

**CITY OF GENTRY
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021**

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 3, 2021. Mayor Kevin Johnston called the meeting to order. The invocation was by-passed.

PUBLIC HEARING

117 N. Smith Ave. Condemnation

At this time the property owner, Mr. Cletus Dalla Rosa addressed the Council members and requested additional time to demolish the property. Mr. Dalla Rosa stated his reasons for not having done so already, stemmed from issues of trying to relocate what possessions are currently in the property, as this has been used for storage for some time. There being no further comments, Mayor Johnston closed this portion of the public hearing.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ANSWERING ROLL CALL:

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

Others in attendance: Mayor Kevin Johnston, City Attorney Joel Kurtz, City Clerk Jenny Trout, Cletus Dalla Rosa, Maxine Foster. Those attending virtually were: Fire Chief Vester Cripps, Police Chief Clay Stewart, Larry Gregory with Garver, Justin Spafford with Flintco, and Randy Moll.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: April 5, 2021- Regular Virtual Council Meeting

Motion: Barrett- to accept the minutes as presented

Second: Williams

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** presented a list of upcoming events including: **Fishing Derby**- June 26, 2021 9a.m.- Noon at the Flint Creek Nature Park for children ages 2-12 years old. Anyone over the age of 16 will require a fishing license. **Freedom Fest** – July 3, 2021 Noon until Fireworks. There will be lots of activities taking place including a car show, pageants, concerts, special guests, and the fireworks at dark.

Pickin' Time on 59 is set for September 23-25-2021 and, the Glow ride is scheduled for September 25, 2021 at dusk – Gentry City Park.

Janie also stated we have had several new businesses open or are scheduled to open soon, and ribbon cuttings are to be determined, but in the works.
3. **Gentry Public Schools – Jason Barrett** graduation will be May 14th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) **Park Master Plan Update:**
 - a) Splashpad Project Update: Mayor Johnston stated progress was continuing and the project continues to move forward.
 - b) Sports Complex: Justin Spafford presented plans for schedule/progress of the complex for all to view.
- 2) **Water Storage Facility Update:**

At this time Larry Gregory stated the dome on top of the concrete pedestal had been poured last week and, that the structural concrete work was complete. The tank is set to be welded within the next 4-6 weeks and completion of the project is estimated in mid-July of 2022.
- 3) **Spring Cleanup/Tree Giveaway Event Update:** Mayor Johnston stated 200 trees were given away and 4- 30 yard roll-off dumpsters had been filled, making yet another successful cleanup!

- 4) **119 N. Nelson Ave. Update:** Mayor Johnston stated removal of the structures and cleanup time has lapsed regarding this property and asked for suggestions from the Council for moving forward. After some discussion, with regard to demolition and possible cost:

Motion: Barrett- that Mayor Johnston solicit bids for abatement of the property to be brought back to Council at next month's meeting

Second: Thorburn

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

Motion passed.

- 5) **Condemnation Resolution- 117 N. Smith Ave.** A Resolution Declaring the Structures Located at 117 North Smith Avenue in the city of Gentry to Constitute a Nuisance and Condemning said Structures; Providing a Period of Time for the Property Owner to Abate said Nuisance; and for Other Purposes, was presented for review and consideration:

Motion: Arnold- to pass the resolution as presented, allowing 60 days for the abatement period

Second: Williams

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

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

***Planning Commission Meeting, May 20, 2021 @ 7:00p.m.:**

***City Sales and Use & County Tax numbers for 2019-2021 were listed**

***Mr. Thorburn voiced a big "thank you" to the City Utility crews for their efficiency during the spring cleanup.**

***Mr. Barrett asked that City Attorney Joel Kurtz, research the laws governing our meetings and bring back his information to the next meeting.**

***Mr. Williams asked Fire Chief Cripps about the status of the new fire truck. Chief Cripps stated it had been loaded and was on its way for delivery.**

***Police Chief Clay Stewart announced K-9 Harry was doing a great job and had recently made multiple successful drug seizures. It was asked if a bullet proof vest had been purchased for K-9 Harry, to which Chief Stewart said no, but it was something to consider. All members were in agreement.**

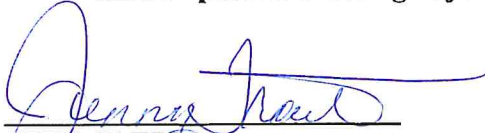
There being no other new business Mayor Johnston entertained a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Arnold- to adjourn this meeting

Second: Barrett

All in favor. None opposed.

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.



CITY CLERK:
JENNY TROUT



MAYOR: KEVIN JOHNSTON
CITY OF GENTRY