

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

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Regular Meeting, Hardy City Council

October 5, 2021

6:00 o'clock P.M.

Mayor Ernie Rose called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM Tuesday October 5, 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 Greg Bess called the roll and the following council members answered to their names: Jeff Munroe, Mark Gordon, Penny Allen, Bobby Gilliland, Herbert Wise and Sue Taylor. Mr. Bess stated that there were 6 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 September 7, 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 September 7, 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 September 27, 2021. He stated the operating fund had about \$81,212 and the capital account had little over \$51,483 reconciled balance. He stated the HAPC received approval for a billboard at the bypass. He stated that HAPC plans to exercise the option to purchase the land next to the Civic Center with an offer of \$125,000 with owner financing over 5 years.

R/T Bess stated the year-to-date financials were in the packet and labeled as draft as the September data had not been reconciled. He stated the city was about to reach its revenue goal for the year some 3 months early. He stated that the clerks in the city were struggling to implement the new Cyber Security initiatives while taking on more direct accounting work with the RT's office restructure. He stated the city would be using a new web site address "hardyAR.gov" as we are now registered as a more secure government domain. He also informed the council that though they took action to dissolve the Department of Public Safety earlier in the year, the financials can not be restructured until the beginning of a new budget year. Therefore the 2021 financials will still show a department of public safety but only in name, all accounting following the restructure was in place.

Mayor Rose recognized Councilman Gordon to report on the Fire Committee. Mr. Gordon had nothing to bring forward to the council. Councilman Gilliland speaking for the Police Committee stated that several vehicles had been sold at the auction and Chief Rose was working on a grant for another vehicle.

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 and had nothing to report. Mayor Rose stated that he had met with Mr. Cooper about issues raised concerning Thompson Park and that Mr. Cooper was working through the list.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Rose reported that the State Highway Street project was scheduled to begin paving the week of Oct 4th. He stated there would be some street closures and traffic disruption, but it should only last a week or so.

Mayor Rose stated that concrete work would begin on the Buford Beach bath facility this fall. He also stated that the Council had agreed to meet October 19, 6:00PM to discuss food truck, business licenses, and transient licenses. Councilwoman Allen stated that she was investigating use scenarios for the Buford Beach ball field, as requested last meeting. She stated she wanted to meet with the Mayor and several contractors to discuss proposals before bringing to council.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Rose stated the HVAC system in City Hall had gone out over a week ago. He stated that after consideration a new system was warranted as the other systems was some 15 years old. He recognized R/T Bess to discuss expenses for repair. Mr. Bess stated that replacement cost was \$6,600. He stated while some funds were in the maintenance budget, he requested the council approve expenditures of up to \$7,000 for replacement and installation of a new HVAC in City Hall. Councilwoman Allen so moved. Councilman Gordon seconded the motion. Councilman Munroe questioned the heating source for the new unit. R/T Bess stated that the mayor had hoped to switch to all electric but the electric service to the facility would need improvement. A direct replacement propane system was reinstalled. Mayor Rose called for a voice vote. All answering in the affirmative the motion to approve the spending of up to \$7,000 for a new City Hall HVAC system carried.

Mayor Rose stated the Hardy Gym HVAC Grant was fully approved and we were awaiting delivery of equipment to complete the work. R/T Bess stated that cloth duct work would be used over the ball court so as not to be damaged by a stray ball. R/T Bess requested that the Mayor state his intentions as to the winter operation of the Hardy RV Park. Mayor Rose stated that the RV Park would be open year round.

Mayor Rose recognized R/T Bess to discuss an ordinance outlining the city's strategic planning process. He requested the council consider codifying the process of city strategic planning. After some discussion, it was decided to let Attorney Grider review the ordinance and readdress the issues in the November meeting.

Mayor Rose recognized R/T Bess to present his formal letter of resignation as Recorder Treasurer of the city. Mr. Bess presented a letter to the mayor and copies to the council in which he stated he would be resigning on November 10th, 2021. He stated that he had provided council prior "heads up" notice some months back so the decision should not be a surprise. Mayor Rose requested R/T Bess read his letter of resignation into the record. Attorney Grider stated that he was investigating the process for

replacing the R/T and alternate ways the position may be filled per state law. Mayor Rose stated that a notice would be placed in the paper of record.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ADJOURN

Mayor Rose declared the meeting adjourned at 6:51 PM. The next regular meeting of the Hardy City Council is scheduled for November 2, 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 2nd DAY OF November, 2021

APPROVED:


Ernie Rose, Mayor

ATTEST:



Greg Bess, Recorder/Treasurer



Filed 11/2/21 6813
City of Hardy
Arkansas Clerk