

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**September 12, 2022**

Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall with Mayor Agee presiding.

Invocation was led by City Attorney Robert Thompson.

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

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

City Attorney Robert Thompson and City Clerk Andrea Williams were present.

Councilmember Williams moved the minutes from previous council meeting of August 22, 2022, be approved as transcribed; seconded by Councilmember Adams. All in favor.

Councilmember Rowland moved the financial statements for August, 2022 be approved as presented; seconded by Councilmember Adams. All in favor.

### **REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Public Service	- None
Finance	- Councilmember Rowland stated the committee met at 5:45 this evening to apply for two grants from the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics to build a 80 X 60 clear span hanger and hangar access taxiways.
Parks and Recreation	- Councilmember Williams called for a committee meeting September 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss rental fees, non-refundable deposits and a ribbon cutting for the Farmers Market pavilion.
Police	- Councilmember Blevens stated the police committee met at 5:30 this evening and have item number one on tonight's agenda.
Public Health and Ordinances	- None
Fire	- None

Sanitation - None

Street/Cemetery - None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **ITEM #1**

#### **AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE THE REQUIREMENTS OF A COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW VEHICLES FOR THE PARAGOULD POLICE DEPARTMENT; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

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

Police Chief, Todd Stovall, was present to address the council. Mayor Agee told the council that the state bid for 2022 police interceptors is \$36,889.96. These vehicles have been ordered since January, 2022 with no production date scheduled as of the date of this ordinance. After checking with numerous dealerships, five Ford Explorer Interceptors have been located at Sam Pack Ford in Carrollton, Texas for the price of \$40,664.17. The police committee recommends purchasing the five 2022 Ford Explorer Inceptors from Texas.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2022-33)

Motion made to adopt the emergency clause separately by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Emergency clause adopted

## **ITEM #2**

### **A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2022 BUDGET FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING A STIPEND FOR ELIGIBLE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS PER ACT 224 OF 2022**

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

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

Police Chief, Todd Stovall, was present to answer any questions the council may have. Mayor Agee stated this resolution is needed to distribute a one-time stipend of \$5,000.00 to each qualified law enforcement officer as provided in Act 224 of 2022.

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

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2022-70)

## **ITEM #3**

### **A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLOSING AND USE OF CERTAIN STREETS – SINGO BINGO**

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

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

Main Street Paragould Executive Director, Miranda Reynolds, was present to address the council. Ms. Reynolds stated she is requesting, on behalf of a downtown merchant, to close the 200-south block of Pruet Street on October 15, 2022 from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. to host an event entitled Singo Bingo. Councilmember Rowland stated that he felt the council was closing the streets too often and it may hurt the business owners. He offered using the Farmers Market Pavilion instead of hosting the event on the street.

Resolution failed due to lack of a motion to adopt.

#### **ITEM #4**

##### **A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLOSING AND USE OF CERTAIN STREETS – PARAGOULD CHRISTMAS PARADE**

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

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

Main Street Paragould Executive Director, Miranda Reynolds, was present to address the council. Ms. Reynolds stated that Main Street Paragould is requesting to close intersections on North 2<sup>nd</sup> and Pruet Streets on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 for the Paragould Christmas Parade.

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

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2022-71)

#### **ITEM #5**

##### **A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLOSING AND USE OF CERTAIN STREETS – HALLOQUEEN**

Removed from agenda – no longer needed.

#### **ITEM #6**

**A RESOLUTION REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2022-40 WHICH CONDEMNED  
PROPERTY LOCATED AT 612 BRADBURN IN THE CITY OF PARAGOULD,  
ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

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

Director of Planning and Development, Kevin Lang, was present to answer any questions the council may have. Mr. Lang stated that the owners of the property have worked with the inspector's office and have brought the residence up to code. Therefore, the condemnation should be removed.

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

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2022-72)

**ITEM #7 - #10**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF THE CITY  
OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS TO ATTACH LIENS TO CERTAIN PROPERTIES  
LOCATED AT THE ADDRESSES SPECIFIED IN THIS RESOLUTION FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF COLLECTING MONIES WHICH ARE OWED THE CITY OF  
PARAGOULD FOR ENFORCEMENT OF CHAPTER 18 OF THE CITY'S CODE OF  
ORDINANCES**

Motion made that the resolutions be offered by owner's name, address, and fee only made by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

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

Code Enforcement Officer, J.D. Stephenson, was present and provided the council with documentation of the properties. No one appeared in opposition.

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

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2022-73, 2022-74, 2022-75 and 2022-76)

Motion made to amend the agenda and add item number 11 and number 12 resolutions to execute grant agreements with the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics made by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Williams. All in favor.

#### **ITEM #11**

##### **A RESOLUTION TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AERONAUTICS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

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

Mayor Agee stated this resolution would allow the city to apply for a 90/10 grant with the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics for hangar access taxiways.

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

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2022-77)

#### **ITEM #12**

##### **A RESOLUTION TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AERONAUTICS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

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

Mayor Agee stated this resolution would allow the city to apply for a 80/20 grant with the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics for another 80x60 clear span hangar.

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

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; Blevens, yes; Biggs, yes; and Boggs, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2022-78)

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Agee stated the department heads have been asked to have their budget requests turned in by this Friday so that he may start working on the 2023 budget.

Mayor Agee told the council that he is looking into setting up a land bank. Two other cities in Arkansas, Little Rock and Jonesboro, have land banks at this time.

Mayor Agee stated the pedestrian bridge has been delivered for the Eight Mile Creek Trail and will be installed this week.

Also, Mayor Agee reminded the council and residents that the Get Downtown Festival is this Friday and Saturday in Downtown Paragould.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the council, Councilmember Williams moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilmember Adams. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 7:04 p.m.

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Josh Agee, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Andrea Williams, City Clerk