

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS, BENTON COUNTY,
ARKANSAS, HELD FEBRUARY 20, 2018

The Board of Directors of the City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, met in regular session at the City of Siloam Springs Administration Building on February 20, 2018.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Turner.

Roll Call: Johnson, Smiley, Burns, Carroll, Smith, Coleman – Present. Beers -Absent.

Also present: Phillip Patterson, City Administrator; Jay Williams, City Attorney; Renea Ellis, City Clerk; Scott Miller, Police Captain; Jeremy Criner, Fire Chief; Ben Rhoads, City Planner, Don Clark, Community Services Director, Phil Stokes, Electric Director, and Steve Gorszczyk, Public Works Director.

Opening prayer was led by Carol Smiley.

Mayor Turner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A copy of the February 6, 2018, minutes of the regular meeting had previously been given to each Director. A motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Johnson to approve the minutes. Turner called for a voice vote. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input: No one came forward.

Item A: Cox Pole Attachment Agreement / Electric Department. Phil Stokes briefed the item. A Motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Coleman to approve the item. Motion passed unanimously.

Item B: Case Backhoe Purchase / Public Works Department / Street Division / Scott Equipment Company / \$122,215. Dennis Kindy, Street Superintendent, briefed the item. A Motion was made by Johnson and seconded by Coleman to approve the item. Motion passed unanimously.

Item C: Sewer Collection System Study - Phase 2 / Public Works Dept. / RJN Group / \$227,665.74. Steve Gorszczyk briefed the item. A Motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Smith to approve the item. Motion passed unanimously.

Item D: Ordinance 17-35 / 3rd Reading / Amending Section 102-21 of the City Municipal Code / Rezoning from R-4 and C-2 to G-I / 2251 S. Lincoln St. Ben Rhoads briefed the item. A Motion was made by Smiley and seconded by Johnson to place Ordinance 17-35, with staff's recommended conditions, on its 3rd reading, suspending the rules and reading title only. Motion passed unanimously.

An Ordinance entitled: An Ordinance Amending Section 102-21 of the Siloam Springs Municipal Code (City Zoning Map); Rezoning (From R-4 and C-2 to G-I) the property located at 2251 S. Lincoln Street; was read on its third reading.

A Motion to adopt Ordinance 17-35 was made by Smiley and seconded by Burns. Motion passed unanimously.

Item E: Ordinance 18-02 / 3rd reading / Extension of Existing Levy of 0.625 Percent Sales and Use Tax (5/8th). Phillip Patterson briefed the item. A Motion was made by Burns and seconded by Smith to place Ordinance 18-02 on its third reading, suspending the rules and reading title only. Motion passed unanimously.

An Ordinance entitled: An Ordinance Calling a Special Election in the City of Siloam Springs, Arkansas on the question of issuing bonds under Amendment No. 62 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas for the purpose of financing the cost of water improvements; levying a five-eighths of one percent (0.625%) sales and use tax for the purpose of retiring such bonds; and prescribing other matters pertaining thereto; was read on its third reading.

A Motion to adopt Ordinance 18-02 was made by Smiley and seconded by Coleman. Motion passed unanimously.

Item F: Ordinance 18-03 / 2nd Reading / Amending Section 102-21 of the City Municipal Code / Rezoning from R-2 to G-I / 2300 block of E. Tahlequah St. Ben Rhoads briefed the item. A Motion was made by Burns and seconded by Coleman to place Ordinance 18-03 on its second and third reading, suspending the rules and reading title only.

An Ordinance entitled: An Ordinance Amending Section 102-21 of the Siloam Springs Municipal Code (city zoning map); rezoning (from R-2 to G-I) the property located at the 2300 block of E. Tahlequah Street, was read on its second and third reading.

A Motion to adopt Ordinance 18-03 was made by Coleman and seconded by Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item G: Ordinance 18-04 / 1st Reading / Amending Municipal Code / Section 18-86 Electrical Inspection Fees. Phil Stokes briefed the item. A motion was made by Johnson and seconded by Carroll, to place Ordinance 18-04 on its first reading, suspending the rules and reading title only. Motion passed unanimously.

An Ordinance entitled: An Ordinance calling a special election in the city of Siloam Springs, Arkansas on the question of issuing bonds under Amendment No. 62 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas for the purpose of financing the cost of water improvements; levying a five-eighths of one percent (0.625%) sales and use tax for the purpose of retiring such bonds; and prescribing other matters pertaining thereto; was read on its first reading.

Item H: Resolution 10-18 / Establishing Rates for Ambassador Transportation Services. Renea Ellis briefed the item. Billy Deatherage of Ambassador Transportation gave the Board a brief background of the company and reviewed the rate schedule. A Motion was made by Johnson and seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 10-18. Motion passed unanimously.

Item I: Staff Reports:

Rodeo Ground Update. Patterson stated that although he believed the rodeo grounds should be relocated, he could not recommend moving forward at this time and asked staff to step back and look for opportunities for outside funding.


Administrator's Report. Patterson reported an expenditure in the Police Department of \$36,520.73 for an all-wheel drive Dodge Charger; he corrected the figures from the December sales tax report and said City sales tax was down for the month by 0.2% and up 6.1% for the year; County sales tax was down 4% for the month and up 6% for the year. He went on to report that the City sales tax for the month of January was up .8% and the County sale tax was up 79%; and lastly, pointed out today is the last day to vote for Siloam in the Small Business Revolution (SBR) contest.

The Mayor commented that prayers were answered with the rain; the SBR had allowed good publicity; said he was proud of Siloam; and thanked HULU for allowing us to participate.

Directors Report. Burns gave data from the Walton Family Foundation regarding our downtown, including residences, employees, the number of business and the average age. He encouraged the city to look at flood plain areas that need improvement. He said he had the opportunity to use the "Lime Bikes" and that the app was very user friendly. He asked that the public be informed as to state law when a yellow light is flashing at a crosswalk by the PD and by posting on the city website. He noticed on the Washington Street trail, 3 healthy coyotes; he believed animal control was looking into it; cautioned those using the trail; and asked people to alert animal control if they saw them. Johnson said he was proud of Siloam; proud to be a citizen of Siloam; 501 cities and towns in the state and 100 are conducting a revitalization program; he voted; and Ty Pennington would be a host. He said he appreciated what was going on with the Board, city staff, administrator, mayor and all concerned. Smith commended Parks & Rec on a successful Daddy/Daughter dance, and the street department for the way they handled road conditions with the ice. Carroll thanked staff for being proactive with the community and forward thinking; he said he would like to see us make a move this year on the rodeo grounds and get that ball rolling; he believed staff would be able to find a good answer; rodeo brings a culture of history and legacy, but is something we can live in today; Smiley said she appreciates administrator's thoughts on the rodeo grounds and that she stands behind him; the move needed to be fiscally beneficial to the city and citizens to do that; she forgot Monday was a holiday and sat her trash out a day early, but said how she appreciates sanitation workers, as well as other departments who work in this weather; she's keeping positive thoughts on the HULU program and what it would be a wonderful experience if it came to be; and lastly, when Brad was talking about the downtown numbers, she was pleased to see Siloam included with the major cities in the area as it doesn't happen often; it says something about our downtown. Coleman seconded prior comments about staff; quite an accomplishment to be in the Top 5; thanked Main Street, the Chamber and mentioned the reception that was hosted and how it had brought the community together as a whole. He said we are number one whether HULU recognizes it or not.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Coleman and seconded by Smiley. A voice vote was called. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:


Renea Ellis, City Clerk
{seal}



APPROVED:


John Mark Turner, Mayor

