

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF BLYTHEVILLE, ARKANSAS
September 18, 2018 – 5:00 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Blytheville, Arkansas met in regular session at its regular meeting place in the Municipal Courtroom at 5:00 p.m. September 18, 2018. Present were Mayor James Sanders, City Attorney Chris Brown, City Clerk Connie Mosley, and the following Council Members: Stan Parks, L.C. Hartsfield, Barbara McAdoo-Brothers, John Mayberry and John Musgraves. R. L. Jones was absent.

The invocation was given by Sister Vera James.

Following the invocation, everyone was asked to remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Sanders asked for the Council's wishes for approval of the minutes from the August 21, 2018 regular meeting. Hartsfield moved, seconded by Musgraves, and by consent of all members present (5/0), the minutes of the August 21, 2018 regular meeting were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk.

Mayor Sanders called for any person(s) wishing to speak on agenda items to come forward. There were none.

Mayor Sanders asked for committee reports.

POLICE AND FIRE – John Musgraves

Committee met September 10, 2018. Fire Chief Mike Carney reported the position of Training Officer was vacated after the retirement of Randy Nichols, but was recently filled by Captain Daniel Holifield. The department is still one firefighter short of being fully staffed, they will continue to accept applications for the testing process. The department is about 80 percent complete with annual business inspections and so far, no major violations have been found.

Police Chief Ross Thompson spoke of the lower crime rate statistics for Blytheville and presented charts that reflected the number of crimes in 2014 through 2018. The purchase of three additional pole mount Sky Cop units was discussed. The units would cost from \$5,000.00 - \$6,500.00. Also, Thompson made a request that the department's range house be demolished. A motion was made and seconded to have it demolished and look into getting a new metal building.

PUBLIC WORKS – L.C. Hartsfield

Committee did not meet.

PARKS AND RECREATION – R. L. Jones

Committee did not meet. At the City Council meeting, Delta Gateway Museum Director Leslie Hester provide the council with an update on events at the Museum.

AIRPORT AND UTILITIES – Barbara McAdoo-Brothers

Committee met September 10, 2018. Wastewater Superintendent Gary Carr reported there were 55 normal utility locates; 10 emergency locates and 33 service calls requested, all completed. The sewer main cave-in at Blytheville High School is repaired with 17 feet of 12-inch pipe costing \$1,500.00 in parts and labor by wastewater employees. The West and South treatment plants did not pass inspection and are out of compliance with ADEQ. Brad Wingfield P.E. Principal Engineering Division wants to replace one for two treatment plants will cost around 5 – 7 million dollars, will have a bond for the payment method.

In the Waterworks Department, for Aug the kiosk usage is down 28, the IPR usage is up 107, and the website usage is up 59. Work started at the 2nd & Cherry Street treatment plant (price dropped by \$200,000.00 - \$1,257,575.00). Fire hydrant issues with flow on South Division. We need 1500 gallows per minute per square foot. Will need to put larger lines in Byrum Road to be able to open new Justice Center as well as addition to KIPP school. The work will also assist the primary school with adequate fire flow. The cost of this work will be in the ballpark of 8 to 9 hundred thousand dollars. We will resume maintenance and repairs.

Mayor Sanders advised the Council that he, Finance Director John Callens and Wastewater Superintendent Gary Carr will be attending a meeting with ADEQ on October 9, 2018 as a result of the treatment plants being out of compliance. They will present their potential plans to bring the plants into compliance.

CODE ENFORCEMENT & ANIMAL CONTROL – John Mayberry

Committee met September 5, 2018, Code Enforcement Director Ricky Jefferson reported there were 216 cases generated, with 139 cases cleared. 62 certified letters were sent, costing 413.00 in postage fees. 2 liens were placed on properties. They received 40 work orders and issued 20 citations. There were 5 houses were torn down, 8 houses condemned. The lighting project for North Lockard has been completed. Additional lighting projects are planned for Franklin, 21st and 16th Street.

Jefferson reported for Animal Control, there were 100 service calls, 150 contacts, 3 citations issued, 6 warrants, 3 animals picked up, 0 euthanized, 3 adopted, 1 transferred to Humane Society, 29 at the animal shelter and 1 trip to the landfill.

FINANCE AND PURCHASING – Stan Parks

Committee met September 13, 2018. Finance Director John Callens reported the city sales tax revenue is up \$2,940.00 for August, and is up \$37,160.00 from August last year. The city portion of the county sales tax is down \$406.00 for August but is up \$45,102.00 from August last year. The Utilities Committee approved accepting the bid from Layne Christensen Co. for the waterworks Well #12 project on South Second Street in the amount of \$1,257,575.00. The committee referred this to the Finance Committee for their consideration. Councilman Hartsfield made a motion, seconded by Parks, to approve accepting the bid. The Utilities Committee approved spending \$50,000.00 to complete the repair of fire hydrants within the city. Hartsfield made a motion, seconded by Parks, to approve the expenditure. The Utilities Committee approved the purchase of electronic read meters to replace older existing meters. Hartsfield made a motion, seconded by Parks, to spend \$205,744.00 from the water bond funds for the purchase of the meters from Henard Utility Products. Hartsfield made a motion, seconded by Parks, to amend the 2018 Budget, moving \$25,000.00 from Waterworks surplus and

\$25,000.00 from the Fire Department tax surplus to the maintenance expense for both the Waterworks Department and Fire Department budgets.

At this point, Mayor Sanders called for Todd Welch of the architectural firm Brackett-Kennerich to provide the Council with an update on the progress at the Justice Center. He stated they are continuing to work on the drawings and getting prices together trying to match things up with the budget before them. They hope to put out an early demolition package soon, since there is a lot of demo work to be done before construction can start. It shouldn't be much longer before we start to see progress.

Mayor Sanders called for new business.

ORDINANCE NO. 1859

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING THE COMPETITIVE BID PROCESS AND AUTHORIZED PAYMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF BADGER METER EQUIPMENT FOR THE BLYTHEVILLE WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT

Musgraves offered the Ordinance, which was read in full by the City Clerk. On the motion of Musgraves, seconded by Parks, and by consent of all the members present, the rules were suspended and the Ordinance was placed on its second reading by title only (5/0). On the motion of Musgraves, seconded by Parks, and by consent of all the members present, the rules were again suspended and the Ordinance was placed on its third reading by title only (5/0). A motion to adopt was made by Musgraves, seconded by Parks, and by consent of a majority of the members present (5/0), the Ordinance was adopted. On the motion of Hartsfield, seconded by Musgraves, and by consent of a majority of the members present (5/0), the emergency clause was enacted.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018:42

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BLYTHEVILLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018

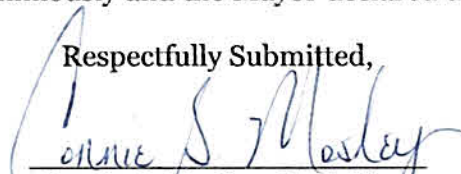
Parks offered the Resolution, which was read in full by the City Clerk. A motion to adopt was made by Musgraves, seconded by Parks, and by consent of the majority of the members present (5/0), the Resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018:43

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH LAYNE CHRISTENSEN COMPANY TO PROVIDE CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE BLYTHEVILLE WATERWORKS DEPARTMENT

Hartsfield offered the Resolution, which was read in full by the City Clerk. A motion to adopt was made by Parks, seconded by Musgraves, and by consent of the majority of the members present (5/0), the Resolution was adopted.

There being no further business before the council, Hartsfield made a motion, seconded by Mayberry, to adjourn. The motions carried unanimously and the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie S. Mosley, Clerk/Treas