of the residents. Council Member McMinn, seconded by Council Member Williams, made a motion to adopt the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Under old business:

Council Member Williams recognized Mayor Young for being selected as the Arkansas Municipal League's 1st Vice President.

Under new business:

Charles Frazier, Chief Executive Officer of Rock Region Metro provided the council with information on the new transportation services that can be provided to the residents of Sherwood.

Mayor Young made the following announcement(s):

- Sherwood Animal Shelter Pet Fair & Fund raiser August 28, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Sherwood Forest, 1111 W. Maryland Avenue

No further business, Council Member Brooks, seconded by Council Member Heye-Townsell, made a motion to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

ATTEST:

Angela Nicholson
Angela Nicholson, City Clerk

Virginia R. Young
Virginia R. Young, Mayor