

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING OF  
THE CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS, BENTON COUNTY,  
ARKANSAS, HELD SEPTEMBER 23, 2008

The Board of Directors of the City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, met in special-called session at the City of Siloam Springs Administration Building, September 23, 2008.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Van Poucke.

Attendance Roll Call:

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

Wasson, Fuller – Absent.

Mayor M. L. Van Poucke, Jr., City Administrator David Cameron, City Clerk Peggy Woody, City Attorney Jay Williams – Present.

The first agenda item was Ordinance No. 08-18. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Long to place Ordinance No. 08-18, Amend Code Regarding Donations and Giving by Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital, on its first, second and third readings suspending the rules and reading title only. Long stated this ordinance was requested by him. Jay Williams stated this ordinance addresses gifts and donations but does not restrict every day business. David Cameron stated that more than one entity is asking for funds. Until the deal is secured for the sale of the Hospital, no decision to give away assets is to be made. CHS needs to be allowed to do due diligence. Smiley stated there is no intent by this Board to do the day to day business of the Hospital. This is not limiting at all. Jay Williams stated that if the Hospital should get into a situation that requires it, the City Board can vote to approve the hospital to donate money. The intent is to have the Hospital carry on with routine day to day operations. Cole Everett, Hospital Board President, asked if they thought they were giving away funds. Cameron stated that a lot of people were lining up for funds. Even a resolution by a group requesting funds had been prepared for consideration by the Hospital Board. Mayor Van Poucke stated this shook everyone up, and it accelerated it to the point of having to do this tonight. Jay Williams asked Cole Everett if he saw anything in the proposed ordinance that would tie the Hospital's hands with respect to day-to-day operations. Everett replied that there was not. Cole Everett stated he was not aware of the Hospital ever giving away money. Long stated not to give big bonuses. Nation asked how they handle donations knowing they are in negotiations. Cole Everett stated that the Board of Governors would listen to the requester's plan and then would take it to the city council, and we should all be happy that an entity is putting together a future plan.

Roll Call:

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

No Nays.

Five Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING DONATIONS AND GIVING BY SILOAM  
SPRINGS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND FINDING AN EMERGENCY.

was read for its first, second and third readings.

A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Long to adopt Ordinance No. 08-18, Amend Code Regarding Donations and Giving by Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital.

Roll Call:

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

No Nays.

Five Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

Nation stated that she considers this ordinance part of us working together, and that she would hope to give them support. We are here to support the Hospital. Turner says, regarding what Cole Everett said, that what they could have done was made donations without Board of Directors approval in the past. Nation stated that Cameron is following the direction given to him by this Board, and is acting on our behalf.

A motion was made by Nation and seconded by Long to adopt the emergency clause for Ordinance No. 08-18, Amend Code Regarding Donations and Giving by Siloam Springs Memorial Hospital.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Five Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was Ordinance No. 08-19. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Wiles to place Ordinance No. 08-19, Purchase of Vehicle, on its first and final reading suspending the rules and reading title only. City Attorney Williams explained that State law permits the Board to waive competitive bidding in exceptional circumstances by ordinance. Two such ordinances are already on the books, emergency and sole source. The example of an electric switch recently purchased by the electrical department which is only available from one supplier was given. The proposed vehicle purchase doesn't fit squarely within either previously recognized exception, so a new ordinance is required.

A motion was made by Long and seconded by Nation to amend Ordinance No. 08-19 to purchase a hybrid version of the vehicle for a price not to exceed \$42,500 if staff finds savings. David Allen, 1600 Villa View Dr., stated that a Hybrid gets better mileage and would pay for itself in one year. The City Administrator's current vehicle will be used by another department. Nation stated the request for a new vehicle was from staff, not the City Administrator. Mayor requested to check into a hybrid and see if this is what we need. Cameron stated that a nice vehicle is nothing to him personally, but makes a good impression to those he transports around town. A 4 wheel drive vehicle is needed, such as taking people to show them the proposed hospital land. This is a good image for the City. It was discussed that there are few suitable 2008 model year vehicles left, none were available through State purchase, and that factory incentives will expire before a bid purchase could be completed, which would increase costs.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Five Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE 2008  
CHEVROLET TAHOE FOUR WHEEL DRIVE PASSENGER VEHICLE  
FROM GEORGE NUNNALLY CHEVROLET FOR THE AMOUNT OF  
\$37,916, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

was read for its first and final reading.

Smiley stated that a Hybrid is good for the environment and would be a good idea for the future. Cameron stated that we tried to purchase a vehicle from the State Contract, but was not available at this time. Turner asked where this money is coming from. Paul Calloway, Finance Director, stated from the reserves.

A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Long to adopt Ordinance No. 08-19, Purchase of Vehicle.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Five Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Nation and seconded by Wiles to approve the emergency clause for Ordinance No. 08-19, Purchase of Vehicle.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Five 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.

APPROVED:

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M. L. Van Poucke, Jr., Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

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Peggy Woody, City Clerk, MMC