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5:15 – February 2022 budget review

**CITY OF EUREKA SPRINGS
COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, April 11, 2022
6 p.m.
AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER
ROLL CALL, ESTABLISH QUORUM
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: MARCH 28, 2022**

COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, AUTHORITY REPORTS AND EXPIRED TERMS:

**Planning – Pos. 3 – vacant – expires 7/1/23
CAPC -- Pos. 4 – vacant – expires 6/30/24
Hospital
Parks
HDC – Pos. 1 – vacant – expires 11/30/24
Cemetery – Pos. 1 – vacant – application from Robert Tollett**

PUBLIC COMMENTS -- 3 minutes for each citizen

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. City Attorney's position – A.C.A 14-43-319
2. Discussion of budget impact from raising employee wages – Mayor Berry

NEW BUSINESS

1. Main Street update – Jackie Wolven
2. Amend Ordinance No. 2319 – Mayor Berry
3. Ordinance/discussion of Mayor's position as full time, and duties – Ms. Slane
4. Correct Resolution number – Clerk Treasurer
5. Discussion of assigned parking for residential streets – Mr. Meyer
6. Main St. property bid – Mayor Berry

**AGENDA SETTING
CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS
MAYOR'S COMMENTS
ADJOURNMENT**

**CITY OF EUREKA SPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

MONDAY

APRIL 11, 2022

Mayor Robert "Butch" Berry called the regular meeting of the Eureka Springs City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Monday, April 11, 2022, in the Auditorium at 36 S. Main St.

PRESENT: Mayor Berry, Council members Terry McClung, Melissa Greene, Harry Meyer, Bill Ott, Autumn Slane, Nick Roberts, and City Clerk Treasurer Ann Armstrong

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Berry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Mayor called for a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Ott said he so moved. Mr. McClung seconded.

Mayor Berry added consideration of the Main St. property bid. Mr. Ott moved to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Meyer seconded.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: March 28, 2022

Ms. Greene moved to approve the minutes for March 28, 2022. Mr. McClung seconded.
Motion carried 6/0/0.

COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, AUTHORITY REPORTS AND EXPIRED TERMS:

Planning – There is a vacancy in Position 3.

CAPC – Position 4 is vacant.

Hospital – No report

Parks – No report

HDC – Position 1 is open.

Cemetery – An application from Robert Tollett for position 1 was provided.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. City Attorney's position

Mayor Berry said no applications were received for the position as outlined by Ordinance. Draft ordinances were provided that would split the positions into City Prosecutor and City Attorney positions. Clint Scheel expressed interest in the prosecutor position. Forrest Jacobi would be willing to be the City Attorney.

Mr. McClung moved to assign a number and put the ordinance for a City Attorney on the first reading. Mr. Meyer seconded. Discussion followed regarding attendance at Council meetings.

Mr. McClung moved to amend the compensation section to \$1800 a month and to include attendance at Council meetings each month. Ms. Greene seconded. A motion on the amendment followed.

Motion carried 6/0/0. A vote on the first reading followed.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

The Clerk Treasurer read **ORDINANCE NO. 2322 AN ORDINANCE TO DEFINE THE POSITION OF CITY ATTORNEY.**

Mr. McClung moved to approve Ordinance No. 2322 on the first reading. Mr. Meyer seconded.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

Mr. McClung moved to suspend the rules and read Ordinance No. 2322 for the second reading by title only. Mr. Meyer seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Motion carried 6/0/0. The Ordinance title was read.

Mr. McClung moved to approve the second reading. Mr. Meyer seconded. A voice vote followed.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

Mr. McClung moved to assign the ordinance for the position of Prosecuting Attorney a number and to read it for the first reading. Mr. Meyer seconded. A voice vote was taken.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

ORDINANCE NO. 2323 AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE POSITION OF CITY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY was read.

Mr. McClung moved to approve Ordinance No. 2323 on its first reading. Mr. Meyer seconded. A voice vote followed.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

Mr. McClung moved to suspend the rules and read Ordinance No. 2323 by title only for the second reading. Mr. Meyer seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

Motion carried 6/0/0. The Ordinance title was read.

Mr. McClung moved to approve Ordinance No. 2323 on the second reading. Mr. Meyer seconded. A voice vote followed.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

2. Discussion of budget impact from raising employee wages and salaries

Ms. Greene moved to discuss. Mr. McClung seconded.

Michael Akins provided a summary of the net impact that would occur with the proposed and previously agreed wage and salary increases. He said there was a review of those making less than \$15 an hour, haven't had a raise in a long time, or much of a raise. Calculated by department, the raises would amount to approximately \$120,959.43, leaving a surplus of \$576,506.57.

Fire and Police were not included because of recent adjustments, and (how their pay is structured). Department heads will have an opportunity to review the same spreadsheet for consideration of job performance and length of service.

The Mayor agreed to report back regarding proposed raises.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Main Street update

Mayor Berry called for a motion to discuss. Mr. Ott said he so moved. Mr. McClung seconded.

Jaqueline Wolven reviewed the awards the Main Street program received during the Municipal League conference -- Outstanding Adaptive Reuse for funds contributed to the Community Center for working artists and a Posthumous Hometown Hero award for Virgil Fowler.

Other projects are to improve facades on Center St., renew the (first) Rainbow Stairs, and collaborate with Main Stage for office space.

2. Amend Ordinance No. 2319

Ms. Green moved to discuss. Mr. Ott seconded.

Mayor Berry expressed appreciation for Council's consideration of a raise but felt \$48,000 was too much. He favored amending to \$36,000, saying more money would not bring any more qualified people to run.

Mr. Ott moved to amend Ordinance No. 2319 from \$48,000 to \$36,000. Mr. McClung

seconded.

Some of the discussion that followed included feedback from the public regarding raises, what the Mayor's position entails and public service. A rollcall on the motion to amend followed. Motion failed 2/4/0 with Mr. Roberts, Ms. Greene, Ms. Slane, and Mr. Meyer voting "No."

3. Ordinance/discussion of Mayor's position as full time, and duties

Ms. Greene moved to discuss. Mr. Roberts seconded.

Ms. Slane provided and read written suggestions for what she would like to have in an ordinance. Discussion followed regarding income derived from work performed for the City while elected, with approval for such from the Council. An opinion from Attorney Lannie Richmond referenced A.C.A 14-43-504 and noting the difficulty for City Council in enforcing an ordinance against another elected official.

4. Correct Resolution number

Ms. Greene moved to discuss. Mr. Meyer seconded.

The Clerk Treasurer said the number used for the VALIC Resolution had already been used and requested that Council renumber it as 818.

Ms. Greene moved to change the Resolution number to 818. Mr. Ott seconded.

Motion carried 6/0/0.

5. Discussion of assigning parking for residential streets

Mayor Berry requested a motion to discuss. Mr. Meyer said he made a motion. Ms. Greene seconded.

Mr. Meyer spoke about complaints from residents about not having a place to park, and suggested assigned parking with signs, in certain residential areas.

Ms. Greene referenced the Planning Commission survey of parking in more congested areas. Discussion took place about signs and illuminating public parking. She noted there are more residents' cars than available spaces and asked how the spots could be assigned.

It was agreed that Kylee Hevrdejs and Ann Sallee would be asked to update Council at the next meeting.

6. Main St. property bid

The Mayor asked for a motion to discuss. Mr. McClung said he so moved. Mr. Meyer seconded.

The bid from the adjacent property owner was for \$28,000 for property assessed at \$55,000.

Mr. McClung moved to accept the bid of \$28,000. Mr. Ott seconded. Following discussion of how the property was advertised and the current value of property in general, a roll call vote was taken.

Motion failed 1/5/0 with Mr. Meyer, Ms. Slane, Mr. McClung, Ms. Greene, and Mr. Roberts voting "No."

Ms. Greene moved to post the property with a sign for 45 days, readvertise, and after that, take any bid. Ms. Slane seconded. A roll call vote followed.

The motion carried 4/2/0 with Mr. Roberts and Mr. McClung voting "No."

AGENDA SETTING: No new items were added.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Meyer spoke about the belief expressed earlier that some feel there's a need to keep secrets.

Mr. McClung favored speaking with the Mayor if a Council member feels accurate information is not being provided.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Berry noted the return of events such as Diversity Weekend, Drumming in the Park and Celebrate Jesus.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. McClung said he so moved. Mr. Ott seconded.

Motion carried 6/0/0. The meeting ended at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Treasurer Ann Armstrong

APPROVED:



Mayor Robert "Butch" Berry

City Council 4/11/22 4