

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF BLYTHEVILLE, ARKANSAS  
July 21, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Blytheville City Council held its fourth virtual Council meeting at 5:00 p.m. July 21, 2020. Mayor James W. Sanders conducted the meeting from City Hall via the teleconferencing app, Zoom. Joining in remotely were: City Clerk Connie Mosley-Brents, City Attorney Chris Brown and Council Members Barbara McAdoo-Brothers, R. L. Jones, John Mayberry, John Musgraves, Matt Perrin and Vera James. The press was represented by Jonet' Washington.

The invocation was given by Bishop Mayberry.

Mayor Sanders led the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Sanders asked for the Council's wishes for approval of the minutes from the June 16, 2020 regular meeting. Jones made a motion, Musgraves second, and by consent of all members (6/0), the minutes of the June 16, 2020 regular meeting were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk.

Mayor Sanders asked for Committee reports.

**POLICE AND FIRE** – Barbara McAdoo-Brothers

Committee met briefly to give their approval for Las Brisas Restaurant to apply for a private club liquor license permit with the Arkansas Alcoholic Beverage Control. This will be sent to the full council for their vote.

**PUBLIC WORKS** – Matt Perrin

Committee met July 13, 2020.

I. Report from Director Mark Key

- a. Street Repair on Ruddle and Highland, completed
- b. Condemnation Demolitions – houses down to date: 41
- c. Break at Moultrie was fixed today (Monday, 7/13)
- d. Will be at S. Franklin & Sycamore next week to help with demo
- e. PW has been helping haul debris from the BGRAA, in part helping the Cold War Museum initiative
- f. Since we last met, PW has repaired 20 potholes and 1 piece of sidewalk out at Westminster

II. Items for the Committee

- a. Council to resume meetings in-person Councilman Perrin urged the council to resume in-person meetings for both committee and council as it is the only way to fully allow for public participation. It was noted that every other local government within MS County had taken appropriate measures and resumed meetings in public and that the mayor himself has managed to safely continue his press conferences with public participation. In fact, I, Councilwoman James, and Councilwoman Brothers held our committee meetings in public along with several of our department heads. It was also noted that the three councilmen most resistant to

meeting in-person are the same three that are happy to collect their city council pay checks regardless of their attendance at designated meetings.

**PARKS AND RECREATION – R.L. JONES**

Committee met July 13, 2020, heard a report from Park & Activities Director Cody Wyatt:  
What have we done?

- Walker Park –
  - Pool closed to the public on July 1<sup>st</sup> due to COVID-19 cases increasing in Mississippi County.
  - Lifeguards have continued to work on projects in the parks including: helping clean on the Ritz, cleaning out the “Clean Fun Club”, trash pick-up, and sanitizing of parks equipment.
  - The Parks Department office is up and running! The phone number is 870-824-6485 – no voicemail at the moment but currently working with Ritter on that. Citizens can also call Director Wyatt’s cell at 870-740-9935 or go to [www.cityofblytheville.com](http://www.cityofblytheville.com) > Departments > Parks & Rec > Fill out the Park Inquiry Form to reserve a pavilion, plan an event, or report a concern.
    - New signage on door will be installed this week!
  - Ruddle Road entrance to Walker has been cleared out by the Parks Mowing Crew and it has made traveling out of the park much safer and looks great!
  - Pool – The pump room electrical panel caught fire the weekend of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July so we are currently working with Public Works to resolve the electrical issue and troubleshoot the motor to see if any damage was caused.
- Thunder Bayou –
  - Busy past few months for the golf course! Business is great and revenue has seen an increase.
  - Staff at TBGL have taken several precautions to keep themselves and players as safe as possible during this pandemic.
  - TBGL was honored as Northeast Arkansas’ Best Golf Course 2020 – Silver on Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> by Jonesboro Radio Group.
  - A Nucor Contractor group would like to do a one-day service project in the city. Director Wyatt recommended a clean-up of the “Old First Tee” Course that lies on June-Gosnell Drive between the entrance of TBGL and the walking trail around the Sportsplex. They plan to use their own equipment to mow the area as well as clean up some of the overgrown trees and vines. Very thankful for our community partners who want to roll up their sleeves and help the city!
- Ritz and Museum – CLOSED to the public due to virus.

- Greeting Card Mural – Nucor has started back working on this project that was put on hold during this crazy time. We hope to see this project finished in the very near future!
- Sportsplex – only open for practices that include guidelines per Governor.

Notes

- Councilman Perrin inquired about lights at the driving range so that TBGL could attract new players, bring in more revenue, and offer a different activity for the community to enjoy. Sup. Farrow will gather the info.

**AIRPORT AND UTILITIES** – Vera James

Committee met July 12, 2020. Wastewater Superintendent Gary Carr reported on the work that needs to be done on South 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Logan Lane. This was approved by committee and will be sent to the full council for their vote.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT & ANIMAL CONTROL** – John Mayberry

Committee met July 11, 2020. Code Enforcement Director Ricky Jefferson reported:

- 324 cases generated; 290 cases cleared
- 28 certified letters mailed; \$300.60 in postage fees
- 2 citations issued; 212 notices issued
- 0 work order(s)
- 0 liens placed on properties
- 4 house(s) torn down; 1 torn down by owner
- 10 properties condemned
- 7 vehicle(s) removed by Owners; 0 vehicle(s) removed by Code Enforcement
- Debris removal fees collected \$0.00

There was no report for Animal Control.

**FINANCE AND PURCHASING** – John Musgraves

Committee met July 14, 2020 and approved:

- 1) Jowers General Contracting to repair collapsed sewer line on South 9<sup>th</sup> Street
- 2) Waiving of competitive bids to authorize Arkansas Sewer Pipe Lining to line sewer pipe at 11116 Logan Ln
- 3) The consent administrative order from the Arkansas Dept of Environmental Quality
- 4) Approved contract award to Roberts-McNutt for cleaning and coating services at Blytheville Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mayor Sanders called for old business.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_**

***AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE PLACEMENT OF SPEED HUMPS***

McAdoo-Brothers made a motion, Musgraves second, and by consent of all the members present, the rules were suspended and the Ordinance was placed on its second reading by title only (6/0). There being no further motions, the Ordinance was continued to the next month for a third and final reading.

The Mayor called for new business.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1893**

***AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING LAS BRISAS BLYTHEVILLE, INC. TO APPLY FOR A PRIVATE CLUB LIQUOR LICENSE PERMIT WITH THE ARKANSAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL DIVISION FOR THE OPERATION OF A RESTAURANT LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF BLYTHEVILLE, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES***

McAdoo-Brothers offered the Ordinance, which was read in full by the City Clerk. McAdoo-Brothers made a motion, Musgraves second, and by consent of all the members present, the rules were suspended and the Ordinance was placed on its second reading by title only (6/0). Musgraves made a motion, McAdoo-Brothers second, to suspend the rules and read the Ordinance for the third time by title only (6/0). Jones made a motion to adopt, McAdoo-Brothers second, and by consent of a majority of the members present (5/1), the Ordinance was adopted. James voted no.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1894**

***AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE THE COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS TO AUTHORIZE JOWERS GENERAL CONTRACTING, INC. TO REPAIR COLLAPSED SEWER LINE ON SOUTH 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES***

McAdoo-Brothers offered the Ordinance, which was read in full by the City Clerk. Jones made a motion, Mayberry second, and by consent of all the members present, the rules were suspended and the Ordinance was placed on its second reading by title only (6/0). Jones made a motion, Mayberry second, to suspend the rules and read the Ordinance for the third time by title only (6/0). Jones made a motion to adopt, McAdoo-Brothers second, and by consent of a majority of the members present (6/0), the Ordinance was adopted. Musgraves made a motion, Jones second, to adopt the emergency clause.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1895**

***AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE THE COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS TO AUTHORIZE ARKANSAS SEWER PIPE LINING LLC. TO LINE SEWER PIPE AT 1116 LOGAN LANE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES***

Jones offered the Ordinance, which was read in full by the City Clerk. Jones made a motion, Musgraves second, and by consent of all the members present, the rules were suspended and the Ordinance was placed on its second reading by title only (6/0). Jones made a motion, McAdoo-Brothers second, to suspend the rules and read the Ordinance for the third time by title only (6/0). Jones made a motion to adopt, McAdoo-Brothers second, and by consent of a majority of the members present (6/0), the Ordinance was adopted. Musgraves made a motion, Jones second, to adopt the emergency clause.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020:22**

***A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONSENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER FROM THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND PERFORM UNDER THE TERMS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER AND RELATED INSTRUMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES***

Musgraves offered the Resolution, which was read in full by the City Clerk. Jones made a motion to adopt, Musgraves second, and by consent of all members present (6/0), the Resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020:23**  
**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ROBERTS-MCNUTT, INC.**  
**FOR CLEANING AND COATING SERVICES**  
**(BLYTHEVILLE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT)**

Musgraves offered the Resolution, which was read in full by the City Clerk. Jones made a motion to adopt, Musgraves second, and by consent of all members present (6/0), the Resolution was adopted.

There being no further business before the Council, McAdoo-Brothers made a motion to adjourn, Jones second. The motion carried unanimously and the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Mosley-Brents, Clerk/Treas