

June 22, 2009
Seven 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, June 22, 2009, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the honorable Mayor PATRICK HENRY HAYS. The roll having been called, and the following Aldermen answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, BETH WHITE, MAURICE TAYLOR, CARY GAINES, SAM BAGGETT, and CHARLIE HIGHT (6/0), a quorum was declared. Alderwoman LINDA ROBINSON was absent due to illness and Alderman MURRY WITCHER was out of town. City Clerk Diane Whitbey and City Attorney C. Jason Carter were also present.

The invocation was given by Alderman Hight, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag which was also led by Alderman Hight.

On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderman Gaines, and by consent of all members present, the minutes of a regular council meeting and a Special Call meeting held on Monday, June 8, 2009, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (6/0).

On the motion of Alderwoman Ross and seconded by Alderman Taylor, and by consent of all members present, communications #1, 2, 3, and 4, were accepted and filed (6/0).

1. Mr. Cliff Bridges, Global Marketing and HR Communications Director for Polymer Group, Inc., re: Plant Consolidation and Closure, North Little Rock location.
2. Thad Luther, P.E., Chief Operating Officer, Central Arkansas Water, letter re: Proposed Issuance of Revenue Bonds for Capital Improvements.
3. Dan Flowers, Director of Highways and Transportation, Arkansas State Highway Commission letter to Mayor Hays re: Intersection of Highway 70 (Broadway) and Earl Street. Conditions at intersection do not meet the warrants for signalization as outlined in the *Manual On Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.
4. Congressman Mike Ross letter to Mayor Hays re: H. R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009.

Mayor Hays asked if anyone had signed up to speak during Citizen Public Comment on numbered agenda items. Mr. Gary Blonsky spoke in support of having a speed hump installed on Lakeshore Drive (see R-09-105). A petition was circulated requesting a speed hump and a majority of the people living on the street signed it. The Traffic Control Department is not requesting speed humps on Lakeshore. Mr. Blonsky said pedestrian and bicycle traffic have increased in the area. The Old Mill is located on this street. There aren't any curbs or sidewalks in the area. Mr. Dan Lee lives at 3725 Lakeshore Drive. He lives five houses down from the Old Mill. He has seen a couple of incidents which could have resulted in accidents. They need speed bumps before someone is injured or killed. He supports the petition requesting speed humps on Lakeshore Drive. Mr. Lee is a Safety Trainer. Mr. Jimmy Tolliver spoke regarding O-09-47. His business is located on MacArthur Drive. During Urban Renewal, he relocated his business to its current location and was told the zoning was such that he could continue to

conduct his business. The proposed ordinance will have an effect on his business unless it includes a “grandfather clause.” Mr. Carter said the way the ordinance is worded, it does not include a “grandfather clause.” Mayor Hays said separate legislation could be considered regarding speed hump installation (see Lakeshore Drive above).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

R-09-95 (RESOLUTION NO. 7484 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AMOUNTS OF LIENS TO BE CERTIFIED TO THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES AS A RESULT OF GRASS CUTTING EXPENSES AND ABATEMENT OF OTHER NUISANCES BY THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Taylor and seconded by Alderwoman Ross. On the motion of Alderwoman Ross and seconded by Alderman Gaines, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was amended as follows: *attach amended Exhibit “A” provided this date (6/0)*. On the motion of Alderman Taylor and seconded by Alderwoman White, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted as amended (6/0).

NEW BUSINESS

R-09-101 (RESOLUTION NO. 7485 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN BUILDINGS, HOUSES AND OTHER STRUCTURES LOCATED AT 1227 WEST 11TH STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK TO CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND CONDEMNING SAID STRUCTURES; PROVIDING A PERIOD OF TIME FOR PROPERTY OWNER TO ABATE SAID NUISANCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Gaines and seconded by Alderman Taylor. Mayor Hays convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. On the previous motion, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the resolution was adopted (6/0). (*owner: Baring Cross Restoration, LLC*)

R-09-102 (RESOLUTION NO. 7486 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING EVELYN LOVELACE TO THE POSITION PREVIOUSLY HELD BY CHARLES TOOTLE, SR. ON THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Gaines and seconded by Alderman Baggett, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-09-103 (RESOLUTION NO. 7487 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE A RELEASE OF LIEN ON CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1509 CHANDLER STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Taylor and seconded by Alderman Baggett, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-09-104 (RESOLUTION NO. 7488 - ALDERMEN ROSS, WHITE, HIGHT AND WITCHER)

A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2009 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK IN REGARD TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK

GRANT PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderwoman Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-09-105 (RESOLUTION NO. 7489 - ALDERMEN ROBINSON, TAYLOR, GAINES AND BAGGETT)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMPS ON CRUTCHER STREET AND WEST 41ST STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; APPROPRIATING FUNDS (\$27,500.00 - Street Department Fund); AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Gaines and seconded by Alderman Baggett. Mr. Tim Marvin, Traffic Services Director reviewed Exhibit "A" which included locations, results of a speed study conducted by Traffic Services and a recommendation regarding the same. Mr. Marvin does not recommend speed humps on hills or curves as these could cause a traffic hazard. Alderwoman Ross lives on Lakeshore Drive. She observed a dozen people walk by her house within a five (5) minute period of time before coming to this meeting. She asked if the city has any temporary (or movable) speed humps and the cost of relocating one. Mr. Marvin said parts would be approximately \$300.00 plus labor. Mayor Hays asked Mr. Marvin if a speed hump could be considered for Lakeshore. Mr. Marvin said based on the lay of the land, he could recommend one. Mr. Marvin also said asphalt speed humps are useless if an area is over-layed whereas a movable hump could be reused. After more discussion Alderwoman Ross recommended buying a couple of extra temporary speed humps. On the motion of Alderwoman Ross and seconded by Alderman Gaines, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Alderman Hight, who voted no, the resolution was amended as follows:: *Section 1: (Table) insert Type of Speed Hump TEMPORARY in each box, and Section 2: add WITH TWO (2) EXTRA TEMPORARY SPEED HUMPS (5/1)*. On the motion of Alderman Gaines and seconded by Alderwoman Ross, and by consent of all members present, with the exception of Alderman Hight, who voted no, the resolution was adopted as amended (5/1).

O-09-47

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8 (NUISANCE ABATEMENT AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE) OF THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK MUNICIPAL CODE AND ORDINANCE NO. 7697 (THE ZONING ORDINANCE) REGARDING INOPERABLE OR WRECKED VEHICLES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held at the request of Mayor Hays for the sponsor, Alderwoman Robinson. Alderman Hight requested a public hearing at the next council meeting. Mayor Hays will confirm the same with Alderwoman Robinson.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-----

Mayor advised Alderman Witcher was elected First Vice President of the Arkansas Municipal League, making him one of only a few aldermen to have been nominated in the league's 75 year history. During the Summer Convention in Hot Springs, a history of the league was reviewed. North Little Rock Mayor U. E. Moore was the first League president, 1934 - 35. The first Annual Convention was held at the Elks Lodge Hall in North Little Rock, July 11-12, 1935. Former Mayor William F. "Casey" Laman was president in 1959, followed by former alderman Martin Gipson who served in 1990 - 1991, and Mayor Hays who served in 1994 and 1995.

Alderwoman Ross asked if the council could receive a report on the status of Stimulus Funds received by North Little Rock. North Little Rock Police Chief Danny Bradley mentioned two grant applications they are working on. Mayor Hays said possible funding for upgrades or relocation related to the 911 center are being considered. Alderman Baggett said the Veterans Memorial Committee will meet on June 25, 2009 at the Levy Baptist Church. Also, the Levy Lions Club meetings will be held at the China Buffett on John F. Kennedy Boulevard (North Park Shopping Center). There is a meeting at noon, June 23, 2009. Alderman Gaines announced a Town Hall meeting at the Summit Church in the White Oak area on July 9, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. On June 30, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. the Levy Baptist Church will host a business meeting. Mr. Bobby Taylor asked the status of two issues he had referred to the Mayor. One had been resolved and one had not. Mayor Hays will check on them. Charlie Knott is President of the Northeast Lakewood Neighborhood Association. He asked the status regarding electronic changeable copy signs (a moratorium is in place until the end of August). The annual Badges and Hoses Blood Drive for the American Red Cross is this Friday, June 26, 2009, at the Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center. North Little Rock is once again competing with our friends south of the river and everyone is encouraged to donate blood.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderman Baggett, and by consent of all members present, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. (6/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, July 13, 2009, at seven o'clock p.m. in the City Council Chambers in City Hall, located at 300 Main Street, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

APPROVED: MAYOR PATRICK HENRY HAYS
ATTEST: DIANE WHITBEY, CITY CLERK