

**MINUTES**  
**GOSHEN CITY COUNCIL**  
**March 10, 2020 at 6:30pm**  
**Goshen City Hall**  
**124 Church Street**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Cathy Oliver was absent. Council member Birch Wright called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

**Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum:** Birch Wright, Paula Anderson, John Vaillancourt, and Bill Hewat were present and a quorum was declared. Colton Martin arrived at 6:36. Angie Driver was absent, as well as Bernadette Boyle the Planning Commission Liaison. Lora Nanak the Office Manager, Josh Bailey the City Attorney and Linda Moore the Recorder/Treasurer were also present.

**Approval of Agenda:** Birch Wright made 3 additions to the agenda: 6. "I" Legal Review of the Sign Ordinance, 6. "J" Mr. Riggins Fence Update, and 6. "K" Police Officers cost Analysis. Bill Hewat made a motion to accept the amended agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Paula Anderson. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** John Vaillancourt made a motion to accept the February 11, 2020 City Council Meeting minutes as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Hewat. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

**Reports for 2020:**

**Financial Reports:** Reports are in Council's packets. Lora Nanak reported the general fund has a balance of \$644,320.58 as of 2/29/2020. The street fund has a balance of \$80,410.70 as of 2/29/2020.

**Police Department Reports:** Chief Ball reported; Reports are in Council's packets.

**Street Report:** Mike Bowen reported: Mr. Bowen was in receipt of bids for a new chat building, he is waiting on 2 more bids. Council will wait to see what the other 2 bids are before making a decision.

First Class Lawn Care has quoted lawn service for City Hall and the Community Building at \$190.00 per mowing for both locations. Bill Hewat made a motion to accept the quote of \$190.00 per mowing by First Class Lawn Care Service for a year and Council will look at this item again in the Fall, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Vaillancourt. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

Paula Anderson made a motion to proceed with getting a new tire for big tractor and a battery for the smaller tractor, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Vaillancourt. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

**Report from Goshen Volunteer Fire Department:** Reports are in Council's packets.

**Planning Commission Report:** Reports are in Council's packets.

**Building Official's Report:** JD DeMotte reported; reports are in Council's packets.

**Park Commission Report:** Ken Smith reported: The Parks Commission had their firsts Parks meeting Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> the next meeting is scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm and is open to the public. There are two types of grants that the State Parks are now taking application for. We will vote at our next Parks meeting to move forward with the grant applications and then come back to the Mayor and Council for approval on these grants.

Birch Right suggested that Mr. Smith put together an RFP that could be presented to Goshen land owners to see if there is 10-70 acres of land available that they would be willing to sell to the city.

**City Business:**

**Resolution Parks Commission Appointment Change:** Chuck Jacobus the Parks Commission Chairman has had to step down; Ken Smith has been asked to take over as Chairman. Melissa Neihouse has agreed to be a member of the Commission. Adam Walker is the Secretary. Attorney Bailey presented Resolution #2020-08 to amend the previous resolution #2020-01. Paula Anderson made a motion to read the resolution in title only, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Hewat. All voted in favor. Resolution #2020-08 A Resolution amending Resolution 2020-01 and appointing a replacement Commissioner to the Parks and Recreation Commission of the city of Goshen, Arkansas. Paula Anderson made a motion to adopt the resolution, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Hewat. All voted in favor and Resolution 2020-08 passed.

**Master Plan Discussion – Update on Ordinance #31:** Attorney Bailey explained that the Master Plan is a comprehensive and aspirational document for all of Goshen’s zoning and planning going forward in the next 10 years; it is not legislation, regulation, or zoning codes.

Attorney Bailey said he could see if there is someone at the Municipal League who specializes in this sort of document and potentially Goshen might get some free consultation.

Council will ask the Mayor to reach out to the NWA Regional Planning Commission and the Economic Development District, out of Harrison, for recommendations of individuals who have experience with small communities and have worked on this sort of document.

**Discussion of 1% sales tax increase:** The 1% sales tax increase passed. Attorney Bailey said that it will start taking effect in 90 days, theoretically.

Councilman Hewat wanted it known, for the record, that this Council will use the money generated from the 1% increase towards items previously stated that the increase would go towards.

**Discussion of roads to pave this year:** The road grant was turned down, so we will try again with gravel roads. Striping is going to be done on part of Tuttle road, Wandering Way estimate was \$130,000 and W. Sharp drive was \$60,000.00. No vote was taken.

**Discussion on Fire Tower Rd./No thru Trucks:** Attorney Bailey explained that some people have complained to City Hall about poultry trucks and other commercial trucks driving up and down Fire Tower Rd.

Birch Wright stated that if it continues to be an issue, we can revisit this topic. No vote was taken.

**Opening Sealed Bids for Paul Prey Bridge:** We are in receipt of two sealed bids for Paul Prey bridge: Decco Contractors is for \$50,843.75 and Tomlinson Asphalt was for \$38,695.00. Bill Hewat made a motion to accept the Tomlinson bid for Paul Pray bridge for \$38,695.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Vaillancourt. All voted in favor and the motion carried. These bids can be found on file at City Hall.

Public input was given.

**Updates on Community Building:** A broken window was repaired, a post was treated, the parking lot was graded, and new railroad ties were put in. We have received some bids to get gutters put on but we are still waiting to get a couple more.

Ken Smith said that the Community Building needs more parking space.

**Discussion on Animal Shelter Fees:** We have \$3000.00 budgeted for animal surrender; however, we did not include cats and 6 cats have been picked up this year. Council suggested having spay and neuter information and animal food bank information available.

**Legal Review of Sign Ordinance:** The Goshen Methodist Church has requested permission for an electronic sign which is currently not allowed per our city Sign Ordinance. Attorney Bailey is in the process of working on a sign ordinance for Council to review.

**Riggins Fence:** A Constituent complained about the Riggins fence and how it backs up to their property with the wrong side facing out and the fence was 8 feet tall instead of 6 feet. Mr. Riggins fixed the height of his fence but the wrong side is still facing out.

Bill Hewat made a motion to use verbiage that grandfathers in fencing issues but from here on out they need to be correct and that we strike the neighbor giving approval from the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Vaillancourt. Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt and Birch Wright voted in favor. Paula Anderson abstained. The motion carried.

**Police Officer Cost Analysis:** A part time police officer has resigned unexpectedly. It was decided to have currently employed officers cover the part-time shifts, rather than hire another part-time officer; the police department voiced concurrence.

**Reports/Comments by Mayor, Aldermen, City Attorney or Recorder/Treasurer:** Birch Wright informed the Council that the boy scout troop will get a better light for the flag pole; the one they installed does not light the flag enough at night.

John Vaillancourt received a call from a citizen regarding litter on Fire Tower and Tuttle Rd. Chief Ball suggested getting a work crew to come out.

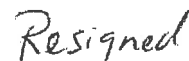
**Public Input:** Public input was given.

Birch Wright wanted the minutes to reflect that we will check with the Municipal League on the status of our codification.

**Adjournment:** John Vaillancourt made a motion to adjourn the City Council Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Hewat. All voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:47pm



Linda Moore/Recorder



Cathy Oliver/Mayor