

RECORD OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF ARGO

Date: 4/10/2023

Time: 5:13 PM

Place: Municipal Complex

Regular Meeting

ROLL CALL

Councilperson Dennis Griffin

Councilperson Thomas Suggs

Mayor Pro-Tem Dusty Stinson - Absent

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 roll call is listed above.

Invocation was given by Councilperson Ann Brown, and the pledge of allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Mayor Bradley read an opening statement thanking citizens for being present and reviewing rules for conduct at the council meeting.

Councilperson Brown motioned to approve the Regular meeting minutes and Work Session minutes with correction from 3/27/2023. Councilperson Suggs seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

FIRE REPORT – Lieutenant Stewart gave the monthly fire report. The fire department had a total of 57 calls for the month of March: 39 emergency medical services, 10 fire related, 4 MVCs, 4 weather, and 1 missing person. Councilperson Brown inquired if the missing person had been found and it was confirmed that person had been found.

POLICE REPORT – Chief Busler gave the monthly police report for the month of March. The PD had 298 dispatched calls including 5 felony arrests, 9 misdemeanor arrests, 16 Domestic Violence calls, and 14 response calls on I-59.

Councilperson Brown asked for an update on the status of the K9 unit, Chief Busler reported that Narco has had several vet visits regarding a cyst and subsequent infection but is on the mend. Mayor Bradley asked for a status update on the shortage of Police Officers on the city force. Chief Busler reported that it is “mission critical at this point” and suggested incentives as a way

to get new officers in and/or sending reserve officers to the academy. There are currently only 4 full-time officers in the city. Mayor Bradley mentioned officer shortages everywhere to which Chief Busler confirmed that cities across the state are down officers.

Councilperson Brown motioned accept Resolution 2023-04-10, Appointing Planning & Zoning Commission. Councilperson Griffin seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Bradley thanked everyone who applied for a position on the City Zoning Board. The City Attorney read the responsibilities of the zoning board. Mayor Bradley announced the following persons to be appointed to the Zoning Board:

Randy Hettich
Lanie Kendrick
Matt Vincent
Bob Carter
Chase Gober
Michael Stanley

Mayor Bradley reminded everyone that at the next council meeting the Zoning Board of Adjustments will be announced, and that Tiffany Westbrook will be the City Administrative Official on the Zoning Board.

Councilperson Brown nominated Councilperson Suggs to be Council's representative on the board. Councilperson Griffin seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-abstain, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Councilperson Brown motioned to approve Ordinance No 2023-04-10A, Creation of a City Building Inspector Position. Councilperson McCarley seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Councilperson Griffin motioned to approve the Certification Costs for the Building Inspector in the amount of approximately \$1300. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Councilperson Brown motioned to approve the Invoice from O'Cet, Inc, in the amount of \$1,131 for repairs to a culvert on Cedar Creek Road. Councilperson Griffin seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Councilperson McCarley motioned to elect Councilperson Griffin to be the voting delegate for AMIC and Councilperson McCarley accepted the position for alternate voting delegate. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

Councilperson Brown made a motion to accept the proclamation request from the Birmingham Association of Realtors to recognize April 2023 “Fair Housing Month” to honor the 55th anniversary of the US Congress passing the Fair Housing Act. Councilperson Griffin seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried. Lewis Pritchard from BAR was in attendance. The council all signed the proclamation.

MAYOR REPORT – Mayor Bradley reminded everyone of the Zoning Meeting on 4/18/2023 at 6pm. Signs are posted, ads have been placed in Trussville Tribune and St. Clair Times, and announcements are on the city website and Facebook page, as well as fliers posted around town. ATRIP Grant Update: ATRIP is working with the Railroad to get the work done to put in turn lanes in both north and southbound lanes at the red light at Argo-Margaret Rd and Hwy 11 within the next year. Mayor Bradley thanked Ron and Ann Brown for the new city seal painted by Ron. Judge Chamblee made the donation for the cost of the seal.

CITY COUNCIL – No new business.

CITY ATTORNEY – No new business.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

Corkey Massey thanked the Fire Department for coming out to his father’s house while he was out of town. And thanked PD for letting him off after being pulled over.

Paul Jennings asked to be part of the Executive Session discussion. The City Attorney spoke with him, and it was determined that it was unnecessary to allow that.

Citizen Peyton (last name not given) asked for an update on the Briar Ridge Road conditions from previous meeting. Mayor Bradley explained again that the roads in the subdivision were never brought up to code, and never brought into the city so therefore they aren’t maintained by the city and that there is nothing the city can do at the moment. Future grants may be available to address these issues in the future. Peyton went on to mention that a former mayor of the city was the developer of the Briar Ridge subdivision and that there is no way the residents of Briar Ridge can afford a million dollars to bring the roads up to code. Mayor Bradley says she cannot speak about what happened before she was mayor, only that there is nothing the city can currently do about the road issue. Peyton asked if there was anything the city could help with in the way of helping the residents find resources. Mayor Bradley says she is trying to get the grants, but it will take a lot of time and grants aren’t guaranteed. Peyton asked what would happen if the road completely collapsed and emergency services could not get into the neighborhood. Mayor Bradley stated that such a situation would have to be addressed at that time.

Luke Price from 560 Weems Road wanted to speak on proposed zoning concerning Hwy 11 and Old Springville Road. Mayor Bradley suggested he attend the Zoning Meeting on 4/18. Mr. Price still wished to have his comments on record. His comments were concerning Weems Rd being used as a pass-through for traffic and how this would get worse with more commercial development. He stated Argo is unable to maintain the road (but it was pointed out that Argo does not own all of Weems Rd and is therefore not responsible for most of it.) He is also concerned about the possibility of having family farms zoned as commercial development areas. He wants the current agricultural areas to be zoned agriculture in the new zoning plan.

Councilperson Suggs motioned to move into Executive session to discuss Real Estate Matters under Section 7A-6. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried. Council broke for Executive session.

Council reconvened at 6:16.

Councilperson McCarley motioned to pass the assignment and assumption of promissory note for 8885 Gadsden Hwy. Councilperson Brown seconded the motion. Mayor Bradley called for roll call of votes: Griffin-yea, Suggs-yea, McCarley-yea, Brown-yea, and Mayor Bradley-yea. Motion carried.

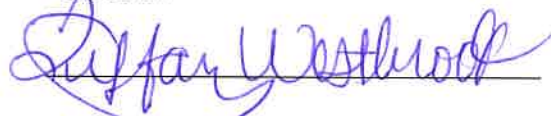
A motion was made to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:



Betty Bradley, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tiffany Westbrook, City Clerk