

RECORD OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF ARGO

Date: 02/13/2023

Time: 5:34 PM

Place: Municipal Complex

**Regular Meeting**

ROLL CALL

Councilperson Dennis Griffin

Councilperson Thomas Suggs

Mayor Pro-Tem Dusty Stinson

Councilperson Danny McCarley

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.

Invocation was given by Chief Scott Payne, and the pledge of allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**FIRE REPORT** – Chief Scott Payne gave the monthly fire report. The fire department had a total of 54 calls for the month of January, issued 10 burn permits, 33 medical calls, 13 assists, 1 car fire.

Chief Payne presented Lieutenant Brent Rejonis with Firefighter of the Year award, he has taken over the EMS software program, and is always willing to come in and help out, no one deserves it more.

**POLICE REPORT** – Sergeant Jackson Como gave the monthly police report for month of January, he reported that you might see a significant decrease in the number of business checks, this is due to the way the officers are performing them, they are now more thorough. He also said drug arrests were down, however DUI's were up for the month.

Councilperson Brown motioned to approve the Regular meeting minutes and Work Session minutes as presented from 1/23/2023 Councilperson McCarley seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, Stinson-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Stinson motioned to approve the Plat Map from Grant Crossing-Phase I, as presented by Mr. Brandon Bowen. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, Stinson-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Stinson made a motion to make tonight the first public reading and setting a public hearing date for Ordinance 2023-02-13, An Ordinance Creating & Establishing the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Argo, Alabama, the public hearing will be held at the next regularly scheduled council meeting, Monday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5pm.

Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, Stinson-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Stinson motioned to approve the request for \$1000 for the rock and seeded blankets, funds to come from Capital Improvement. Councilperson Griffin seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, Stinson-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Matthew Martin spoke tonight in regard to de-annexation petition. He and his wife have lived in the community since 2017, and they have a young child who goes to Clay currently. Their son is being bullied at this school and he is asking to be let out of the city so he can go to Trussville City schools. Mr. Martin spoke briefly on the matter and explained the situation, how he has been to the school board, and they aren't willing to do anything as long as they are in Argo city limits. The mayor and council heard Mr. Martin gave him recommendations but untimely told him they couldn't let him out of the city, that he needed to go back to the board of education for answers.

Mayor Pro-Tem Stinson motioned to deny Mr. Martins' petition for de-annexation. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, Stinson-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mr. Matthew Vincent from 1230 Cedar Creek Rd spoke at tonight's meeting, he has been having trouble with this neighbor who is building, their drainage water and debris running into his yard, washing his yard, and driveway away. He stated he has made contact with the homebuilder and offered several remedies without resolve. He came before the council to seek advice.

**MAYOR REPORT** –Mayor Bradley reminded everyone that City Hall will be closed on Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, for mandatory magistrate training. She also reminded everyone about ethics statements, they are due April 30th2023, Tiffany will be emailing our notices on this soon. Bush Lane, she didn't formally have this on the agenda, but information was sent to the council regarding this, but there are several people on the sign in sheet from the street who wish to speak on this matter.

**CITY ATTORNEY** –No new business.

Mr. Noah Gardner, from 48 Bush Lane, has concerns about 85 Bush Lane, with the dirt he and garbage the property owner is bringing in. The property owner is essentially using the property as a dumping ground for dirt, old cars, rocks and just junk. The mud and debris has washed out

in the road and clogged the pipes so badly the water is washing into other residents yards.

Mr. Dana Dickey also spoke on the matter, saying the property owner is up at all hours of the night, making all kinds of noise, welding, banging things, until 2 or 3 in the morning. Mr. Dickey has called the police about the issue; says he may quit, may not.

Mr. Nathan Lavorn, who owns the commercial property at the beginning of Bush Lane, has had several buyers back out of the a sale due to this issue on Bush Lane, whenever they see the scrap iron/trash the property owners of 85 Bush Lane bring in on a daily basis. He would just like something done about it, so a reputable business can open in this location.

Mayor Pro-Tem Stinson spoke to the residents after conferring with the mayor and city attorney, stating the council will notify the property owner of the complaint and follow legal means to address the situation. We're going to put them on notice that there's a nuisance. They will have time to remedy that nuisance. He said it will first be brought before the council and then would proceed to court if the property is not cleaned in the designated timeframe.

Mr. Bill Reece from Cedar Creek wanted to tell his side of the story, he has had many run-ins with Mr. Vincent. He states his problems long started before he purchased his property and started building. Mr. Reece even had a new 4-foot mud fence put up after Mr. Vincent filled a notice with the EPA against him, and the EPA was satisfied with the new \$2000 fence, he is unsure what to do now.

Mr. Bob Carter spoke to the mayor and council about the smoker, the one that would benefit the city the most is called the "Cherokee". He suggested maybe getting sponsors from local businesses, and also using the proceeds from the sales to help pay off the smoker.

Councilperson Brown asked if the roll of silk fence purchased for the monster mash, that didn't get used or returned if she could purchase it from the city? The city attorney said it would just need to be declared surplus first.

A motion was made to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:



Betty Bradley, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tiffany Westbrook, City Clerk