

October 26, 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, October 26, 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, LINDA ROBINSON, CARY GAINES, SAM BAGGETT, CHARLIE HIGHT and MURRY WITCHER (8/0), a quorum was declared. City Clerk Diane Whitbey and City Attorney, C. Jason Carter were also present.

The invocation was given by Alderman Taylor, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag which was led by Alderwoman Robinson.

On the motion of Alderman Hight, and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and by consent of all members present, the minutes of a regular council meeting and a Special Call meeting held on Monday, October 12, 2009, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (8/0).

On the blanket motion of Alderwoman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Hight, communications #1, 3 and 4 were accepted and filed (8/0).

1. Glinda Craigmyle, Mayor's Office - memorandum re: *Retail Liquor and Retail Beer Off Premises - Replacement from Jay Brown* for Pat's Beverage Shop, 7424 North Hills Boulevard, by Patrice Annette Griggs.
3. Basil and Sue Shannon, 196 Rainbow Drive, Livingston Texas, letter to Mayor Hays re: five weeks spent at North Little Rock's Downtown Riverside RV Park during family illness and commending the mayor and the city for the vision of the park.
4. Mayor Hays letter to Mike Russ, Chairman Green Agenda Committee re: consideration of opportunities reflected by the committee for 2010 budget discussions.

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

2. Robert Fureigh, Indian Hills Neighborhood Association, Signs Committee - letter to Mayor Hays and City Council Members re: proliferation of electronic changeable copy signs and request legislation to prevent erection of more of these type signs.

Mayor Hays acknowledged an email he received from Mr. Presley Melton expressing similar statements. It will be filed as a communication for the next meeting.

Mayor Hays asked Mr. Gary Underwood, Partnership Specialist, U. S. Department of Commerce, U. S. Census Bureau to come forward. The City of North Little Rock through Margaret Powell, Community Relations Director is working closely with the 2010 Census. A Complete Count Committee has been organized. Mayor Hays spoke briefly regarding various Census based funding provided to federal, state, and local governments. Mr. Underwood

reviewed a handout which included Census information, percentages, census tracts, privacy issues, and temporary jobs for people within the census tract areas of the city. Awareness is key to the success of the 2010 Census. Census information is confidential and cannot be shared with the FBI, IRS, local law enforcement, Immigration or any other agency.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

R-09-141

A RESOLUTION DISCLAIMING THE TRANSFER OF CERTAIN PROPERTY LOCATED ON WEST MILITARY DRIVE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was called and held by the sponsor, Mayor Hays.

NEW BUSINESS

R-09-152 (RESOLUTION NO. 7535 - 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 IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson. On the motion of Alderwoman Ross and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was amended as follows:: *Exhibit "A" remove Little Rock Homes, Inc. (33N318008100), and (33N318003440), and Duong Huv Nguye (33N1700000200) as the expenses were paid this date (8/0)*. A motion to adopt as amended was made by Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson. 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 unanimously adopted as amended (8/0).

R-09-153 (RESOLUTION NO. 7536 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$36,842.70 FROM ACT 833 FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TURNOUT SETS FOR THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK FIRE DEPARTMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderwoman Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0).

R-09-154 (RESOLUTION NO. 7537 - MAYOR HAYS)

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$4,435.44 FROM ACT 833 FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) HAMMER AIR DUTY RESCUE KITS FOR THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK FIRE DEPARTMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderman Baggett and seconded by Alderwoman Ross, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0).

R-09-155 (RESOLUTION NO. 7538 - MAYOR HAYS, ALDERMEN ROBINSON AND TAYLOR)

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE LOW BID AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TANKERSLEY COMPANY, INC.,

FOR STREET, DRAINAGE AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS, 9TH STREET-DIXIE ADDITION, E STREET TO G STREET, 2008 CDBG-R FUNDS AND THE 35TH YEAR (2009) CDBG PROGRAM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$152,436.81; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderwoman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was unanimously adopted (8/0).

O-09-73 (ORDINANCE NO. 8207 - ALDERMAN HIGHT)

AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING AN OFF-PREMISE SIGN FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6725 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 Alderman Witcher and seconded by Alderman Hight, and by consent of all members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading (8/0). On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderman Witcher and by consent of all members present, the rules were again suspended and the ordinance was placed on its third and final reading (8/0). The ordinance was read a third and final time. Mr. Robert Voyles, Planning Director briefly reviewed the application. On the motion of Alderman Hight and seconded by Alderwoman Robinson, 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: Steven Carr - Indian Hills Church*).

O-09-74 (ORDINANCE NO. 8208 - ALDERMEN ROBINSON AND TAYLOR)

AN ORDINANCE ALLOWING A SPECIAL USE FOR A DAY CARE CENTER IN A C-3 ZONE FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 723 N. BEECH IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Alderwoman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was placed on its second reading (8/0). On the motion of Alderwoman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the rules were again suspended and the ordinance was placed on its third and final reading (8/0). 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).

PUBLIC COMMENTS-----

Alderman Hight advised the Camp Robinson Community Council normally meets on Thursday, but will meet on Friday, November 6, 2009, to accommodate the speaker. Alderwoman White attended a conference in Boston recently and focused on childhood obesity issues. Mayor Hays said increasing awareness of the importance of health and wellness is important to the community. Mayor Hays advised North Little Rock has been named a Bronze Award Winner as a Bicycle Friendly Community. He thanked Alderman Hight, Tom Ezell with BACA and others who worked on the application. The Argenta Downtown Council will hold its annual luncheon at the Wyndam tomorrow and everyone was encouraged to attend. The focus will be urban development and quality of life. Mayor Hays thanked Police, Fire, Street and Code Enforcement for their efforts this weekend when several large events took place downtown, including the annual Brother Paul Fish Fry at Verizon Arena, Cityfest Event at the Riverfront Park, and Miley Cyrus Concert at Verizon Arena. Thousands of people were downtown for these three events. A

B-17 Bomber was also at the North Little Rock Airport for viewing and flights. Alderman Hight said residents are not being made aware of Special Call meetings in a timely fashion. Mr. Carter said council members and media are notified. The internal process requires notification of the council. The Freedom of Information Act requires media notification. Mayor Hays said the majority of the Special Call meetings are held on the same date as the regularly scheduled meeting. Several options were discussed. Alderwoman Ross said Ms. Whitbey has an extensive email list which receives the regular City Council Agenda. Alderman Gaines reminded everyone there will be a Town Hall Meeting in Ward 3, Thursday, October 29, 2009, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Hays reminded everyone the Leaf Vacuums will begin routes November 2, 2009, beginning at the northern boundary of the city and working their way south. Leaves need to be raked to within six feet of the curb, but not in the street as they can wash into the stormwater drainage system which creates flooding issues, etc. It takes three to four weeks for the vacuums to cover the entire city. Information will be on the city website and in the newsletter regarding the same. Mr. James Ard said there is a sign on Main Street with a flashing semicolon that needs to be fixed. On Camp Robinson Road there are two wrecked cars that need to be looked at. Mr. Ard thanked Mayor Hays for his remarks at an event Wednesday. He thanked the council members who attended the special meeting on signs. Ms. Courtney Cobbs asked if the use of city funds to advertise Cityfest and the use of District School Buses to provide transportation was a violation of the separation between church and state. Mayor Hays said no as they were under contract. Mr. Fureigh lives in Ward 4. He said he runs along Osage. Damp leaves were raked over the sidewalk which caused a slippery surface. He said the Indian Hills Signs Committee is meeting and will present a proposal to the council regarding signs. It would suggest only "wall" mounted signs. Ms. Mary Ann Conley said there are a lot of groups which work to improve the city. Ms. Dara Booth always helps others. Ms. Conley presented her with a token of appreciation from their group. Mayor Hays said Mr. Paul Myrick also does a lot of work in the Amboy Neighborhood and commended him for his work for our servicemen and their families. Alderman Witcher said flu shots will be given at Dickey Stephens Park on Thursday, October 29, 2009. This will be a drive-thru clinic. Also, the sign group will meet at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 28, 2009, at which time, Shawn Spencer, Planning Department will shuttle them around the city to look at signs (this is intended for council members).

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Alderwoman Robinson and seconded by Alderman Witcher, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. (8/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, November 9, 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