

RECORD OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF ARGO

Date: 01-13-2020

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Municipal Complex

Regular Meeting

ROLL CALL

Councilperson Ann Cowan

Councilperson Corky Massey

Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge

Councilperson Ann Brown

Mayor Betty Bradley

Mayor Bradley called the meeting to order and asked the clerk for a roll call. The clerk called the roll and the above listed persons were present.

Councilperson Brown gave the invocation.

Mayor Bradley opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilperson Massey motioned to approve the council meeting minutes from 11/25/2019 with correction. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Glen Waldrop with Argo Hardware requested a letter for the ABC Board regarding selling alcohol within the city limits of Argo. He would only be selling Beer and Wine, which would bring in more revenue for the city. Councilperson Massey motioned to approve Argo Hardware selling of alcohol in Argo. Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Police Report: Captain Glenn Wells gave the monthly report.

Fire Report: Interim Chief Scott Payne gave the monthly report. Chief Payne also informed the council that they needed a new computer and it was included in the budget already.

Road Report: Councilperson Massey informed the council they were finished with Katie Lane. He also checked several other roads and stated Mary Ann Lane pipe will eventually need to be replaced. Councilperson Massey informed the council there was some complaints to Jefferson County regarding the traffic on Will Keith Rd and Honor Keith Rd.

Food Bank Report: Jim Link was absent. Food giveaway will be Saturday.

Teen Council Report: The Black Friday yard sale and Christmas parade were successful. The Springville Principle is fighting cancer and they would like to have a fundraiser for him. They would like to set up a Basketball Tournament located at Argo Christian Fellowship to raise money for their Springville High School Principal who has cancer. The Teen Council still has shirts remaining as well to sell.

Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge updated the council on the storm shelter. The contract with Rex Howard was signed and ready. He would begin the concrete work as soon as the weather permitted. Further discussion was held regarding AL Power coming out as well as hooking up the new generator. The council also discussed adding grass around the storm shelter and on the other side of the building to close out the ADEM permit and finish inspections.

The council discussed carrying over employee sick time and if employees would be able to use it towards retirement. Currently the city has a cap of 30 days and the employee must have a doctor's excuse if they miss more than two days. There was general conversation on the financial cost this would bring to the city and what the surrounding city policies consist of. The council agreed employees could carry over sick time with no cap. However, the employee would lose any sick time accumulated once they quit or retire which is already addressed in the handbook and would remain the same. Councilperson Massey motioned to permit the attorney to amend the handbook to allow employees to carry over sick time from year to year and let the rule stand employees will lose their sick time once they leave or retire. Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Bradley and Attorney Brunson discussed the matter of a business, ID #2690 located at 49 Hunter Drive, in Argo that has received many complaints from citizens, multiple police complaints and 25 police reports as well. The Attorney recommended the Council pass a resolution denying said business a business license for this year and to notify them by any means necessary of non-renewal. He would like to send a notice to the owner to Cease and Desist conducting any business due to the types of ongoing activity including drug activity at the location. Councilperson Massey stated "on the advice of council" he will abstain from voting due to a family member being the landlord for this business. Councilperson Brown motioned to approve Resolution 2020-01-13 and allow the attorney to send a Cease and Desist letter to business #2690. Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-abstain, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Bradley asked the council if John Songer could fill in for the Court Clerk while he is on vacation and doctor visits for his wife, 15th, 16th, 22nd-24th and 29th of January. Councilperson Brown motioned to approve those dates for John Songer to fill in for Tom Suggs. Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Argo Animal Clinic requested the council approve the permit for a sign to be hung. Mayor Pro-

Tem Alldredge stated they need to make sure it is off the right-of-way. Discussion was held about the details of the right-of-way at their location. Councilperson Massey motioned to approve the permit. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Councilperson Massey motioned to approve the Resolution for the 2020 Severe Weather Preparedness Tax Holiday- Feb. 21st-23rd, 2020. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

City Attorney Report: The Attorney stated the letter to the auditor prepared and sent out today. He discussed the ongoing court cases with the city which will hopefully soon be resolved. Also, he informed the council of the upcoming heavy court for the city.

Mayor Report: Mayor Bradley informed the council the city received the Worker's Comp annual invoice for \$21,072.00 which is in the budget.

There was discussion on Argo's ATRIP-II application that was denied by ALDOT. Also, the ownership of the roads inside the city limits and what the city has done to get clarification on this issue. The state, county and city are all in dispute of who owns Liles Lane/Argo Parkway, but there has been no documentation of any agreements provided showing the city owns this road. Mayor Bradley stated there will be a Work Session on January 27th at 5pm with Commissioner Ricky Parker and Dan Dahlke regarding this road where the council can ask questions.

The Mayor's Breakfast will be March 17th. The Mayor asked the council to assist in finding a speaker. Councilperson Massey stated he would sponsor it this year.

The Court Clerk has been offered a position with another city and they are willing to pay all his health insurance. He is still undecided about it, but he asked if there was anyway Argo would be willing to pay the family coverage then he would consider staying. The Council suggested maybe the Court covering the remaining of his insurance. Attorney Brunson stated the council could not tell the Judge what to do, however, it would not be an issue asking the Judge to compensate the city from court funds. Councilperson Massey motioned to authorize Attorney Brunson to ask the Judge to allow Tom Sugg's remaining family coverage come from court funds. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Bradley stated the mower for the tractor is in and ready to fit it to it.

Council Comments: Councilperson Brown suggested Black Top Bistro food truck catering the Mayor's Breakfast.

Councilperson Brown discussed massage therapy ordinances from other municipalities she is reviewing. The council conversed regarding the differences in licenses for massage parlors compared to other businesses. She sent copies of the ordinances to the council and asked them to

go through and highlight the parts that would be vital for Argo.

Councilperson Massey stated he would speak with Wayne Sullivan regarding the road issues.

Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge discussed the grant package again and providing letters of recommendations from state representatives to assist with application. Also, how much economic impact it would affect the state. Mayor Bradley stated the city had a good application but would need match money to get any kind of approval. The state representatives have been helpful in this process and are doing what they can.

Public Comments: None

Councilperson Massey motioned to adjourn. Mayor Pro-Tem Alldredge seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Cowan-yea, Massey-yea, Alldredge-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Betty Bradley", written over a horizontal line.

Betty Bradley, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Casie Bethune", written over a horizontal line.

Casie Bethune, City Clerk