

Mayor: Ernie Rose
Recorder/Treasurer: Greg Bess
Alderman: Bob Gilliland, Herbert Wise
Penny Allen, Jeff Munroe
Sue Taylor, Mark Gordon
City Attorney: Joe Grider

City of Hardy, Arkansas

P.O. Box 5, 124 Woodland Hills Road
Hardy, Arkansas 72542
Ph 870 856-3811, Fax 870 856-4938
www.cityofhardy.org www.facebook.com/cityofhardy



Regular Meeting, Hardy City Council

September 7, 2021

6:00 o'clock P.M.

Mayor Ernie Rose called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM Tuesday September 7, 2021, at the Hardy City Hall, 124 Woodland Hill Road, Hardy, Arkansas, and led all present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of our country. Councilwoman Penny Allen read the invocation. Recorder/Treasurer Bess called the roll and the following council members answered to their names: Jeff Munroe, Mark Gordon, Penny Allen, Bobby Gilliland, and Sue Taylor. Councilman Herbert Wise was absent. Mr. Bess stated that there were 5 of 6 council members present constituting a quorum. Attorney Joe Grider was also present.

Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 3, 2021, as written. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a voice vote. All answering in the affirmative the motion to approve the August 3, 2021, meeting minutes carried.

REPORTS

Mayor Rose recognized Hardy Advertising and Promotion Commission (HAPC) commissioner Mark Huscher to provide a report of the HAPC. Mr. Huscher stated the HAPC met on August 23, 2021. He stated the operating fund had about \$69,342 and the capital account had little over \$51,000 in funds. He stated the HAPC is working on a billboard for the bypass. Mr. Huscher noted that Mr. Charles Wilson had agreed to serve another term on the HAPC. R/T Bess informed the Mayor that while the Mayor had sworn in Ms. Amanda Smith for HAPC at the last meeting, we had failed to get a formal vote of approval from the council.

Councilwoman Allen made a motion to accept the appointment of Ms. Amanda Smith for the Hardy Advertising and Promotion Commission. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a voice vote. All answering in the affirmative the motion to accept the appointment of Amanda Smith to HAPC carried.

Attorney Grider informed the council that they would need to also approve the re-appointment of Mr. Wilson to the HAPC for another term. Councilman Munroe made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Mr. Charles Wilson for the Hardy Advertising and Promotion Commission. Councilman Gilliland seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a voice vote. All answering in the affirmative the motion to accept the re-appointment of Charles Smith to the HAPC carried.

R/T Bess stated the year-to-date financials were in the packet and labeled as draft as the August data had not been reconciled. He stated the city received \$32,916 from the auction. These funds were distributed as follow: \$11,145 to the Hardy Water Works, \$12,900 to General Administrative Fund, \$6,700 to Fire, and \$2,980 to Police.

Mayor Rose recognized Mark Gordon, Councilman and Fire Committee Member, to discuss the Fire Department status. Mr. Gordon stated that Chief Austin Rose was working in Cherokee Village and could not attend the meeting. He stated that the department was grateful that they had not had to respond to any loss of life issues with the river through the busy tourist season. He stated the volunteer membership was down but more importantly of the volunteers they have a majority have day jobs causing some delay in response. He stated that Chief Rose was requesting to hire a part-time employee to man the station during peak hours to better serve the public. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve up to \$7,000 in additional funding for part-time fire personnel for 2021.

Councilman Munroe seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a roll call vote.

Allen – Yea, Monroe – Yea, Taylor – Yea, Gilliland – Yea, and Gordon – Yea

Wise - Absent.

The motion to approve up to \$7,000 in additional funding for part-time fire personnel for 2021 was approved.

Mayor Rose recognized Jeff Munroe, councilman and public works committee member, to provide a summary of public works activities. Mr. Munroe stated that he met with Superintendent Cooper who stated that he had hired a new full-time employee with a wastewater 1 and 2 license. He also stated that water technician Jonathan Hussung had received his wastewater 1 license.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Rose requested status of the council concerning a food truck ordinance. R/T Bess requested that the transient business license be addressed in this meeting as the policy currently is confusing. After some discussion it was decided that council would meet at 5:30PM Tuesday September 7th as the Planning and Zoning Commission to discuss food trucks and other matters.

Councilwoman Allen made a motion to continue waiving Building Permit Fees through till January 1, 2022. Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a voice vote. All answering in the affirmative the motion to waive building permit fees through till January 1, 2022 carried.

R/T Bess stated that in the past few months he has had to stop payment on checks there were never delivered and resubmit payments. With mail service in May or June questionable. During the same period, he stated that it appears the city missed being billed for the Mayor's and R/T credit cards. He requested council approval to allow a one-time electronic check bank draft for the two cards totaling \$1,415 (\$731.87 Mayor, and \$683.13 R/T cards each). Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to allow the R/T to pay by e-check drafts totaling \$1,415 to cover past credit card bills. Councilman Gordon seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a voice vote. All answering in the affirmative the motion to approve the R/T to transact \$1,415 in e-check payments for past due credit cards was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Rose recognized R/T Bess to present and read Resolution 2021-G authorizing the grant and final costs for the Gym HVAC grant. R/T Bess read 2021-G. Councilman Gilliland made a motion to

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accept Resolution 2021-G as read. Councilman Gordon seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a roll call vote.

Allen – Yea, Monroe – Yea, Taylor – Yea, Gilliland – Yea, and Gordon – Yea
Wise - Absent.

The motion to approve Resolution 2021-G as read was approved.

Mayor Rose recognized R/T Bess to present and read Resolution 2021-H authorizing the Mayor and R/T to transact the sale of property sold at auction. R/T Bess read 2021-H. Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to accept Resolution 2021-H as read. Councilwoman Allen seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a roll call vote.

Allen – Yea, Monroe – Yea, Taylor – Yea, Gilliland – Yea, and Gordon – Yea
Wise - Absent.

The motion to approve Resolution 2021-H as read was approved.

Mayor Rose requested approval to use up to \$20,000 in reserve funds to begin construction on a bathroom at Buford Beach Park. He stated he planned to solicit donations and assistance from the public but \$20,000 would get the ball rolling this year. He stated that he had received a “no-rise” permit for the proposed site near the river. He stated the initial plan called for a septic holding container that was sealed for flood purposes but that he planned to later connect to sewer when it is available. Councilman Munroe made a motion to up to \$20,000 in funding for a bathroom facility at Buford Beach. Councilwoman Allen seconded the motion. Mayor Rose called for a roll call vote.

Allen – Yea, Monroe – Yea, Taylor – Yea, Gilliland – Yea, and Gordon – Yea
Wise - Absent.

The motion to approve up to \$20,000 in funding for a bathroom facility at Buford Beach was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Rose recognized Amanda Garland who had a question on bath facilities at Doctor Thompson Park. Ms. Garland had requested some general maintenance for the bath facilities. Mayor Rose stated he would get with Supertendent Cooper to discuss needs.

The mayor reminded the audience there was a car show September 11th at the Hardy Civic Center and an ATV ride September 18, 2021, leaving from Loberg Park.

ADJOURN

Mayor Rose declared the meeting adjourned at 7.11 PM. The next regular meeting of the Hardy City Council is scheduled for October 5, 2021, at 6:00PM at Hardy City Hall, at 124 Woodland Hills Road, in Hardy, Arkansas.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Bess, Recorder/Treasurer

Signatory on Next Page

PASSED and APPROVED THIS 5th DAY OF October, 2021

APPROVED:

Magan Ernie Rose
Ernie Rose, Mayor

ATTEST:

Greg Bess
Greg Bess, Recorder/Treasurer

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