

COUNCIL MEETING

May 23, 2022

Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 23, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall with Mayor Agee presiding.

Invocation was led by Councilmember Mark Rowland.

The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Those present were Susan Williams, Neal Adams, Randy Aden, Brad Baine, Lindsey Boggs, and Mark Rowland.

City Attorney Robert Thompson and Deputy City Clerk Julia Davis were present.

Councilmember Williams moved minutes from previous council meeting of May 9, 2022, be approved as transcribed; seconded by Councilmember Aden. All in favor.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

Public Service	- None
Finance	- Councilmember Rowland stated the Finance Committee had #4 on tonight's Agenda. (Later amended to #6)
Parks and Recreation	- None
Police	- None
Public Health and Ordinances	- None.
Fire	- None
Sanitation	- None
Street/Cemetery	- None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM #1

A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A SUCCESSOR IN THE OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR WARD 2 OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Motion made that the resolution be offered by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Boggs.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Mayor Agee explained that due to the untimely death of Councilmember Aaron Camp a successor was needed to fill the Ward 2 position. Mayor Agee said five very qualified applicants were interviewed and his recommendation is Jessie Blevens.

The Committee of the Whole met at 5:45 before the council meeting to ask Ms. Blevens any questions they might have.

Motion made that the resolution be adopted by Councilmember Adams; seconded by Councilmember Boggs.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes; Motion carried seven to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution 2022-33)

Motion made to amend the agenda and add items #2 and #3 ordinances to amend the zoning ordinance of the city of Paragould; and for other purposes made by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Rowland.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes; Motion carried eight to zero. Agenda amended.

ITEM #2

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES – APPLICATION OF KEASLER BODY COMPANY, INC

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Attorney Roger Colbert was present representing Gene Parkinson and his son Tommy Parkinson owners of Keasler Body Company who were also present. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are wanting to rezone the property located at 4207 West Kingshighway from AG and R-1 to C-1 to place an office building at this location. Mr. Colbert added that rezoning this property will conform to City's Land Use Plan.

This rezone was presented to the planning commission on May 5th, 2022. Five members were present and all five voted in favor of this rezone.

Motion was made to place the ordinance on the first reading by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading by Councilmember Williams; seconded by Councilmember Boggs.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading by Councilmember Baine; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes.

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes; Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2022-21)

ITEM #3

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES – APPLICATION OF QUINELLE CLARK

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Adams; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Attorney Roger Colbert was present representing Quinelle Clark. Ms. Clark is wanting to rezone the property located at 403 and 413 West Kingshighway from C-1 to C-3. Five members of the Planning Commission were present May 5, 2022, and all voted in favor of recommending the rezone Mr. Colbert added that rezoning this property will conform to City's Land Use Plan and promote the economy of the city.

Motion was made to place the ordinance on the first reading by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Blevens.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading by Councilmember Adams; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading by Councilmember Aden; seconded by Councilmember Boggs.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes; Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2022-22)

ITEM #4

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CLOSING AND USE OF CERTAIN STREETS DURING THE 2ND ANNUAL BIG GRASS BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Mayor Agee explained to the council that this resolution is needed to close the streets downtown on Friday, July 22 through Sunday, July 24, 2022, for the Big Grass Bluegrass festival hosted by the Collins Theatre Foundation. Gina Jarrett, board member for the Collins Theatre Foundation, was present to answer any questions the council may have.

Motion made that the resolution be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes; Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution 2022-34)

ITEM #5

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILINGNESS OF CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FUNDS

Motion made that the resolution be offered by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Mayor Agee explained that this is a 80/20 grant to help fund the Eight Mile Creek Trail that the Greene County Future Fund is developing. Mayor Agee said grants totaling \$963,000 were obtained to fund phases one – three. A \$300,000 grant is being utilized for phase four. The city is asking for \$500,000 in this grant cycle to begin phase 5. This phase will have the trail going from behind Bland Baseball field to the Greene County Tech Primary School.

Motion made that the resolution be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution 2022-35)

ITEM #6

A RESOLUTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF AN AMENDED STREET FUND BUDGET; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Motion made that the resolution be offered by Councilmember Williams; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Blevens, yes; Boggs, yes; Rowland, yes;

Mayor Agee explained in 2021 we received materials from Traf-Mark Industries, LLC. They in turn sent an invoice that was never received. During this time the public works director Terry McAbee was set to retire, and a new public works director Adam Followell was taking over. When Mr. Followell attempted to place an order with Traf-Mark they informed him about the invoice that was never paid. Mayor Agee said it was simply 100% oversight.

To pay the 2021 invoice in 2022 the budget is needing to be amended to reflect this occurrence. Councilmember Rowland from the finance committee stated it assures transparency for auditors to follow.

Motion made that the resolution be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Biggs, yes; Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution 2022-36)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Agee was encouraged by the responses from the last City Council meeting on Facebook Live and on Channel 6.

He talked about the improvements being made at the Dog Park, with several loads of dirt being dumped to back build which will help with drainage issues.

Next council meeting Mayor Agee hopes to have a demonstration of the Sky Cop Cameras

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the council, Councilmember Williams moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilmember Biggs. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 6:35 p.m.

Josh Agee, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Williams, City Clerk