

**CITY OF GENTRY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Gentry, Arkansas, met in a virtual session at the Council Chambers and, at various other locations at 6:30 p.m. on November 2, 2020. Mayor Kevin Johnston called the meeting to order. The invocation was by-passed.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ANSWERING ROLL CALL:

Janice Arnold	Jason Barrett	Michael Crawford	Dan Erskin
Kristi Reams	Cindy Philpott	Jimmy Thorburn	Jason Williams

Others in attendance: Mayor Kevin Johnston, City Clerk Jenny Trout, Police Chief Clay Stewart, Randy Moll, City Attorney Joel Kurtz, Maxine Foster, Larry Babcock, Mr. and Mrs. James Ferguson, Ron Jordan, Barry Jarnigan, Ansel Smith, and others.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: October 5, 2020- Regular Virtual Council Meeting & October 20, 2020 Special Council Meeting:

Motion: Jason Barrett- to accept the minutes from both meetings as presented

Second: Jimmy Thorburn

Roll Call: Arnold-yes Barrett -yes Crawford- yes Erskin- yes
 Reams- yes Philpott- yes Thorburn- yes Williams- yes

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

1. **Public Comment (Items Not on Presented Agenda)** No new comments
2. **Main Street Gentry Chamber of Commerce – Janie Parks** was not in attendance.
3. **Gentry Public Schools – Terrie Metz** was not present; Jason Barrett announced Thanksgiving break was set for the week of November 23rd through November 27th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) **Park Master Plan Update:** Mayor Johnston traveled to Jacksonville for presentation of the City's park plan. There being some unforeseen delays during his visit, he will be providing updates as they become available.

- 2) **Sunday Sales Special Election Resolution:** A Resolution Calling a Special Election on the Question of Authorizing Off-Premises Sale of Alcohol on Sundays within the City of Gentry; and Prescribing other Matters Pertaining Thereto, was presented for review and consideration: At this time City Attorney Joel Kurtz provided an explanation of and reason for the resolution, also providing a date of February 9, 2021 for the Special Election to be held.

Motion: Barrett- to approve the resolution

Second: Thorburn

Roll Call: Erskin-yes Reams-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes
 Williams-yes Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Rezoning Ordinance (E. Arkansas-McKee Dr./N. Collins-Railroad Ave.)

An Ordinance Amending Appendix B of the City of Gentry Municipal Code Regarding Zoning of Certain Lands Located within The City; and for Other Purposes, was presented. At this moment Mayor Johnston informed Council members that upon further study, this Ordinance could place an undue burden on the property owners in the area, should the rezone to R-1 be made.

A Moratorium Ordinance was presented for consideration and, to be presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further consideration: **An Ordinance Imposing a Temporary Moratorium on Issuance of Building Permits for Certain Structures within a Portion of the City of Gentry; and for Other Purposes;** after discussion, including input of Gentry citizens present in the Council Chambers, Mayor Johnston voiced three (3) options for the Council Members to consider: 1) pass the rezoning ordinance presented; 2) to pass the moratorium presented; 3) do neither and re-present to the planning and zoning.

Motion: Arnold- to adopt the rezoning ordinance

Second: NONE

Motions dies for lack of a second

Motion: Williams- to adopt the Moratorium

Second: Philpott

Motion: Williams- to amend his motion to: suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Erskin

Roll Call: Reams-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes
 Arnold- yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes

City Attorney Joel Kurtz, read by heading only

Motion: Williams- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Reams-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes
 Arnold- yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes

Motion passed.

- 2) **Informal Plat Process Ordinance:** An Ordinance Amending the Gentry Municipal Code to Establish Procedures for Processing Informal Flats; and for Other Purposes was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Williams- to suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Thorburn

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes
 Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only.

Motion: Williams- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes
 Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes

Motion passed.

- 3) **2021 Water/Sewer Rates Ordinance w/Emergency:** An Ordinance Establishing Sewer and Water Rates for the City of Gentry, Arkansas, to be Effective on the Billing Due January 11, 2021; Declaring An Emergency and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Barrett- to suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Reams

Roll Call: Reams-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes
 Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only.

Motion: Barrett- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Thorburn

Roll Call: Reams-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes
 Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes

Motion passed

Motion: Erskin- to pass on emergency clause

Second: Williams

Roll Call: Reams-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes
 Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes

Motion passed.

- 4) **Water/Sewer Utility Bill Prorate Ordinance:** An Ordinance Amending the Gentry Municipal Code to Provide for the Proration of Utility Service Charges in Certain Circumstances; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Erskin- to suspend the rules and read by heading only

Second: Thorburn

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes
 Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes

Motion passed. City Attorney Joel Kurtz read by heading only

Motion: Erskin- to pass on three readings with a single vote

Second: Philpott

Roll Call: Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes Arnold-yes
 Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes Reams-yes

Motion passed.

- 5) **Proposed 2021 Budget:** The 2021 budget was presented for Council review. Mayor Johnston encouraged the council members to review their own schedules in order to set meetings in which to discuss.

*At this point in the meeting, Mayor Kevin Johnston asked the Council to consider adding address 117 N. Smith Ave., to the evenings agenda:

Motion: Barrett- so moved

Second: Arnold

Roll Call: Arnold-yes Barrett-yes Crawford-yes Erskin-yes
 Reams-yes Philpott-yes Thorburn-yes Williams-yes

Motion passed.

Mayor Johnston stated the upkeep, or lack thereof, of the property at 117 N. Smith Ave., had been brought to his attention. Discussion with the property owner, as well as the inspector, is planned in order to obtain ideas for improvement. Additional information will be provided at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

***Election Day, November 3, 2020**

***Planning Commission Meeting, November 19, 2020 @ 7:00p.m.**

***City Sales and Use & County Tax numbers for 2018-2020 were listed**

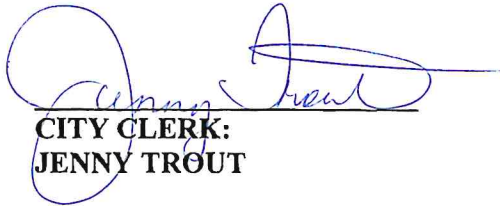
There being no other new business Mayor Johnston entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Thorburn- to adjourn this meeting

Second: Reams

All in favor. None opposed.

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.


CITY CLERK:
JENNY TROUT


MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSTON
CITY OF GENTRY