

Mayor: Ethan J. Barnes
Recorder-Treasurer: Darlene Wilson
Council Members: Penny Allen, Tony Berry
Mark Gordon, Laura Smith
Sue Taylor
City Attorney: Joe Grider

City of Hardy, Arkansas

PO Box 5 · 124 Woodland Hills Road
Hardy, Arkansas 72542
870-856-3811
www.cityofhardy.org
www.facebook.com/cityofhardy



Minutes of Regular Meeting Hardy City Council January 17, 2023 · 6:00 p.m. Hardy City Hall

Mayor Ethan J. Barnes called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at the Hardy City Hall, 124 Woodland Hills Road, Hardy, Arkansas. Councilman Gordon led all present in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of our country. Councilman Berry gave the invocation. Mayor Barnes called on Recorder-Treasurer Darlene Wilson to call the roll. The following council members answered to their names: Penny Allen, Tony Berry, Mark Gordon, Laura Smith, and Sue Taylor. With five council members present, there was a quorum. Attorney Grider was also in attendance.

At 6:04 p.m., Mayor Barnes called the council members into executive session for the purpose of discussion about filling a vacancy in Ward 2, Position 1 as stated on the agenda. At 6:15 p.m., Mayor Barnes reconvened the council meeting. Councilman Gordon made a motion to declare the council position for Ward 2, Position 1 as an open position and that the city will do a public notice allowing eligible candidates to apply for the vacant position; Councilwoman Allen seconded the motion. Recorder-Treasurer Wilson performed a roll call vote. Allen-yes; Berry-yes; Gordon-yes; Smith-yes; Taylor-yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Berry made a motion to approve the minutes of the Planning and Zoning meeting of December 6, 2022 and the regular meeting of December 6, 2022 as written; Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

No changes were made to the proposed agenda. Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to approve the agenda; Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

REPORTS

Mayor Barnes recognized Recorder-Treasurer Wilson to give the financial report. Ms. Wilson stated that the current financial statements are included in the packet. She presented a chart showing the current and prior 3 years' sales tax revenue and made note of the fact that it shows 2022 was at approximately 14% over 2021. She stated that the final financials should be available for council review and approval at the February regular meeting.

Mayor Barnes then called for Committee Reports. Fire Chief Austin Rose presented reports for 2021 and 2022 showing numbers of calls for each year. Total calls for 2021 were 310 and for 2022 were 354. The reports gave a breakdown by types of incidents for each year.

Police Chief Scott Rose reported that the State has lowered the speed limit on Main Street to 25 mph and Mayor Barnes asked him to elaborate on how they plan to enforce it. Chief Rose stated that Officer Himschoot's vehicle had recently been radar-equipped and that they plan to radar enforce it.

Public Works Superintendent Steven Morris reported that December was a tough month due to the extreme cold temperatures and a lightning strike that resulted in a boil order for the Robinhood area of Woodland Hills. The skid steer has been on order and is expected at any time.

Mayor Barnes recognized Hardy Advertising and Promotion Commission (HAPC) Recording Secretary Ginni Kauffman to provide the HAPC report. Commissioner Kauffman reported on the regular meeting December 19, 2022. The balance in the operating account was \$18,749.31 and the reserve account was \$51,071.97. Action taken included donating the history fence to Marc Herring. Election of officers was held: Chairman Tracie Moore, Vice Chairman Phillip Horrell, and Secretary Ginni Kauffman. No financial secretary was elected at this time. A special meeting was held January 9, 2023. The commission voted to recommend Phillip Horrell to fill the at-large vacancy and Vicki Strickland to fill the tourism business vacancy. The next meeting of the Hardy A & P Commission will be Tuesday, January 24, 2023.

Mayor Barnes stated that he would be giving a "Mayor's Report" at each meeting. He stated that he had been welcomed in his position very warmly and invited everyone to contact him at any time. He gave his email address as mayor@cityofhardy.org.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Barnes stated that the city's Building Permit Fees collected in 2017 totaled \$1,875.00 for 11 permits; in 2018, fees were \$1,029.00 for 9 permits; in 2019, fees were \$952.50 for 9 permits; and in 2020, fees were \$125.00 for 4 permits. He also stated that the fees were suspended in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and that the waiver of fees had been extended through December 31, 2022. The fees averaged 2017-2019 \$1,285.00 per year, so potential loss in income for the second half of 2020 through 2022 was \$3,213.00. He proposed to the council reinstating the prior schedule of fees at this time. Councilman Berry made a motion to reinstate the Building Permit Fees at the prior schedule of rates; Councilman Gordon seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Barnes presented Ordinance 2023-1, An Ordinance Establishing that the Office of City Attorney for the City of Hardy shall be Filled by Appointment, Prescribing the Duties Thereof; Declaring an Emergency and for Other Purposes. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to read Ordinance 2023-1; Councilman Berry seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Attorney Grider read the Ordinance. Councilman Gordon made a motion to waive the second and 3rd readings, allowing them to be read by title only; Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Attorney Grider then read Ordinance 2023-1 by title only. Councilwoman Allen made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-1, An Ordinance Establishing that the Office of City Attorney for the City of Hardy shall be Filled by Appointment, Prescribing the Duties Thereof; Declaring an Emergency and for Other Purposes; Councilman Berry seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to enact the emergency clause allowing the Ordinance to become effective immediately; Councilman Gordon seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Mayor Barnes moved on to Resolution 2023-1, A Resolution to Establish the Agenda Format for City Council Meetings. Councilwoman Allen made a motion to read the Resolution 2023-1; Councilwoman Taylor seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Attorney Grider then read Resolution 2023-1. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-1; Councilwoman Allen seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Mayor Barnes presented Resolution 2023-2, A Resolution to Establish Holiday Dates for the City of Hardy for 2023. Councilwoman Taylor made a motion to read Resolution 2023-2; Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Attorney Grider then read Resolution 2023-2. Councilwoman Allen made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-2; Councilman Berry seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Mayor Barnes moved on to Resolution 2023-3, A Resolution to Establish Signatories for Bank Transactions for the City of Hardy, Arkansas. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to read Resolution 2023-3; Councilman Berry seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Attorney Grider then read Resolution 2023-3. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-3; Councilwoman Smith seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Mayor Barnes presented Resolution 2023-4, A Resolution to Approve the Consent Administrative Order and Authorize the Mayor and Recorder-Treasurer to Sign CAO Amendment on Behalf of City of Hardy Burton Street Wastewater Treatment Facility. Councilwoman Smith made a motion to read Resolution 2023-4; Councilman Gordon seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed. Attorney Grider then read Resolution 2023-4. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-4; Councilman Berry seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

Mayor Barnes moved on to the proposed Hardy A & P Commissioner positions which had been presented to the council in their report. Councilman Gordon made a motion to approve Phillip Horrell to fill the at-large vacancy on the Commission and Vicki Strickland to fill the tourism business vacancy on the Commission; Councilman Berry seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed.

ADJOURN


Councilwoman Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Councilman Gordon seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passed, and Mayor Barnes declared the meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Hardy City Council is scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Hardy City Hall, 124 Woodland Hills Road in Hardy, Arkansas.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Wilson, Recorder-Treasurer

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 13 DAY OF February, 2023

APPROVED:


Ethan J. Barnes, Mayor

ATTEST:



Darlene Wilson, Recorder-Treasurer



Filed DW 2/16/23
City of Hardy, Arkansas
Recorder-Treasurer Office