

**AMENDED
MINUTES
GOSHEN CITY COUNCIL
November 9, 2021 at 6:30
via Zoom and the Community Building**

Call to Order: Mayor Max Poye called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

Roll Call: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin (absent at roll call, arrived later), John Vaillancourt, and Birch Wright were present. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Mayor Max Poye and Brian Hogue, the City Attorney were also present.

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Poye added to "Old Business" to adopt the Ordinance voted to rezone the commercial property last month. He asked to add 'G' at the bottom of "Old Business" agenda, replacing the extra 'E' listed in the "Old Business" agenda. 'B' in "Old Business" is actually a Resolution, not an Ordinance, and was updated accordingly.

Bill Hewat made a motion to accept the agenda as amended, 2nd by Birch Wright. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: John Vaillancourt made a motion to accept the October 12, 2021 minutes as written, 2nd by Bill Hewat. Birch Wright confirmed his changes suggested for position description (Planning/Zoning & Floodplain Administrator) were added. Lora Nanak confirmed these were added; Birch requested this be closed out as completed. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Reports 2021

Police Department Report: Chief Travis presented. Report is in Council's packet.

Street Report: Mike Bowen presented. Report is in Council's packet. Birch Wright asked about timecards and how often they were calculated. Mike Bowen stated they are generally done every day. Paula Anderson asked about beginning to get bids for street work for next year. Mike Bowen stated he already has a list of paving jobs to be done.

Building Official's Report: JD Demotte presented. Report is in Council's packet.

Financial Report: Lora Nanak reported; financial reports are in Council's packet. On Oct 29, 2021 the General Fund was \$1,008,573.40. The Street Fund was \$178,554.16. The Stimulus ARPA account was \$201,121.59. The police 988 account was \$16,142.66. Questions about the 988 funds were asked and clarifications were made.

Parks & Rec. Report: Ken Smith presented. Report is in Council's packet. Ken shared photographs of the work completed at Mill Branch Park.

Arbor Board Report: Mary Smith gave additional updates on how the work was performed, actions that were taken to clean up and modify the area. Mary Smith asked for those aware of the history of the site (especially Paula Anderson) to reach out to her. She wants to document this information to memorialize the park's legacy. Mayor Poye remarked that gravel will be added to the road in wet spots. Mayor Poye confirmed with Chief Travis that the police are patrolling the park daily.

Birch Wright asked about creating public awareness regarding the park. Mary Smith responded that there is still jagged metal on the site and the hazards still need to be fully removed, which should take a couple more weeks. Mayor Poye stated there is a fence on the property that can be removed. Mike Bowen stated he will take the tractor up there and knock down remaining part of the barn, to facilitate removal.

ARPA Stimulus Report: Lora Nanak reported the committee had their second meeting. Clarification on how the money can be spent (certain designated items versus City Council's choice) is expected. There are four different areas of consideration:

- A. Premium Pay for employees
- B. Park needs
- C. Food Bank need for ramp or dock
- D. AEDs for police officer cars, and air-filtering equipment for City Hall and the Community Building

Chief Travis prepared the proposal for "D" and presented. The proposal is for seven AEDs, one for each patrol car, one for City Hall, and one for the Community Building. The air-filtering systems would attach directly to the HVAC systems in each building. Lora Nanak stated that the current balance is \$201,000 and there could be additional monies in Feb/Mar 2022. Chief Travis will email a YouTube video on the air-filtering system, and also have the contact for the air-filtering system come out and present to the City Council. Paula Anderson asked if patrol cars have drug overdose response kits. Chief Travis stated all units have these kits.

Bill Hewat made a motion for the City to purchase the AEDs, and to have the Council look at the air-filtering system, before approval is given. Birch Wright seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Volunteer Fire Department: No presentation. Report is in Council's packet.

Planning Commission: No November meeting; no report

Old City Business

Ordinance 196 - 2022 Tax Levy: Brian Hogue reviewed that the Council has approved this Ordinance. The Council needs to vote on the issue, including the Emergency Clause in the Ordinance. John Vaillancourt made a motion to pass this Ordinance, and read Ordinance 196 in title only. Brian Hogue reminded the rules require three separate readings, unless the City Council votes to suspend the rules, through a motion. John Vaillancourt made a motion to suspend the rules, and read Ordinance 196 by title only. Motion was seconded by Birch Wright. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Bill Hewat voted no. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

Brian Hogue read the title of Ordinance 196, 'AN ORDINANCE LEVYING A TAX ON THE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF GOSHEN, ARKANSAS, FOR THE YEAR 2021 FIXING THE RATE THEREOF AT 3 MILS AND CERTIFYING THE SAME TO THE COUNTY CLERK OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES'.

John Vaillancourt made a motion to adopt Ordinance 196 as written. Birch Wright seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Bill Hewat voted no. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

John Vaillancourt made a motion to adopt the Emergency Clause for Ordinance 196. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Bill Hewat voted no. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

Resolution 2021-11 - Recorder/Treasurer – Michael Thompson: Mayor Poye asked for public comment. Bill Hewat made a motion to read by title only; Birch Wright seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Brian Hogue read the Resolution titled, 'A RESOLUTION ELECTING MICHAEL THOMPSON TO FILL THE VACANCY IN THE OFFICES OF RECORDER AND TREASURER'. A motion was made to adopt Resolution 2021-11; Bill Hewat seconded the motion. No public input was given. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinance 198 - Subdivision Regulations: A motion was made by Bill Hewat, to be read by title only; seconded by Birch Wright. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

Brian Hogue read the title of Ordinance 198, 'AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING, BY REFERENCE, CERTAIN REGULATIONS ENTITLED: "CITY OF GOSHEN SUBDIVISION AND MINOR SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS"; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES'.

A motion was made by Bill Hewat to suspend the rules and waive second and third readings. Birch Wright seconded. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. A motion to adopt Ordinance 198 was made by Bill Hewat, and seconded by Birch Wright. No public input was given. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made to enact the Emergency Clause of Ordinance 198 was made by Bill Hewat and seconded by Birch Wright. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

Goshen Expansion/Annexation Committee: Mayor Poye shared there are four members now. There is interest in adding another Planning Commission member. Carolyn Jordan, Chief Jason Travis, Colton Martin and Levon Ogden are the current members. The City Council asked about the reporting requirement for this committee. A progress report is expected by the next meeting.

Update on Purchase of Park Property: Mayor Poye reports the surveys were received on the new parcels for the park. Brian Hogue is working on the purchase agreement, and the Mayor reports the property description survey will be given to the appropriate parties to close as soon as possible.

Purchase of Mashie Property: Mr. Mashie contacted the City regarding the City's interest to purchase two additional adjoining parcels behind community building. The price is \$30,000/acre on the parcels. Each parcel is a little less than five acres. Mayor Poye will follow up with Mr. Mashie on the status of the properties. Additional discussion was held regarding the 'old bank' property close to City Hall. Is it open to be purchased? Mayor Poye took away the action to find out if that location is for sale. Public comment by Carolyn Jordan: It is a good idea to look into the purchase, as it satisfies the need for land and building space.

Ordinance 199 – Rezoning of 180 N. Church St: A motion was made by Birch Wright to suspend the rules and read Ordinance 199 by title only. A second was given by Bill Hewat. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

Brian Hogue read the title of Ordinance 199, 'AN ORDINANCE REZONING 180 N CHURCH ST, PARCEL #770-17502-000, FROM RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-1) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT (B-2) AND THEREBY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN'.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 199 was made by Bill Hewat, and seconded by Birch Wright. No public input was given. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, Birch Wright all voted yes. John Vaillancourt voted no. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made to enact the Emergency Clause of Ordinance 199 was made by Bill Hewat and seconded by Birch Wright. No public input was given. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, John Vaillancourt, Colton Martin, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

New City Business

Bid for Parking Lot at Park: Ken Smith and the Park Board have a cost estimate for a lot in the first field (Left off of HWY 45, before you cross the creek). The bid includes red dirt and is \$6,960 for gravel for parking lot and 10-12 parking spaces. If this is approved, the City will maintain this parking lot.

The second request is regarding the stream crossing. It was discussed that a proposed design exists for the bridge. The design and the construction of this stream crossing would come to the City as a gift. Chuck Jacobus is donating a bridge to the City.

Birch Wright asked if bids are required for the parking lot work. Additional discussion was held regarding the bridge design. Birch Wright offered we need another bid to verify the cost. Paula Anderson states it may get damage during flooding. Mayor Poye states the City will get one additional bid on the parking area, and go with the better of the two.

Colton Martin made a motion to spend up to \$10,000 on the parking area, at the Mayor's discretion. Bill Hewat seconded the motion. No public input was given. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Chuck Jacobus stated he needs 30-45 days to get rocks cut for bridge/water feature. A motion was made by Birch Wright to approve the water feature as donated. The motion was seconded. No public input was given. All voted in favor, and the motion carried. Chuck is approved to have the rock cut.

Contractor's Liability Insurance: A builder came to the City for a permit without General Liability Insurance. Current ordinances reference building permits, but no forms have been adopted or approved. Forms are attached at 'Exhibit A' to Ordinance 197.

Mayor Poye asked if the City wants builders to have Liability Insurance. J.D. Demotte states it is not required by the State of Arkansas. Many builders choose to carry "Builder's Risk" insurance. Mayor Poye states his unofficial survey of local surrounding towns indicates about a 50/50 split of towns requiring it vs. towns that do not.

A motion was made by Colton Martin to suspend the rules and read Ordinance 197 by title only. A second was given by Bill Hewat. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, John Vaillancourt, Colton Martin, Birch Wright all voted yes. John Vaillancourt abstained. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent. Motion carried.

Brian Hogue read the title of Ordinance 197, 'AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CERTAIN BUILDING PERMIT FORMS OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN, ARKANSAS INSPECTION DIVISION'.

A motion to adopt Ordinance 197 was made by Bill Hewat, and seconded by John Vaillancourt. No public input was given. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent.

A motion was made to enact the Emergency Clause of Ordinance 197 was made by Colton Martin and seconded by Bill Hewat. No public input was given. A roll call vote was taken: Paula Anderson, Bill Hewat, Colton Martin, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright all voted yes. Jamie VanBecelaere was absent.

2022 Preliminary Budgets: Lora Nanak presented. Report is in Council's packet. Lora asks that the City Council look at them and send her any questions for discussion in December. Income projections are more difficult due to the new census. There are areas that can still be narrowed down, based on these projections.

A budget has to be adopted at the December 2021 meeting.

Chief Travis discussed the approval at the last meeting for a fifth officer position. This will basically eliminate the overtime budget. Chief Travis asked if he can start someone on Jan 1, 2022, or should he up the overtime until the position is approved to start. The position is approved and can start ASAP. Chief Travis also asked about where the Council stands on replacing the older patrol unit. The cost for a new unit, with upfit, but without graphics, is estimated at \$44,882.75. The state incentive is included in this cost. It can be up to 10 months before vehicles can be delivered. 2021 models are not even available. An additional unit will also be needed for the new officer.

Colton Martin made a motion to allow for the purchase of two vehicles. Bill Hewat seconded the motion. Lora Nanak states one vehicle is in the capital expenditure budget for next year. Lora Nanak suggests using some of the stimulus funding to purchase a second unit. No public input was given. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Reports/Comments by Mayor, Aldermen, City Attorney: Colton Martin brought up beginning 'Citizen of the Year' again. Mayor Poye stated anyone with feedback or suggestions should email City Hall. Paula Anderson mentioned that all the organizations and individuals that have stepped forward to help out are very appreciated.

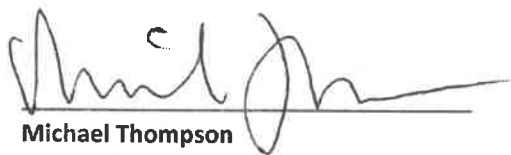
Mayor Poye states the roof at City Hall is leaking. One bid has been received for \$20,000, and more bids are going to be collected. No public input was given.

Public Input: A citizen shared that the Fire Department should pay rent on the building they occupy. The citizen expressed concern regarding the tax imposed by the Fire Department, which is outside the scope of the City Council.

Chris Callahan asked if the City knows anything about Highway 45 repaving or replacing potholes. Mike Bowen made contact with the State in the Spring of this year. 303 to Crossover Road was due for resurfacing in 2022.

John Vaillancourt asked about fixing speed limit signs that may be improperly posted around Slaughter Mountain.

Adjournment: At 8:25PM Bill Hewat made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Birch Wright.


Michael Thompson
Recorder/Treasurer


Max Poye
Mayor