

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
FORREST CITY CITY COUNCIL  
FORREST CITY, ARKANSAS  
January 15, 2019**

The City Council of Forrest City, Arkansas met in regular session on January 15, 2019. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Alderman Williams offered prayer after which the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Oswalt. The following answered roll call: Mayor Williams, Clerk Cochran, Attorney Wright, and City Council members: Metcalf, Williams, Fields, Reeves, Evansingston, Capps, Poteat, and Oswalt.

Alderman Oswalt made the motion to approve the January 3, 2019 Minutes. The motion was second by Alderman Fields. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**GENERAL FUND BILLS**

Alderman Capps made a motion to approve and pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$24,494.04. The motion was second by Alderman Williams. Alderman Capps questioned the computer purchased from CDW Government for \$1,260.37. Mayor Williams stated it is new equipment that could be purchased with transition funds that was allowed at the prior council meeting. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**STREET FUND BILLS**

Alderman Oswalt made a motion to approve and pay the Street Fund in the amount of \$30,455.28. The motion was second by Alderman Fields. Roll Call: All Ayes

**SOLID WASTE FUND BILLS**

Alderman Fields made a motion to approve and pay the Solid Waste Fund bills in the amount of \$31,690.49. The motion was second by Alderman Oswalt. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**FORREST CITY WATER UTILITY**

Alderman Poteat made a motion to approve and pay the Forrest City Water Utility bills in the amount of \$43,314.20. The motion was second by Alderman Reeves. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS and Updates**

Mayor Williams scheduled a budget committee meeting for next Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Williams informed the council on how the transition budget money, that was approved by city council, will be spent. He mentioned, at the last council meeting, hiring outside consultants to come in to do evaluations and SWOT analysis. He stated there are two proposals in the package. One from Summers Associated LLC; they will be visiting with the police chief and the fire department. The other from Gaskill Strategies Inc.; they will be visiting with the public works, park & recreation and other departments doing a through SWOT analysis. Mayor Williams stated, as he goes through the process, he would keep the council informed.

Mayor Williams stated he had a great visit with Sophicity concerning the city's website. He stated he hoped by the next council meeting there would be some updates to make the website more efficient.

**January 15, 2019 Minutes cont.**

Mayor Williams gave the city workers and the Public Works Director, Jason Evansingston a public thank you for the hard work they are doing during the transition process. “You can see some differences around the city; this is just the beginning and we will continue working toward moving our city forward.”

Alderman Capps asked the completion dates on the city projects. Mayor Williams stated the estimated completion date on the city hall is April 1, 2019 and the aquatic center, the estimated date is around June 1, 2019, pending the weather. Alderman Capps then asked if there would be penalties if not completed by estimated date. Mayor Williams stated it depends on the weather and the contract. Mayor Williams stated ETC is in the process of getting all change orders in place.

Alderman Poteat asked Mayor Williams to tell them who his transition team is. Mayor Williams stated transition staff members are Fred Leonard, Glynis Lynch and Emily Holley. Members of the transition team are Ernestine Weaver, Former Alderman Ardelia Echols, JaJuan Whitby, Drew Higginbottom, Connie Rice, Kathy Cockman, Dr. Stuart Towns, Sandra Bean, Lee Henderson, and Sandra Mills

He stated the transition team is doing a great job; they have had their second meeting and they are identifying different areas where we can work together as a city.

Alderman Poteat asked for a report on some unfinished business with the previous mayor from people that asked for things to be done; Effie Clay issues with the steel barriers on Campbell Drive and Mr. Huff’s drainage problem behind his house.

Mayor Williams stated he would investigate any unfinished projects and make sure they are handled.

For additional context, reference the January 15, 2018 tape.

Alderman Capps made a motion to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. The motion was second by Alderman Fields.

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Cedric Williams, Mayor

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Derene Cochran, City Clerk-Treasurer