

**CITY OF GENTRY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Gentry, Arkansas, met in person and virtually, at the Council Chambers and, at various other locations, at 6:30 p.m. on May 2, 2022. Mayor Kevin Johnston called the meeting to order. City Attorney Joel Kurtz gave the invocation.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ANSWERING ROLL CALL:

Janice Arnold- Present
Jason Barrett- Present
Michael Crawford- Present
Dan Erskin- Present
David Page- Present
Jimmy Thorburn- Present
Cindy Philpott- Present
Jason Williams- Present

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

Others in attendance: Mayor- Kevin Johnston, City Attorney- Joel Kurtz, City Clerk- Jenny Trout, Fire Chief-Vester Cripps, Police Chief- Clay Stewart, Chamber of Commerce Director- Janie Parks, Mike Parks, Randy Moll (virtually), Larry Gregory (virtually) and, Justin Spafford (virtually).

REVIEW OF MINUTES: April 4, 2022- Regular Council Meeting

Motion: Philpott- to accept the minutes as presented

Second: Thorburn

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

Motion passed.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS:

Public Comment (Items Not on Presented Agenda): None.

1. **Main Street Gentry Chamber of Commerce – Janie Parks** presented her monthly report to the council and included a special thank you to Turning Point Fellowship, The Gentry Assembly, Grand Savings Bank and, Arvest Bank for all their help with the Chamber Easter Egg Hunt that was held in the Gentry City Park. Chamber Awards & Business/Community Night on April 28th was a big success, with the Gentry Community Clinic receiving the business of the year award. A Splash Fest/Movie Night in the Park is being planned for May 27th, beginning at 4:00p.m. The Chamber Fishing Derby is set for June 4, 2022 from 9:00a.m. to Noon at the Flint Creek Nature Park; Gentry Cruise Night is also set for June 4, 2022. Freedom Fest is set for July 4, 2022 from Noon to fireworks in the Gentry City Park. Pickin’ Time on 59

is September 22nd-24th. Trick or Treat on Main Street will be October 31st, beginning at 5:30p.m. and, the Gentry Christmas Parade is tentatively set for December 10th.

2. **Gentry Public Schools-** Terrie Metz was unavailable. Jason Barrett provided information regarding school news. Expansions are underway in anticipation of growth and, graduation is currently set to take place at JBU in Siloam Springs on May 13th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) Park Master Plan Update:

- a) **Splashpad:** Mayor Johnston announced work was continuing on punch-list items and, replacement of the padding in the playground area has been completed.
- b) **Sports complex:** Justin Spafford stated the pre-fab restroom was up and running, lights, fertilizer, sod, seating, and fields were being “touched up” and, shade on the pavilion was being finalized.

- 2) **Water Storage Facility Update:** Larry Gregory with Garver announced the project is nearly complete. Within the next two weeks, disinfection of the tank should be done, and finalization should wrap up mid-June.

- 3) **117 N. Smith Ave. Update:** Mayor Johnston stated progress continues. Plans for stump removal, as well as emptying and removal of out buildings on the property, have been relayed. Weather has contributed to the delay of these plans but, the property owners are working diligently to move forward.

- 4) **420 S. Byers Ave. Cleanup:** Mayor Johnston brought this matter before the council to update and, present options to the council for proceeding with this issue. City Attorney Joel Kurtz also provided insight with regard to procedure. After some consideration, council member Janice Arnold suggested the options be combined and the City of Gentry should move forward with a Notice of Public Hearing to be given and planned to come before council at the June 6, 2022 meeting. All members were in favor of this suggestion. Mayor Johnston will proceed accordingly.

