

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
FORREST CITY CITY COUNCIL  
FORREST CITY, ARKANSAS  
April 17, 2018**

The City Council of Forrest City, Arkansas met in regular session on April 17, 2018. Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Alderman Williams offered prayer after which the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Echols. The following answered roll call: Mayor Bryant, Clerk Cochran, and City Council members: Williams, Capps, Echols, Fields, Metcalf, Oswald, Poteat, and Reeves. Attorney Cline was absent

Alderman Williams made the motion to approve the April 3, 2018 regular minutes. The motion was second by Alderman Capps. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Permission to Set Dumpster Fees**

Mayor Bryant asked permission to set fees for the commercial roll-off dumpsters since the fees were never set. He stated the fees will be in line with St. Francis County. Alderman Reeves made a motion to approve the dumpster fees. The motion was second by Alderman Poteat. Alderman Capps asked where the dumpsters will be emptied. Mayor Bryant stated the city has a roll-off truck and the debris will be taken to the landfill. Alderman Capps asked if there were any fuel surcharges added. Mayor Bryant stated no, he is trying to keep the cost compatible to the county fees but if needed, fees could be looked at later. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Revisit Legal Service Contract with Attorney Valley**

Mayor Bryant asked the council if they wanted to revisit Attorney Valley's contract since Alderman Echols was absent for the last vote. Alderman Fields made a motion to approve the contract for legal services with Attorney Valley. The motion was second by Alderman Echols. Alderman Capps question if Attorney Valley had done any work for city water in 2018. Mayor Bryant stated not to his knowledge. After some discussion, Roll Call: Echols, Fields, Metcalf, and Williams All Ayes. Alderman Capps, Oswald, Poteat, and Reeves All Nays. Mayor Bryant voted yes to break the tie. Motion passed.

**Resolution Certifying the Amount Clean-up Lien to be Filed with St. Francis County**

Mayor Bryant read **Clean-up Lien Resolution to be Filed with St. Francis County** by names and amounts. Alderman Oswald made the motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was second by Alderman Metcalf. Alderman Fields stated there are several names on the resolution when the people are deceased. Mayor Bryant stated the expense would go towards the estate. Alderman Oswald asked what happens if no one pays the lien and the property goes to the state. Mayor Bryant stated whoever purchases the property must pay the city's lien. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**GENERAL FUND BILLS**

Alderman Williams made a motion to approve and pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$52,585.53. Motion was second by Alderman Fields. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**STREET FUND BILLS**

Alderman Fields made a motion to approve and pay the Street Fund in the amount of \$5,365.45 Motion was second by Alderman Echols. Roll Call: All Ayes

**SOLID WASTE FUND BILLS**

Alderman Echols made a motion to approve and pay the Solid Waste Fund bills in the amount of \$32,473.10. Motion was second by Alderman Fields. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**April 17, 2018 Minutes cont.**

**FORREST CITY WATER UTILITY**

Alderman Oswald made a motion to approve and pay the City Water Utility bills, with a correction made to Woodruff Electric invoice, in the amount of \$39,813.41. Motion was second by Alderman Williams. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Alderman Capps stated at the last meeting he pulled out an invoice for the recreation department and he never received a call or clarification on the bill. Mayor Bryant told Alderman Capps he would get an answer.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS and Updates**

**Mayor's Updates**

**City Hall**

Mayor Bryant told the council the city hall was discussed at the last meeting; a decision needs to be made to move forward or not. Alderman Oswald stated he still is interested in seeing plans and getting hard figures on the old Social Security building. He then stated if the city can add monies from the solid waste fund to bond money for construction of a new building, then that money could be used to remodel the old Social Security building.

Mayor Bryant stated the problem is, to repair the Social Security building, it would cost as much to build a new building. Alderman Fields stated Alderman Capps asked all council member to go and look at the building, because he was having second thoughts about what it would cost to repair that building.

Alderman Capps stated a motion is needed for the city to spend money for architectural plans and specs for the old Social Security, if not then we are back at square one. He stated another option would be to sell that building and use the funds for a new city hall.

Alderman Echols stated she went by city hall and thoroughly went over the plans. She mentioned she was the one who requested a delay in bidding the project but now she is ready to move forward.

Alderman Echols made a motion to approve the plans and seek bids for the new city hall. The motion was second By Alderman Fields.

Alderman Reeves asked if the council ever received figures on what it would cost to remodel the old city hall. Mayor Bryant stated no, but there were some estimates. Alderman Reeves then asked if the Regions Bank building is out of the question. Mayor Bryant said yes, they were asking too much and there are some issues with the building.

Alderman Capps stated he has three issues with the new plans as is: (1) The setback is too close to Highway #1, he would like for it to be in line with the old post office building. (2) There is no signage on the side and back of the building and (3) The restroom in the mayor's office is not ADA compliance.

Alderman Reeves asked if the new city hall is built, will there be a parking issue for the existing businesses. Mayor Bryant stated if things work out as planned, the Care Center building will be torn down creating plenty of parking.

Alderman Capps asked if the motion is to put out the existing plans as is. Mayor Bryant stated the correction for signage will be added, moving the building back is not a problem and the restrooms will be built according to what the law requires. Alderman Poteat asked the size of the building and if there is anyway the size could be cut down so the cost would not be so high.

Mayor Bryant stated it would cost additional funds if the plans are re-drawn. Roll Call: Alderman Capps, Echols, Fields, Metcalf, and Williams All Ayes.

Alderman Oswald, Poteat and Reeves All Nays.

For additional context, reference the April 17, 2018 tape.

Alderman Echols made a motion to adjourn at 6:27 p.m. second by Alderman Fields

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Larry Bryant, Mayor

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Derene Cochran, City Clerk-Treasurer