

April 10, 2023  
Six o'clock P.M.  
North Little Rock City Hall Council Chambers  
300 Main Street  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

The regular meeting of the North Little Rock City Council scheduled for Monday, April 10, 2023, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Terry C. Hartwick.

Council members had the option of attending the council meeting in person or participate virtually. The Council Chambers were open to the public.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, LINDA ROBINSON, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, VINCE INSALACO, III and CHARLIE HIGHT (6/0). Note: Council Member NATHAN HAMILTON entered the council chambers at 6:02 p.m. Council Member MAURICE TAYLOR entered the Council Chambers at 6:04 p.m. City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Whitbey, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer/Enforcement Officer Jim Scott, and City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

The prayer and pledge of allegiance were led by Council Member Baxter.

On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, March 27, 2023, and *Special Call* meetings held, Monday, April 3, 2023, Wednesday, April 5, 2023, and Friday, April 7, 2023, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by City Clerk Diane Whitbey (7/0).

On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, communication #1 was read by title only, accepted and filed (8/0).

1. Anita Paul, Mayor's Office, memorandum re: *NEW Restaurant Mixed Drink Minimum Permit – NEW Application* for The Lot Traffic at 601 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, by Lawrence Barbee, Jr.

On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, communication #2 was read, accepted and filed (8/0).

2. North Little Rock Fire Marshal Brent Almon email with Code Requirements re: application for Liquor License at 601 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street – operating as an A-2 Assembly.

City Attorney Fields said accepting and filing the communications was not approving them, the communication was to make the City Council aware the notice had been filed. City Council Members and the Mayor are public officials who have 15 days to respond to an Application made to the

Arkansas Alcohol Beverage Control Board (ABC). Council Member Ross asked the Fire Chief to send the comments with regard to the Fire Code (A-2 Assembly) which requires the building be brought up to the current code for assembly occupancy before an alcohol license is issued. Council Member Baxter recommended attaching Communication #2 to the application. City Attorney Fields suggested the reply be from the Mayor's Office and/or Fire Marshal's Office.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Hartwick invited North Little Rock High School Cheer Coach Missy Sela to join him at the podium. Coach Sela thanked Mayor Hartwick for recognizing the team who won their third State Cheerleading Championship in December, 2022. The team is very talented and have a collective GBA of +4.0 and many of the participants are in multiple AP classes. The team suffered a loss in October (2022) when team member Tori Moody died. It was a devastating loss to lose a teammate and close friend. Mayor Hartwick declared the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023, in honor of the 6A Girls State Championship. Mayor Hartwick presented individual certificates to each of the following: Caroline Jolly, Julia French, Abby Schaefer, Anna Baggett, Tiyah Green, Abrielle Crump, Haley Jordan, Kylie Sartain, Aspen Frensley, McKenna Chism, Iyvana Jones, Kamryn Cottrell, Amaya Kindle, Revell Hogan, Emma Dill, Mallori Holloway, Avery Bilon, and Tori Moody.

Mayor Hartwick asked North Little Rock Chief of Staff Mike Davis to come forward to introduce a video which included drone footage from Saturday, April 1, 2023, the day after a tornado destroyed areas of North Little Rock. The last part of the video includes updates from the area illustrating cleanup efforts that are underway. It has been amazing to see the amount of debris volunteers have been able to move to the street. Several years ago, the city contracted with CrowderGulf in the event we had a natural disaster. So far today the company has picked up and hauled 80 loads of debris (which equaled 4,677 cubic yards). By April 1, all city streets had one-lane open for traffic. Through debris removal all lanes are now open. A lot of progress has been made in 10 days. Chief Davis provided a timeline. The tornado hit at 2:33 p.m. The city had the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) open by 2:45 p.m. Mayor Hartwick commended all of the city departments, staff and volunteers who responded and continue to help. City operations resumed for the majority of city departments Monday, April 3, 2023. Chief Davis said the (North Little Rock) Electric Department had 15,000 outages following the event. Currently, the only customers (North Little Rock and Sherwood) without power is due to an issue at the location.

Mayor Hartwick asked City Engineer Chris Wilbourn to come forward. Mr. Wilbourn announced his retirement effective May 1, 2023. He said he recently lost his father who he had been the caregiver for. His daughter lives in Pensacola (Florida) and is getting married soon. He plans to spend the month of May in Florida with his family. He commended the council for their work together and their service to the residents of the city. He said he has never worked with a better council. Mayor Hartwick thanked Mr. Wilbourn for his service.

## **SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING**

*None.*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

R-23-60

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 5800 BAUCUM PIKE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND CONDEMNING SAID STRUCTURES; PROVIDING A PERIOD OF TIME FOR PROPERTY OWNERS TO ABATE SAID NUISANCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held by the sponsor, Mayor Hartwick. (*owner: Wayne M. Ball*)

O-23-09 (ORDINANCE NO. 9559 – COUNCIL MEMBERS ROSS AND HIGHT)

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE CODE TO REGULATE ISSUANCE OF, AND CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH, SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTAL (STR) BUSINESS LICENSES FOR THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; DECLARING AN

EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read one time February 13, read a second time February 27, 2023, was read a third and final time this date. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton. Council Member Ross advised there would be a \$50.00 license fee and a copy of the homeowner's homestead tax credit as proof that the individual lives at the address. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was amended as follows::  
*Section 2. A. add S* FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL TYPE 2 RENTALS *and* SHORT-TERM RENTAL TYPE 1 (OWNER-OCCUPIED) RENTALS ARE ALLOWED WITHIN R1 AND R2 ZONING DISTRICTS, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE (8/0). On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the ordinance was again amended as follows:: *page 7 item I.* BUSINESS LICENSE...PRIVILEGE...FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL TYPE 2 RENTAL PROPERTIES...*new sentence* THE INITIAL AND SUBSEQUENT ANNUAL BUSINESS LICENSE FEE/PRIVILEGE TAX FOR SHORT-TERM RENTAL TYPE 1 (OWNER OCCUPIED) RENTAL PROPERTIES SHALL BE \$50.00 PER RESIDENCE, PER YEAR (8/0). Council Member Ross said the city has been looking at STR's for years. Her biggest concern has been the loss of community. She referenced the March 31 tornado and how neighbors who lived in the damaged areas helped each other. The difference between a STR and a regular rental is the longevity of the resident. STR rentals are for short periods of time and are a business as there is an exchange of money. The only regulation North Little Rock had was a \$35.00 fee. A little over 20 of the estimated 100 STR's in the city have a city business/privilege license. She said Advertising and Promotion Director Karen Trevino told her the only platform that collects and remits Hotel/Motel tax to the city is Air BNB. There are also two private property owners who collect and remit their tax. Hotel owners have asked for a level playing field since they compete with STR's for room rentals. Council Member Ross referenced concerns from the City of Hot Springs regarding inspections of the properties. The Fire Marshal said 50% of the

properties they inspected failed (minor infractions were no fire extinguisher or smoke alarm, ingress and egress lights). Former Ward 1 City Council Member Beth White lives on Glenmere has read the legislation which gives the city another way to protect neighborhoods. Short-term rentals are mini-hotels that do not belong in residential areas. She has six (6) STR's within walking distance of her home and has seen guests parking on the grass, setting bonfires, unhitched trailers parked in the yard, trash issues, people driving too fast on the street. These people are not invested in the community, they just need a place to sleep. Prohibiting STR's in R1 and R2 zoned areas would be a positive step to keep our city and residents safe. Mr. Tom White said the proposed legislation references protecting public health, safety and welfare and minimizes the impact of transient uses in residential neighborhoods. A neighborhood is an area where people live and interact with each other, which is why he purchased his home over 30 years ago. The six rentals his wife referenced are within 2 ½ blocks from their home. There are issues with traffic (speeding and noise). He referenced an instance where someone from Dallas rented one of the homes to attend a car show. The renter brought his super modified Challenger on a trailer with him then proceeded to start it and rev the engine for 20 minutes. There have also been issues with garbage not being properly disposed of. Mr. Patrick Stair lives in Argenta. He is in favor of regulating STR's to prevent them from over concentrating an area. He said a small number of them could benefit a neighborhood. He is still in favor of neighborhoods filled with neighbors who pay taxes, raise their families, etc. Too many STR's can weaken the fabric of a neighborhood. Too many in small areas have been detrimental in other areas around the state. He suggested an amendment that would allow them but not in a concentrated form by not allowing new sites in and R1 or R2 zone within (example) 600 feet of an existing STR. A regulatory method such as this could provide a controlled allowance and would be easy to fine-tune over time. Ms. Glenda Love Kacena lives on Glemere. She has owned and operated a small pub in North Little Rock for more than 32 years. She appreciates the efforts of Advertising and Promotion. She raised her children in her home and now often has her grandchildren. She reiterated the issues referenced by the previous speakers. A motion to adopt as amended was made by Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Ross. Council Member Ross referenced a letter she received from the Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police that was submitted to the House of Representatives Cities, Counties committee recently expressing their opposition to Senate Bill 197. She said she is not opposed to STR's and stays in them when she travels. However, there needs to be some regulation. She has had a lot of discussion with the City Attorney's staff prior to this legislation being presented. In the future, there could be a STR district. The pending ordinance is a combination of regulations from other cities around the state. Council Member Hamilton supports regulation for STR's. SB197 would have restricted cities from passing any STR regulations. He wrote a letter to the House Committee asking them to vote against the bill. Cities have to be able to regulate what is in their cities. The proposed ordinance has a 1% density regulation which is reasonable. He said there is a difference between an owner occupied home and STR's. He said there is a difference between a long-term rental and owner occupied. He asked about legislation that regulates long-term rentals. He then referenced complaints previously discussed. The city needs to enforce the rules it has not create a new law. He said the number of complaints code enforcement receives on long-term rental properties exceeds those against

STR's. The focus should be on long-term rentals and absentee landlords who ignore their properties which can reduce the value of the neighborhood. STR's advertise on Air BNB. If they receive four (4) bad reviews, (the platform) will drop them. The platform does not allow parties in their locations. Banning all STR's goes against the prospect of a new industry. STR's are new types of properties and are not the same as a hotel. Council Member Hamilton said the STR's that do not have a license, may not because we haven't told them they have to. There should be different types of regulations, not blanket bans. Council Member Ross restated Air BNB is the only platform remitting taxes to the city. VRBO and others do not. The City of Mountain Home can't enter into a contract with Air BNB because of their size. The city (North Little Rock) can't contact the owner/operator because we don't know where they are. If you visit the platform sites, you cannot see the address until you go to the booking site. Council Member Hamilton asked City Clerk Whitbey if a long-term rental is required to have a business license and if they are considered a business. Ms. Whitbey said they are. On the previous motion, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted yes, with the exception of Council Member Hamilton who voted no, the ordinance was adopted (7/1). On the emergency clause, all member present voted in the affirmative, with the exception of Council Member Hamilton who voted no (7/1).

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On the voice vote of all members present, and all members having voted "aye", consent items R-23-70, R-23-71, R-23-72, R-23-73, R-23-75, R-23-75, R-23-76, R-23-78, R-23-79 and R-23-81 were adopted (8/0). R-23-77 was pulled and called under new business (8/0).

R-23-70 (RESOLUTION NO. 10527 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ARTIS M. BOYKINS TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-71 (RESOLUTION NO. 10528 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ANITA CAMERON TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-72 (RESOLUTION NO. 10529 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING SONNY RHODES TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK HISTORY COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-73 (RESOLUTION NO. 10530 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ROBERT COATES TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK HISTORY COMMISSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-74 (RESOLUTION NO. 10531 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MARIE HOLLOWELL TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK WASTEWATER TREATMENT COMMITTEE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-75 (RESOLUTION NO. 10532 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK POLICE DEPARTMENT TO DONATE A SET OF TIRES TO THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATIONS COURSE (EVOC) AT THE CENTRAL ARKANSAS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACADEMY AT CAMP ROBINSON; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-76 (RESOLUTION NO. 10533 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE CONTRACT TO SELL CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4820 HAYWOOD STREET AND ON 37<sup>TH</sup> STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, TO CHB PROPERTIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-78 (RESOLUTION NO. 10534 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH ELITE PROTECTION GROUP, LLC; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-79 (RESOLUTION NO. 10535 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL EXPENSES IN CERTAIN BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-80 (RESOLUTION NO. 10536 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO ESTABLISH THE 2023 SALES TAX CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND AND BUDGET FOR THE FUND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

R-23-81 (RESOLUTON NO. 10537 – MAYOR HARTWICK)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2023 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL REVENUES AND EXPENSES IN CERTAIN BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was adopted (8/0).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**R-23-77 (RESOLUTION NO. 10538 – MAYOR HARTWICK)**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK WASTEWATER UTILITY FAULKNER LAKE TREATMENT PLANT IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM THE CLIFTON FAMILY LLLP; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,** was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ross. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was amended as follows:: *attach maps provided this date* (8/0). On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted as amended (8/0). (*amount: \$650,000.00*)

**R-23-82 (RESOLUTION NO. 10539 – COUNCIL MEMBERS BAXTER AND ROSS)**

**A RESOLUTION RENAMING THE BURNS PARK DISC GOLF PAVILION TO THE “BILL TROUSDALE PAVILION”; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,** was read. Mr. Preston Cowan thanked the council and others for renaming the pavilion. He will let Mr. Trousdale’s wife (who is in assisted living) know. Council Member Ross said the pavilion is still standing following the tornado that hit the area March 31. She said Bill lived in Ward 1 in Park Hill. She remembered driving past his home and seeing something she did not recognize in his yard, (which was the disc golf basket). Mr. Cowan said Disc Golf has been going on since 1980. Mayor Hartwick recalled a cold rainy day when no one was in Burns Park. He drove by the Disc Golf course where there were a lot of disc golfers playing. Council Member Ross said Parks Director Steve Shields said if the pavilion is repaired the name will stay with it. If it has to be moved or rebuilt, it will still be the Bill Trousdale Pavilion. On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0).

**R-23-83 (RESOLUTION NO. 10540 – COUNCIL MEMBER HAMILTON)**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO REHABILITATE PROPERTY FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4807 MASSIE STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,** was read. On the motion of Council member Hamilton and seconded by Council member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0).

**R-23-84**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED AGREEMENT TO REHABILITATE PROPERTY FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4209 CORAL STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,** was called and held by the sponsor, Council Member Hamilton. Council Member Robinson said legislation entering into this six (6) month agreement was before the council

May 9, 2022 for a rehab agreement. The agreement expired in November 2022. She said there were inspections in January, February and March. She said this agreement cannot be amended since the original agreement expired last year. She asked if the vendor would be allowed to continue to work on the property. She said there should be a penalty because the agreement expired. In the past the city has proceeded with demolition when (a rehabilitation) agreement expires. City Attorney Fields said historically, some property owners have had issues with completing the rehabilitation within 180 days. The only penalty (currently) provided for within the agreement is demolition. In some circumstances, 180 days may not be sufficient. It would be a little extreme to tear down a structure that is only a few weeks away from a certificate of occupancy. Council Member Taylor asked about what happens when a rehab agreement expires. City Attorney Fields said the council has received monthly reports showing progress on various houses. Council Member Taylor said if the applicant isn't done in six (6) months, they need to come back to the council or the structure needs to be demolished. Some of the properties have been nuisances for years.

O-23-25 (ORDINANCE NO. 9560 – COUNCIL MEMBER HARRIS)

AN ORDINANCE REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 10524 CRYSTAL HILL ROAD WITHIN THE PLANNING JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM R1 TO R5 ZONING CLASSIFICATION, BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9263; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; ADOPTING AN AMENDED LAND USE PLAN FOR THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Harris and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). Council Member Taylor said townhomes are allowed in an R4. Planning Director Shawn Spencer said apartments are stacked on top of each other and townhomes are vertical. There isn't much of a difference other than the title. Council Member Harris said he does not know and is not related to the application – Donna Harris. On the motion of Council Baxter and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted (8/0). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0). (*applicant: Donna Harris and Alissa Saredy by Eric Holloway of Holloway Engineering*)

O-23-26 (ORDINANCE NO. 9561 – COUNCIL MEMBER HARRIS)

AN ORDINANCE REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED ON WHITE OAK CROSSING IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, FROM I2 TO C3 ZONING CLASSIFICATION, BY AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 9263; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Harris and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members the readings were suspended (8/0). On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and the roll having been called, and all members present, having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted (8/0). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0). (*applicant: Bevans Family Limited Partnership, by Eric Holloway of Holloway Engineering*)



O-23-27 (ORDINANCE NO. 9562 – COUNCIL MEMBER HIGHT)

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE TO ALLOW A COLUMBARIUM IN AN R5 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 7000 JOHN F. KENNEDY

BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Hight

and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (8/0). On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Hamilton, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was unanimously adopted (8/0). Emergency clause unanimously adopted (8/0). (*applicant: Catholic Diocese of Little Rock, by Greg Peckham of Peckham Smith Architects*)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council Member Robinson asked is something could be included in the heading of future legislation to amend a rehabilitation agreement as a reminder of the expiration date. Council Member Taylor asked where the Democrat/Gazette reporter, Paige Eichkorn got her T-shirt. Mayor Hartwick said the Innovation Hub had some made. The front of the T-shirt had #NLRStrong on it. Council Member Baxter said he has seen issues with rehab agreements involving windows. He asked that the City Attorney advise (rehabilitation agreement) applicants to get their windows ordered first since there could be a delay. If someone asks for an extension (and says it is related to windows), he will ask to see the receipt and date they were ordered. Council Member Ross commended Council Member Baxter for his efforts with the tornado recovery and cleanup. He in the area impacted shortly after and has been volunteering and assisting daily since. Council Member Harris said homeowners need to get three (3) estimates before they enter into a contract with anyone. Ms. Whitbey added residents should make sure anyone they do business with has a state license if required, has current and sufficient insurance coverage. Vendors should also have a business license. North Little Rock will honor any license issued within the state (Arkansas). Council Member Harris said residents are already receiving checks. Council Member Hamilton asked Chief Financial Officer Ember Strange about the FEMA reimbursements. Mrs. Strange said the Federal Declaration is currently for Category A and B. Category A is debris removal which the city does have 100% reimbursement rate for the first 30 days. Category B is the emergency for Detective Measures. As of Friday, the city filled out estimates on the remaining categories for public assistance. Currently, we are in the individual category. Several FEMA representatives said the city should know any day about reimbursement to public structures or any damage to roads, utilities, etc. The City of North Little Rock started working with outside agencies immediately which expedited the process. Council Member Ross asked if permit fees were being waived for contractors working in the damaged areas. Mr. Spencer said the city is waiving permit fees for those structures within the tornado impact zone only. However, the contractor or homeowner still has to get a permit and inspection. (This applies to heat and air, electrical, plumbing, etc.). Council Member Baxter extended a thank you from the Amboy Community with regard to the

city's response to the tornado. Council Member Hamilton referenced the curfew which helped our residents and said it was the right thing to do. The cities of Little Rock and Sherwood did not.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. (8/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, April 24, 2023, at six o'clock p.m. in the City Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 300 Main Street, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR TERRY C. HARTWICK

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DIANE WHITBEY, CITY CLERK