

October 9, 2017
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, October 9, 2017, was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Joe A. Smith.

The roll having been called and the following Council Members answered to their names: DEBI ROSS, MAURICE TAYLOR, LINDA ROBINSON, STEVE BAXTER, RON HARRIS, and CHARLIE HIGHT (6/0). Council Members BETH WHITE and MURRY WITCHER were not present. City Clerk Diane Whitbey and Deputy City Attorney Amy Fields were also present.

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

On the motion of Council Member Hight and seconded by Council Member Taylor and by consent of all members present, the minutes from the North Little Rock City Council meeting and Special Call meeting held on Monday, September 11, 2017, were approved, accepted and filed as prepared by the City Clerk (6/0).

On the motion of Council Member Baxter and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, communication #1 was read by title only, accepted and filed (6/0).

1. Kaye Coleman – Petition requesting Speed Hump on (West 55th) Terrace Drive (20 signatures – for).

On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, communication #2 was read by title only, accepted and filed (6/0).

2. Karen Scott, Finance Director/Chair Energy Risk Management Committee – memorandum re: Energy Cost Recovery Rider adjustment factor – October, 2017 (.0065 [positive]).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

O-17-77

AMENDING CHAPTER 2 (ANIMAL CONTROL) OF THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING KEEPING OF HOGS, GOATS OR SHEEP UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS: DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, was read one time September 25, 2017. The item was called and held by sponsor, Mayor Smith.

CONSENT AGENDA

None.

NEW BUSINESS

R-17-177 (RESOLUTION NO. 9299 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONDEMNATION OF CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED BETWEEN NATURAL TRAIL ROAD AND WHITE OAK BAYOU BY THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK WASTEWATER UTILITY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Taylor, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-17-178 (RESOLUTION NO. 9300 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON EAST BROADWAY STREET BETWEEN NORTH CLOVER AND NORTH REDWOOD STREETS IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK FROM LINDA LOUISE HALL, DEBORAH H. TATE, TRUSTEE OF THE TATE LIVING TRUST DATED MARCH 4, 2014, AND KEENA KERRELL RIDINGS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Robinson and seconded by Council Member Taylor. Council Member Ross asked what the city will do with the property. Chief of Staff, Danny Bradley, said this is a flat lot on West Broadway. The city may want to develop the lot or it could be used for Economic Development. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-17-179 (RESOLUTION NO. 9301 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE AMOUNT OF A CLEAN UP LIEN TO BE FILED WITH THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4801 ALPHA STREET IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Robinson. Mayor Smith convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, the public hearing was adjourned. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

R-17-180 (RESOLUTION NO. 9302 – MAYOR SMITH)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND CERTIFYING THE AMOUNTS OF LIENS TO BE FILED WITH THE PULASKI COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR AGAINST CERTAIN REAL PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS AS A RESULT OF GRASS CUTTING EXPENSES AND ABATEMENT OF OTHER NUISANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. A motion to adopt was made by Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson. Mayor Smith convened a public hearing. There being no one present wishing to be heard, Mayor Smith adjourned the public hearing. Council Member Ross referenced the Gloryland Church property at 1700 Marion and asked why the city is still mowing it. On the previous motion, and by consent of all members present, the resolution was adopted (6/0).

O-17-78 (ORDINANCE NO. 8948 – MAYOR SMITH)

AN ORDINANCE WAIVING FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR AIR CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT ON THE USS HOGA; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Robinson, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (6/0). On the motion of Council Member Taylor and seconded by Council Member Hight, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (6/0). Emergency clause adopted (6/0).

O-17-79 (ORDINANCE NO. 8949 – COUNCIL MEMBER BAXTER)

AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND ABANDONING AN UNUSED PORTION OF A RIGHT OF WAY ON COCK OF THE WALK DRIVE IN THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, was read. On the motion of Council Member Baxter, and seconded by Council Member Ross, and by consent of all members present, the readings were suspended (6/0). On the motion of Council Member Baxter, and seconded by Council Member Ross, and the roll having been called, and all members present having voted in the affirmative, the ordinance was adopted (6/0). *(applicant: Mike Marlar – Marlar Engineering)*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jimmy Ard said the BBQ at the Levy National Night Out provided by Hogs Meat Market was good and it was a good event. Mr. Ard said the Annual Race for the Cure is this coming Saturday. Mr. Ard also announced North Little Rock Fire Department's Annual Fire Fest event scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2017, at McCain Mall in North Little Rock. The event will be set up in the Dillard's parking lot and is from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Mr. Ard said Council Members do not need to argue among themselves. Ms. Katie Anderson said she is a fourth generation resident of the city. Her Great-grandfather owned a small business in Levy and her Grandfather was the Assistant Chief of Police. She works for the School District. Ms. Anderson spoke about BSL (Breed Specific Legislation) adopted by the City of North Little Rock. She understood the purpose to have been to get dog fighting under control. However, times have changed and the law is doing more harm than good. Bad people are still mistreating their dogs and good people are losing their pets. The purpose of all Animal Shelters is to help dogs of all breeds. BSL is discrimination. Miss Dana Bailey spoke regarding BSL. She has worked with different dogs in the past as a groomer, pet rescues and dog shows. How a human or animal looks does not determine their behavior. She has two boxer mixes that were wrongly identified as Pit Bulls. She had to temporarily relocate them. They provided security and comfort for her and her family. Miss Courtney Mixon read a headline involving a dog that saved its owner from an assault. She read another headline involving Pit Bull. Mr. Tony Ronketto has lived in North Little Rock since 1967. His father, Gary Goss, was the Athletic Director at North Little Rock High School. He feels for the people who lose their pets because of BSL. New residents are often unaware of the BSL. Mr. Ronketto suggested the group have a spokesman. He also

encouraged Council Members to research the breed. Mrs. Jill Walker read statistics regarding the number of banned dogs received by North Little Rock Animal Rock Animal Control. She also referenced the numbers of dogs that were euthanized and the cost associated with it (including disposal). She has asked why the law was passed but received inconsistent answers. She has been unable to find information regarding dog (inaudible) statistics. Regardless of the law, people who want to own and breed Pit Bulls dogs are still doing so. The city could make money by charging fees to register a potentially dangerous dog. Mrs. Walker said these are not vicious dogs, but family members. Miss Kristen Westmereland referenced studies she brought up during public comment at the previous council meeting. As a community, responsible pet ownership should be promoted. She was involved in a personal situation where she lost her dog. Family pets need to stay with their families. Council Member Taylor advised he had to leave the previous meeting to meet his wife at church. Council Members schedule their time based on the content of the meeting agenda. Council Member Hight asked the status for getting the ramps on the new Broadway Bridge open. He also asked the status of when the Bike Trail will reopen. Mayor Smith said it will be soon.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and on the motion of Council Member Ross and seconded by Council Member Baxter, and by consent of all members present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m. (6/0), until the next regularly scheduled meeting which will be held on Monday, October 23, 2017, 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 JOE A. SMITH

ATTEST: _____


DIANE WHITBEY, CITY CLERK