

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE CITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS, BENTON COUNTY,
ARKANSAS, HELD NOVEMBER 20, 2007

The Board of Directors of the City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, met in regular session at the City of Siloam Springs Administration Building, November 20, 2007.

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 Turner.

Mayor Van Poucke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A copy of the minutes of the November 06, 2007, regular meeting had previously been given to each director. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Smiley that the minutes of the November 06, 2007, meeting be approved. Mayor Van Poucke called for a voice vote on the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

A copy of the minutes of the November 13, 2007, special-called meeting had previously been given to each director. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Nation that the minutes of the November 13, 2007, meeting be approved. Mayor Van Poucke called for a voice vote on the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

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 Ordinance No. 07-33. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Fuller to place Ordinance No. 07-33, Amend Municipal Code for Water Meter Fees, on its third reading suspending the rules and reading title only.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE REVISING WATER METER
FEES; AMENDING SUBSECTION 98-145(b) OF
THE MUNICIPAL CODE.

was read for its third reading.

A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Fuller to adopt Ordinance No. 07-33, Amend Municipal Code for Water Meter Fees.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was Ordinance No. 07-36. A motion was made by Nation and seconded by Smiley to place Ordinance No. 07-36, Amend Electric Code/Electric Department, on its second reading suspending the rules and reading title only.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING REGULATIONS FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC
WIRING AND SYSTEMS; AMENDING SECTIONS 18-81, 18-83,
18-84, 18-85, 18-87 AND 18-88; AND CREATING
SECTION 18-89 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE;
FINDING AN EMERGENCY.

was read for its second reading.

The next agenda item was Ordinance No. 07-37. A motion was made by Nation and seconded by Fuller to place Ordinance No. 07-37, Amend Potable Water Rates/Water Department, on its first reading suspending the rules and reading title only. David Cameron, Administrator, stated for the record to clarify that this is a budgetary increase that we discussed for the rate increases for our citizens, in addition to that, we are going to be raising the rates to both contracts with Watts and West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma. Trevor Bowman, Water/Wastewater Director, gave a summary of what has happened and why the City is looking at these new rates in comparison with previous rates. Without these rate increases, we expect a loss of about \$.05 per thousand.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN RATES AND
CHARGES FOR POTABLE CITY WATER; AMENDING
SUBSECTIONS 98-173(a) AND (d) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE.

was read for its first reading.

The next agenda item was Ordinance No. 07-38. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Wiles to place Ordinance No. 07-38, Amend Solid Waste Rates/Solid Waste Department, on its first reading suspending the rules and reading title only. Randy Atkinson, Solid Waste/Street Director, gave an overview of this restructure for the citizens. With the change in landfills, this has caused a significant increase to the City which is a \$4.30 per ton increase in hauling cost or approximately \$116,000 additional in 2008. We have had a 25 percent additional cost in fuel. There are only 3 cities in Arkansas that have twice-weekly pickup service.

Roll Call:

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

No Nay.

Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

An ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN RATES AND
CHARGES FOR SOLID WASTE TRANSPORTATION AND
DISPOSAL; AMENDING SEC. 82-41 (“RATES”) OF THE
MUNICIPAL CODE.

was read for its first reading.

The next agenda item was Resolution No. 63-07. A motion was made by Turner and seconded by Nation to adopt Resolution No. 63-07, Declaration of Oklahoma EMS Deadline/Fire Department. Mayor Van Poucke noted a scrivener's error in Section 3, the effective date should be 2008 not 2007. Cameron stated the intent of this resolution. The cost to the City is roughly \$500,000 per year to cross over into Oklahoma, and we receive no funding assistance from the state of Oklahoma.

Roll Call:

Wiles, Long, Wasson, Smiley, Fuller, Turner, Nation – Aye.
No Nay.
Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was review of bids. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Nation to approve the bid for seven (7) pad-mounted transformers/Electric Department to HD Supply and Techline for \$55,311.

Roll Call:

Long, Wasson, Smiley, Fuller, Turner, Nation, Wiles – Aye.
No Nay.
Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was review of bids. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Nation to approve the bids for annual chemicals for the Water/Wastewater Department per the attached memo.

Roll Call:

Wasson, Smiley, Fuller, Turner, Nation, Wiles, Long – Aye.
No Nay.
Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was review of bids. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Wiles to approve the bid for Hwy 59 water line materials/Water Department to Water Products, Inc. for \$53,404.93. Cameron clarified that there will be a reimbursement back to the City 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 approval of the 2007 Revised Budget and the 2008 Budget. A motion was made by Long and seconded by Fuller to approve the 2007 Revised Budget and the 2008 Budget. Long requested money be set back, if available, for land purchases. Paul Calloway, City Treasurer, addressed this issue.

Roll Call:

Fuller, Turner, Nation, Wiles, Long, Wasson, Smiley – Aye.
No Nay.
Seven Ayes. No Nays. Motion Carried.

The next agenda item was the Administrator's Report:

Cameron gave a clarification regarding the non-profit organizations. The newspaper article stated the Board is funding only two organizations, and taken out the rest. There is a letter going to the non-profits that were funded last year that ask them to reduce their request. The Board will reevaluate the 2008 budget. We are asking the non-profits to do the same as each City department in reducing their budget request. They will be asked to resubmit a revised amount. The Board did not say they were not in favor of the Hwy 412 widening project, but said they were not in favor of pulling funds out of the reserves. The Highway Department is going to require our utilities be moved from the State's property. The Board is going to have to make a decision on what the rates would need to be over a five year period to move the utilities off the bypass to be out of the way of the Highway Department. We have partnered with the Highway Dept. on several projects. I want to be clear that the Board did not say we are not going to do this, just not take the funds out of the reserves. We have until November 2008 to move our utilities. This is the route the State Highway Dept. selected as being in the best interest for now. This was not the City's vote to select this route. The City is being required to move our utilities just like we require the gas and telephone companies when we do streets. Solid waste will not run on Thursday, but will work Friday. If your normal trash pickup is on Thursday, it will be the following Monday before you have trash pickup. Police and Fire will both work Thursday and Friday. We will be repainting and striping the downtown area on November 28th and 29th. We received a bid today for the Twin Springs Fountain for approximately \$83,000.

The next agenda item was the Open Hearing for Directors:

Mayor stated the Christmas parade starts at 5:30 on December 1st. It's a great parade. We will light up Siloam Springs at 6:00 p.m.

Turner asked about recycling on Thursday. It will not be picked up on the 22nd. Turner thanked staff for the way the budget meetings went this year. He wished everyone traveling during the holiday a safe trip.

Wasson stated he was out of town when the Chamber held a press conference. He was disappointed in how the Chamber handled this meeting on Hwy 412. There is nothing we can do about where the highway is going now. It was supposed to be a bypass. Contact your state legislators.

Fuller wished everyone a good Thanksgiving.

Nation hoped everyone has a safe and happy holiday. She stated how much we should appreciate our City departments and employees. Our people went back and looked at the budget instead of the Directors' having to do that themselves. We will have the same level of service for our residents.

Wiles stated that if you stop to look at the projects that are underway in Siloam Springs, the workers take a great deal of pride in what they do. This means a lot to him and the other Board members. They are very appreciated.

Smiley expressed the same sentiments and is very proud of our employees.

Long thanked all the employees for their work on the budget. Long expressed his thoughts about the Hwy 412 project, and that this is out of the hands of the City. We have to move the utilities.

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