

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS, BENTON COUNTY,
ARKANSAS, HELD FEBRUARY 03, 2009

The Board of Directors of the City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, met in regular session at the City of Siloam Springs Administration Building, February 03, 2009.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Allen.

Attendance Roll Call:

Wasson, Smiley, Fuller, Turner, Nation, Wiles, Long – Present.

Mayor David Allen, City Administrator David Cameron, City Clerk Peggy Woody, City Attorney Jay Williams, Police Chief Joe Garrett – Present.

Opening prayer was led by Wiles.

Mayor Allen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A copy of the January 20, 2009, minutes of the regular meeting had previously been given to each Director. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Smiley that the minutes of the January 20, 2009, meeting be approved. Mayor Allen called for a voice vote on the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

A copy of the January 26, 2009, minutes of the special-called meeting had previously been given to each Director. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Nation that the minutes of the January 26, 2009, meeting be approved. Mayor Allen called for a voice vote on the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The next agenda item was the open hearing for citizens present. Richard Bayman, Atlanta, Georgia, stated he has assisted the City for the past few years with trying to find a replacement Hospital. Bayman stated our City Administrator, David Cameron, did a terrific job managing this process. Scott Jones, West Twin Springs St., stated there is a group attending tonight from John Brown University's American Government class.

The next agenda item was Ordinance No. 09-01. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Nation to place Ordinance No. 09-01, Legal Correction on Rezone 831 South Mt. Olive, on its first reading suspending the rules and reading title only.

Roll Call

Wasson, Smiley, Fuller, Turner, Nation, Wiles, Long – Aye.

No Nays.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 102-21 OF THE SILOAM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL CODE (CITY ZONING MAP); REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 99-16 AND REZONING FROM R-2 TO C-1A THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS 831 SOUTH MOUNT OLIVE STREET

was read for its first reading.

The next agenda item was Ordinance No. 09-02. A motion was made by Nation and seconded by Fuller to place Ordinance No. 09-02, Amend Municipal Code Regarding Home Occupation Businesses, on its first reading suspending the rules and reading title only.

Roll Call:

Smiley, Fuller, Turner, Nation, Wiles, Long, Wasson – Aye.

No Nays.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BUSINESS REGULATIONS OF THE CITY;
AMENDING SECTION 22-68 REGARDING HOME OCCUPATION BUSINESSES.

was read for its first reading.

The next agenda item was Resolution No. 06-09. A motion was made by Nation and seconded by Fuller to table Resolution No. 06-09, Appropriation of Monies for Infrastructure Improvements in Conjunction with North Rodeo Drive Project/Water Department, to the February 17, 2009, meeting.

Roll Call:

Fuller, Turner, Nation, Wiles, Long, Wasson, Smiley, Fuller – Aye.

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was Resolution No. 07-09. A motion was made by Turner and seconded by Wiles to adopt Resolution No. 07-09, Appropriation of Monies for Infrastructure Improvements in Conjunction with Extension of Tahlequah Street/Water Department. Cameron stated this would come from the General Funds reserve at a cost not to exceed \$100,000.00.

Roll Call:

Turner, Nation, Wiles, Long, Wasson, Smiley, Fuller – Aye.

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was Approval of Necessary Action to Dissolve Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital Board of Governors. Mayor Allen stated this item was done previously at the special-called meeting, and therefore this is rendered moot.

The next agenda item was the Administrator's Report:

Cameron welcomed the JBU students. Cameron stated that Resolution No. 06-09, which was tabled, even though this is listed as North Rodeo Dr., this is not necessarily the name of that street. It's just a reference point for the City. This Friday is the 4th annual Daddy/Daughter dance. This is for girls up to 6th grade at the Community Building from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Cameron stated per the ordinance for emergency expenditures he is required to report that the estimate at this time for the ice storm is in excess of \$400,000.00 in damages. It will be about 45 – 60 days before we can get a final assessment of our power grid. We will have to go back to some areas for final repairs. At this time there is about 54 residences without power due to the grid being pulled away from the home and needing an electrician to do repairs first. In the first week, we have hauled 9,000 cubic yards of brush. This is about 25% complete. We did call in electrical crews from Edmond, Stillwater, Percel, Skiatook, and Miami thru our mutual-aid agreements with MESO. This is part of our contract with GRDA. We can not say enough to thank those crews. We brought in crews from Texas to assist with the brush clean up. We began the clean up immediately. We are going to continue with the clean up through this week, and are going to allow these crews to finish up their 70 hours of work. We will give the community about 2 weeks to finish cleaning up in their yards, set it to the curb, and then bring in another mass crew. This will qualify for FEMA funding, but will have to get three bids and will try to get all debris picked up in a two week period. If missed during this two week period, then we will pick up during our regular routes. We ask residents to not put limbs near a gas meter, over the water meter and try to avoid around the power lines. The Arkansas Baptist Disaster Relief is taking applications from residents that need assistance with storm damage, and these can be picked up at City Hall. The City can not go on private property, so we are asking residents to bring limbs to the curb. We should see at most 87% from FEMA. There are certain requirements that have to be met by FEMA to qualify for funds. Cameron stated he can not thank our City staff enough and all the people who helped in the Emergency Operation Center. Thank you to everyone who helped. For clarification, there have been some questions about how the City chose who would get turned on first. The system was that whatever could be repaired that would turn on the most amount of houses was where we focused our attention. The lines that were ripped from the homes, around 300, have to be repaired by an electrician first. To get this back on in less than a week from the start of the storm, I commend everyone, not just the electric department, but everyone who helped. Cameron stated he appreciates the Board's support by allowing us to do our jobs.

The next agenda item was the Open Hearing for Directors:

Mayor Allen also gave his gratitude to Cameron and the entire staff, especially those who worked into the night with chainsaws. He certainly would not want to have to do that job. These people are pros and they certainly know what they're doing. We are always lucky to have our own power company, and the employees who know how to keep it running. Some residents probably did not know how bad this storm was without TV or internet. He thanked the citizens for their patience. Allen thanked the police, fire and Hospital for all they did during the storm. He also noted the Rogers Mayor was calling for a day of volunteering to assistance with clean up, and thought this was a good idea. Our new County Judge was discussing a possible county animal shelter. He stated that we do a good job with our animal shelter, but want everyone to know about this discussion. Allen acknowledged the passing of a well-known and long time employee of the City Fire Department, Conley Bagby. He will be missed.

Turner echoed what had been said. This clean up is for limbs, not spring or fall clean up items. No couches or things like that. Creek clean up has to have permits from ADEQ first.

Wasson echoed thanks to all the crews, and to the citizens for being patient during this storm.

Fuller thanked the groups that helped clean up his yard. He has not heard any negatives about the City during this storm. Fuller requested to add an executive session to the agenda. A motion was made by Fuller and seconded by Long to place an executive session on the agenda.

Roll Call:

Nation, Wiles, Long, Wasson, Smiley, Fuller, Turner – Aye.

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

Nation echoed her appreciation for all the employees and the job they do. Nation thanked Rich Bayman and the job he did representing the City and being a good partner. Nation addressed a previous newspaper article that was regarding the Hospital CEO contract. Nation gave a clarification of this issue for the citizens.

Wiles stated we are thankful for the staff, no matter what their job.

Smiley stated she also is very thankful for our City staff and all the work they've done during this storm. Smiley welcomed CHS to the community during the transition of the Hospital. She is looking forward to a new hospital.

Long welcomed the JBU students, and gave them some of the history of our form of government.

Mayor Allen called the meeting into recess for executive session. Mayor Allen called the meeting back to order. A motion was made by Fuller and seconded by Wasson to pay David Cameron, City Administrator, a \$7,500 performance bonus for extra work including GRDA, West Siloam Springs, Hospital and the recent ice storm.

Roll Call:

Wiles, Long, Wasson, Smiley, Fuller, Turner, Nation – Aye.

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

There being no other business to come before this Board, a motion was made by Long and seconded by Nation that this meeting be adjourned. A voice vote was called for on the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

(SEAL)
ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Peggy Woody, City Clerk, MMC

David E. Allen, Mayor