

Austin City Council Minutes
January 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm by Mayor Bernie Chamberlain. Alderman Randy Ryan opened the meeting with prayer. In the absence of recorder Shirley Suddeth, Alderman Laurel Carnes called the role. All council members and City Attorney, Greg Crumpton, were present.

The July minutes were reviewed. Randy Ryan made a motion to accept the minutes; Rusty Eisenhower seconded the motion; all members were in favor of the motion; motion passed.

The July financial report was reviewed. There were questions regarding the new annex building expenditure - \$161,820. \$63,216 yet to be billed. After discussion of the police department expenditures, and the replacement of the November General Fund financial sheet, Matthew Sheets made a motion to accept the corrected financials; Randy Ryan seconded the motion; all members were in favor of the motion; motion passed.

Reports

Water/Sewer – John Ryan stated there were no items to be discussed.

City Manager - Randy McKenzie was present at the meeting. He spoke of the upcoming Spring Cleanup. He discussed the need of citizen disposal of grass clippings and that if the city used the current trash company it would increase each customer's bill by \$4.00. There was also discussion relative to the current trash company and the need to get bids before the end of the contract. McKenzie presented several logo art designs. He is to present other logo possibilities at the next council meeting. Manager McKenzie asked the council for authorization to purchase 2 Dell desktops and one Dell laptop for the police department. Costs were \$2,322.50 for the desktops to be purchased from police line item and \$725.00 from Court Automation. Rusty Eisenhower made the motion to purchase the desktops and laptop, Randy Ryan seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion passed.

Police – Mayor Chamberlain introduced the city's new Chief of Police, Bill Duerson. Chief Duerson provided a report of the police. There were 32 responses, 45 calls, and 6 agency assists. There was discussion on the selling of the Crown Victoria's and the need for a maintenance schedule for all the police cars. The Chief discussed with council members concerning the purchase of a new police car. Council members told the Chief it was up to him as to which vehicle to order. Chief stated he was big on uniformity so he would order another Dodge Charger. Matthew Sheets made a motion to order a 2017 Black Dodge Charger, Randy Ryan seconded the motion; all were in favor of the motion; motion passed.

Steve Bettis reported on the city's IT needs. He stated the old website was antiquated and that he is working on a new website which would go-live February , 2017. He

requested in-put from the council. He stated the website will be mobile friendly. The URL is www.Austin-ar.net.

Fire – Bettis presented the report of the fire department. He discussed the new fire truck to be purchased. It was decided that \$2,000 would be taken from Act 833, \$10,000 from insurance monies, and the remaining to be financed.

Planning Commission – No activity

Code Enforcer – Officer Kelly noted there were 3 illegal sign removals; 1 littering with citation issued; 4 dog complaints – 1 involving a dog bite; and 5 storm water violations.

Old Business

Census – Mayor Chamberlain gave an update on the special census. They are nearing completion of the count.

New Building – Mayor Chamberlain reported that we are waiting on the finishing of the parking lot.

Mayor Chamberlain asked that the council look at the "Reminder to All City Councils Regarding First Council Meeting of 2017". Council members discussed the items cover under Arkansas Legislation via Act 235 of 2015 and agreed the city adhered to all items. She stated other items that remain open for the new year is starting work in Shadow Creek; getting crime watch groups back up and going and agenda items must be submitted ten days prior to meeting at 5:00 pm. Audience participation will be timed at 3 minutes. Matthew Sheets made a motion to accept the new agenda submission times; Tammy Williams seconded the motion; all were in favor of the motion; motion passed. Mayor Chamberlain discussed the glass door security issue.

She also said the budget for 2017 had been approved by the council in December 2016 but must be approved by Resolution. Laurel Carnes read resolution 01-2017; Randy Ryan made a motion to accept Resolution 01-2017; all were in favor of the motion; motion passed for Resolution 01-2017. She discussed the house at the park. There were 3 bids. Nabholz was awarded the bid. The mayor also discussed a more allowable spending amount for the mayor. This would require the passage of a resolution. Mathew Sheets made a motion to table this until next meeting; Tammy seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion passed.

Rusty Eisenhower made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm; Phillip Whiteing seconded the motion; all were in favor of the motion; motion passed.

Laurel Carnes, Alderman
January 23, 2017