



BOARD OF DIRECTORS CITY OF TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors City of Texarkana, Arkansas City Hall – East Third and Walnut Streets

1. Mayor Ruth Penney Bell called the meeting to order.
2. Present: Mayor Ruth Penney Bell Ward 1 Director Linda Teeters
Ward 2 Director Laney J. Harris Ward 3 Director Tim Johnson
Ward 4 Director Travis Odom Ward 5 Assistant Mayor Barbara S. Miner
Ward 6 Terri Peavy City Manager Dr. Kenny Haskin
City Clerk Heather Soyars Deputy City Clerk Jenny Narens

Absent: City Attorney George Matteson

3. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance given by Assistant Mayor Barbara Miner
*Director Laney Harris arrived at 6:02 PM.
4. Comments from the Mayor:
 - **Texas High School Students** – Mayor Bell welcomed the Texas High School students from Mr. Littmann’s Government Class.
 - **Mary Stuart Retirement** – Mayor Bell attended an event honoring Mary Stuart for her service as Miller County Tax Assessor.
 - **Wiley College** – Mayor Bell was at an event where the Wiley College Choir played. She said Wiley College was famous for its debate team which inspired the movie “The Great Debaters”.
 - **Black History Parade** - Mayor Bell said she rode in a red corvette in the Black History Parade which was postponed due to rainy weather in February.
 - **KTOY Interview** - Mayor Bell was interviewed by I. Don Nelson with KTOY radio.
 - **SWAPDD** – Mayor Bell attended a Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District (SWAPDD) economic workshop regarding how to entice business to our City.
 - **Early Child Development** – Mayor Bell met with Rebecca Zimmerman from the State Department on Early Child Development. She learned Arkansas was the lowest state for readying children for kindergarten.

- **Torch Awards** – Mayor Bell said Assistant Mayor Barbara Miner had the honor to be a judge for the Better Business Bureau’s Texarkana Torch Awards which recognized business in four different categories: Integrity, Customer Commitment, Good Neighbor and Not-For-Profit.
- **ArCOP** – Mayor Bell said Director Peavy, Executive Assistant Linda Matthews and Parks Superintendent Ross Cowling attending an emersion training workshop hosted by Arkansas Coalition for Obesity Prevention (ArCOP).
- **Community Leadership Award** – Assistant Mayor Barbara Miner said Mayor Bell was featured in HER magazine for receiving the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Community Leadership Award.

5. Presentation(s):

- **City of Texarkana, Arkansas Employee/Retirement Service Awards (CCD):**

Name:	Department:	Years of Service:
Ruston R. Ueckert	Fire	15
Charles M. Smith	Fire	20
David E. Cornelius	PWD- Parks	25
Kyle Sharp	TWU	5
Carmen Johnson	TWU	5
Richard Walker	TWU	20

Richard Walker attended the meeting and Mayor Bell presented him with a certificate and City pin. She recognized the other employee award recipients and thanked all City employees for their service to the city and its citizens.

CONSENT:

- 6. The minutes of the regular meeting March 19, 2018. (CCD)
- 7. **Resolution No. 2018-12:** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Contech Contractors, Inc., for the construction of sidewalks on East 42nd Street, East 50th Street & Pinson Drive. (PWD)
- 8. **Resolution No. 2018-13:** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with J.R. Pope Company, Inc., for the construction of sidewalks on Pearl Street. (PWD)

- Motion to adopt Consent Agenda made by: Director Odom
- Motion seconded by: Director Teeters

Motion carried unanimously

REGULAR:

- 9. **Resolution No. 2018-14:** A resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager to submit a reimbursable grant application to the Arkansas Highway Transportation Department (AHTD) Arkansas Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to construct sidewalks as part of the Downtown Sidewalk Enhancement Project surrounding the

Federal Courthouse Building and the Stateline Corridor. (PWD)

Public Works Director Tyler Richards said the City proposed to submit a reimbursable grant application in the amount of \$191,891.00 to the Arkansas Highway Transportation Department (AHTD) Arkansas Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to construct sidewalks as part of the Downtown Sidewalk Enhancement Project surrounding the Federal Courthouse Building and the Stateline Corridor. The project proposed consisted of removing 669 linear feet of concrete curb and gutter, 1,498 square yards of asphalt paving, 94 square yards of concrete paving and 583 square yards of sidewalks. The installation of 690 square yard of concrete sidewalk, 1,342 linear feet of concrete curb and gutter, 11 ADA compliant curb ramps, handrails, pavement markings and various other items associated with drainage and safety measures. This project was chosen due to the extensive land holdings the City had in this area which was a requirement of the grant. The City proposed to budget for this expense in the Fiscal Year 2019 Public Works Parks Division budget for the required 20% match.

- Motion to adopt the resolution made by: Director Johnson
Motion seconded by: Director Harris

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Ordinance No. 9-2018: An ordinance authorizing the exchange of right-of-way to provide for the further improvement of U of A Way; and for other purposes.

Mayor Bell said this was the second reading of this ordinance and asked if any Board or audience member had any questions or comments concerning this item. No one came forward.

The ordinance was read the second time in abbreviated form.

- Motion for third and final reading of the ordinance in abbreviated form made by: Director Harris
Motion seconded by: Director Odom

Motion carried unanimously.

- Motion to adopt the ordinance made by: Mayor Bell
Motion seconded by: Director Teeters

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Citizen Communication

- Director Laney Harris said he requested sidewalks on Pinehurst Street and he mentioned a Freedom of Information Act request and email he received from the City Clerk.
- Mayor Bell announced the City events for April: Family Fun Day and My Sisters Keyper Race for Life 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, April 7, 2018; City Wide Cleanup, Second Saturday Trade Days and Hunger's No Game 5K/Fun Run on

Saturday April 14, 2018; Randy Sam’s Outreach Shelter Fundraiser on Thursday, April 19, 2018; Back Alley Food Court on Saturday, April 21, 2018; and Hopkins Icehouse Crawfish Boil on Saturday, April 28, 2018.

- City Beautiful Commission Chairman Jeff Brown invited the community to participate in the Citywide Cleanup. He also asked everyone to vote for Texarkana in the National Mainstreet contest.
- Calvin Clark, 37 Preston Heights Circle, said he would like the Citywide Cleanup to include his neighborhood. He also asked the status of the “danger” signs he would like placed on Nix Creek.

11. Executive Session – Board did not enter into Executive Session.

12. Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn made by: Director Odom
- Motion seconded by: Director Teeters

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.

Ruth Penney Bell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Heather Soyars, City Clerk