

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS, BENTON COUNTY,
ARKANSAS, HELD APRIL 15, 2008

The Board of Directors of the City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, met in regular session at the City of Siloam Springs Administration Building, April 15, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Van Poucke.

Attendance Roll Call:

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

Opening prayer was led by Nation.

Mayor Van Poucke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A copy of the minutes of the April 01, 2008, regular meeting had previously been given to each director. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Smiley that the minutes of the April 01, 2008, meeting be approved. Mayor Van Poucke called for a voice vote on the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mayor Van Poucke read and presented a proclamation to the Siloam Springs Panthers High School Boys Basketball team for winning the 5A State Championship. Coach McMahan accepted on behalf of the coaches and team members.

The next agenda item was the open hearing for citizens present. There being none, Mayor Van Poucke continued with the agenda.

The next agenda item was Resolution No. 13-08. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Long to approve Resolution No. 13-08, Decline Private Cemeteries. Jay Williams, City Attorney, stated the cemeteries are still private property. Even though they are brought into the City limits, this does not make them public property that we would automatically be responsible for. The Arkansas Statutes has a number of provisions whereby abandoned cemeteries can be taken over for maintenance that can be done through the County. The County would be the party to take that over and not municipalities. Don Cundiff, 601 West Tahlequah, addressed the Board. Dorothy Frazee, 1255 W. Tulsa, addressed the Board with rumors she had heard.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was Resolution No. 14-08. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Fuller to approve Resolution No. 14-08, Sager Creek Restoration Project. David Cameron, City Administrator, gave a clarification of this project and funding. Trevor Bowman, Water/Wastewater Director, stated that Nelson Engineering was the only bid received at a cost of \$17,300.00 which is a part of the \$85,000 for this project.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was Resolution No. 15-08. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Wiles to approve Resolution No. 15-08, Water Contract/West Siloam Springs.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

Jot Hartley, attorney for West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma, addressed the Board stating Mayor Carr had a family obligation and couldn't be here tonight, so unfortunately, she send me instead. But, I wanted to say I want to compliment your staff and administration for I think identifying the issue, the

central issue, to our contractual positions. I think we have a mutual issue that needs to be resolved for both sides. I want to compliment you all on identifying that, and let you know that the Town of West Siloam Springs and the people we serve look forward to entering into a good-faith negotiations with you. Mayor thanked him for his comments.

The next agenda item was review of bid. A motion was made by Nation and seconded by Fuller to approve the bid for 16 pad-mount transformers to UtiliCor for \$22,782 plus tax.

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 Land Contract/Hospital. David Cameron, City Administrator, gave an explanation for this contract for land. The City is not paying for the land, this is coming from proceeds that the Hospital has generated. This land will be in the City's name as is the property now. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Nation to approve the contract for purchase of 63 acres m/l at Cheri Whitlock and Progress Ave. for the Hospital with Ward Jones Realtors in the amount of \$32,000 per acre. Smiley stated this does not mean we are building a new hospital. Mayor Van Poucke asked for public comments, and there were none.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was the Administrator's Report:

Cameron clarified that if this land deal for the Hospital does not proceed for a number of reasons that are involved, there would be other tracts that we have looked at that would be considered. There are a lot of obstacles to be cleared with this land. The Twin Springs Fountain looks incredible. It is complete. There is going to be a formal dedication prior to starting the fountain at noon on April 24th. Cameron has authorized an expenditure of \$3,245 for an enclosure on the filter box and electrical stub-outs for the new fountain which was not included in the bid specs. The City has come out with a customer service guide which will be distributed in tomorrow's Herald-Leader newspaper. You can get a copy at City Hall or the Library.

The next agenda item was the Open Hearing for Directors:

Mayor Van Poucke clarified about proclaiming a day for the State Champion team. There have been many occasions over the last 20 years that he has gone to school functions where he has presented proclamations to other athletic teams, one was the girls volleyball team, girls basketball team, and others. So this is not something that is new, although it is no less than of importance to all of us. We want to and we will continue to honor each and every team that shows this type of excellence in their abilities to compete in the 5A classification. This is a great thing to do. We are honoring whenever possible.

Turner thanked staff for putting out the Customer Service Guide.

Wasson thanked the Sanitation crews for the spring cleanup. Wasson asked if a gentlemen in the audience could come forward at this time regarding the cemeteries. Mayor asked for the Board's approval. John Moore, 825 South Wright, asked about access to the cemetery near Wal-Mart.

Wiles commended staff for what they have had to put up with because of the weather over the past few weeks.

Smiley thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers for her husband while he's been ill. She also thanked our EMS, police, fire, doctors, hospital and nurses. They are very good.

Long went on record to say that the Mayor has done so many things for the City out of your, huh, unsung nobody knew you'd go to Little Rock and do all the things that you do, and I publicly want to thank you for all the little things you've done that like you said that nobody knew and the papers didn't report. You've been a fine servant to this City, and I want to thank you.

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.

APPROVED:

M. L. Van Poucke, Jr., Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Peggy Woody, City Clerk, MMC