

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**November 12, 2019**

The Paragould City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall with Mayor Gaskill presiding.

The meeting was called to order with prayer led by Councilmember Josh Agee.

Those present were Mark Rowland, Susan Williams, Randy Aden, Josh Agee, Jeremy Biggs, Jackie Branch, Farrell Gibson and Charles Long.

City Attorney Allen Warmath and City Clerk Andrea Williams were present.

Councilmember Branch moved minutes from previous council meeting of October 28, 2019 be approved as transcribed; seconded by Councilmember Williams. All in favor.

### **REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Public Service	- None
Finance	- Councilmember Rowland stated the committee met at 5:15 this evening and have items 1-4 on tonight's agenda.
Parks and Recreation	- None
Police	- None
Public Health and Ordinances	- None
Fire	- None
Sanitation	- None
Street/Cemetery	- None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEM #1**

**AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE THE OCCUPATIONAL TAX FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A PRIVILEGE LICENSE, TO SET AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Councilmember Rowland stated the committee met this evening to discuss an increase in the occupational tax fee. The committee discussed raising the fee \$10.00 on each category to offset the cost of issuing the license. Councilmember Rowland stated this increase is recommended by the finance committee.

Motion made that the ordinance be placed on the first reading by Councilmember Gibson; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading by Councilmember Gibson; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance Number 2019-19)

## **ITEM # 2**

### **AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT CHANGES TO FEES CHARGED IN ARTICLE I. AS ESTABLISHED IN CHAPTER 36, STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PLACES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Councilmember Rowland stated that the finance committee met this evening to discuss the increase in these fees. Councilmember Rowland stated this was only a slight increase and is recommended by the finance committee.

Motion made that the ordinance be placed on the first reading by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading by Councilmember Gibson; seconded by Councilmember Rowland.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading by Councilmember Williams; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Gibson.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance Number 2019-20)

## **ITEM # 3**

### **AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT CHANGES TO FEES CHARGED IN ARTICLE III, IV, V, VI AND VII AS ESTABLISHED IN CHAPTER 10, BUILDINGS AND BUILDING**

**REGULATIONS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF PARAGOULD,  
ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Councilmember Rowland stated this increase is to cover costs associated with the inspector's office. This increase mostly will affect the contractors that are building houses. Mayor Gaskill stated that Deputy City Inspector Greg Trout had a meeting earlier with the builders and explained to them the need for this increase. This increase is recommended by the finance committee.

Motion made that the ordinance be placed on the first reading by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Gibson.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading by Councilmember Gibson; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading by Councilmember Branch; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Gibson; seconded by Councilmember Agee.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance Number 2019-21)

**ITEM #4**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT CHANGES TO FEES CHARGED IN THE ZONING  
ORDINANCE AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD,  
ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Agee.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Mayor Gaskill explained that this increase is needed to cover costs associated with the inspectors office. This ordinance has been approved by the inspector's office, Mayor and City Attorney. This increase is recommended by the finance committee.

Motion made that the ordinance be placed on the first reading by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading by Councilmember Gibson; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance Number 2019-22)

## **ITEM #5**

### **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR A DRUG FREE WORKPLACE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Agee.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Mayor Gaskill explained that this ordinance is recommended by the Arkansas Municipal League to address the changes in the law associated with medical marijuana, vaping and e-cigarettes.

Motion made that the ordinance be placed on the first reading by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading by Councilmember Branch; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Agee.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance Number 2019-23)

#### **ITEM #6**

**A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A BUILDING AND/OR STRUCTURE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS A NUISANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE VIII. CONDEMNATION OF BUILDINGS SEC. 10-240 THROUGH 10-247. PROPERTY LOCATION: 616 EAST POPLAR STREET.**

Item removed from agenda. Will be brought back at a later date.

#### **ITEM #7**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS TO ATTACH LIENS TO CERTAIN PROPERTIES LOCATED AT THE ADDRESSES SPECIFIED IN THIS RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTING MONIES WHICH ARE OWED THE CITY OF**

**PARAGOULD FOR ENFORCEMENT OF CHAPTER 18 OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES**

Motion made that the resolution be offered by title, name, address and amount only by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Rowland.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

Code Enforcement Officer, J.D. Stephenson provided the council with documentation and photographs of the properties.

Motion made that the resolution be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Agee.

Roll Call: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2019-56)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Gaskill stated that the proposed budget will be presented to the council at the next meeting. Councilmember Rowland called for a finance committee meeting at 5:30 on November 25<sup>th</sup> to review the budget.

Mayor Gaskill also invited the council to a ground breaking ceremony at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow for the new number one fire station located at 700 Highway 49 North.

**ADJOURMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the council, Councilmember Branch moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilmember Williams. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 6:42 p.m.

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Mike Gaskill, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Andrea Williams, City Clerk