

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**November 25, 2019**

The Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 25, 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 Farrell Gibson.

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

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

Councilmember Branch moved minutes from previous council meeting of November 12, 2019 be approved as transcribed; seconded by Councilmember Biggs. All in favor.

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

Public Service	- None
Finance	- Councilmember Rowland stated the committee met at 5:30 this evening and have item number six on tonight's agenda.
Parks and Recreation	- None
Police	- None
Public Health and Ordinances	- Councilmember Biggs called for a committee meeting at 5:30 p.m. on December 9, 2019.
Fire	- Mayor Gaskill stated the ground breaking for the new fire station went well and had a big turnout.
Sanitation	- None
Street/Cemetery	- None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEM #1**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS: APPLICATION OF DONALD G. PURCELL AND JOHN E. PURCELL – PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE 1700-1900 BLOCKS OF HIGHWAY 49 NORTH**

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

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

Attorney Roger Colbert was present along with his clients, Donald G. Purcell and John E. Purcell. Mr. Colbert stated this property is located in the 1700-1900 block of Highway 49 North. This property contains 28.76 acres and is currently zoned C-3. The property owners are requesting this property be rezoned to R-3. This rezone was presented to the planning commission on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Five members were present and all five voted in favor of this rezone.

Mr. Colbert stated several adjoining property owners attended the planning commission meeting in opposition. All of the concerns were addressed in this ordinance including rezoning the North 250 feet R-2, prohibiting mobile homes on the property and no right of ingress or egress from Fairview Road.

Jerry Halsey with Halsey Thrasher Harpole Real Estate Group is marketing the property and was present to answer any questions the council may have. Mr. Halsey stated the property would be marketed for the development of multi-million dollar multi-family dwellings.

Councilmember Agee and Councilmember Biggs had questions concerning traffic issues in that area and the utilities that run thru the middle of the property.

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

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

Item tabled until December 9, 2019 for public input.

## ITEM # 2

### **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS: APPLICATION OF AMY GLENN, KEVIN EUBANKS, MARTHA KARAN SUMMITT AND SARAH WILHOIT – PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE 900-1200 BLOCKS OF HIGHWAY 49 NORTH**

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

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

Attorney Roger Colbert was present representing Amy Glenn, Kevin Eubanks, Martha Karan Summitt and Sarah Wilhoit. Mr. Colbert stated this property is located in the 900-1200 block of Highway 49 North. This property contains 17.56 acres and is currently zoned AG. The property owners are requesting this property be rezoned to C-3. This rezone was presented to the planning commission on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Five members were present and all five voted in favor of this rezone.

Mr. Colbert stated that he has talked with Paragould Airport Manager, Roger Slayton about the issues with this land being at the end of the runway. Mr. Colbert provided documentation to the council showing that Mr. Slayton has no issue with this property being rezoned. Mr. Colbert also stated that his clients are aware that they will still need FAA approval before this property can be developed.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Roll Call: Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; Long, yes; and Rowland, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance Number 2019-24)

### **ITEM # 3**

#### **A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD TO UTILIZE STATE AID STREET MONIES FOR THE FOLLOWING CITY PROJECTS: PARAGOULD OVERLAY**

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

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

Mayor Gaskill stated that he has requested State Aid Street money to overlay McDaniel Road and Oak Drive. This project is expected to cost approximately \$263,451.75. A city the size of Paragould is required to pay 10% up to \$250,000 and the balance over \$250,000. This project is expected to cost the city approximately \$38,451.75.

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

Roll Call: Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; Long, yes; and Rowland, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution Number 2019-57)

Motion made to amend the agenda and add an ordinance authorizing a business to apply for a private club license made by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

### **ITEM #4**

#### **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EL JINETE, INC. TO APPLY FOR A PRIVATE CLUB LIQUOR LICENSE PERMIT WITH THE ARKANSAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL DIVISION FOR THE OPERATION OF A RESTAURANT LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

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

Attorney Jeremy Thomas was present representing El Jinete, Inc. Mr. Thomas stated that this new procedure for the Alcohol Beverage Commission requires council approval before a restaurant can serve mixed drinks in a wet or dry county.

Motion made to place the ordinance on the first reading by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Roll Call: Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; Long, yes; and Rowland, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2019-25)

## **ITEM #5**

**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 Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

Roll Call: Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; Long, yes; and Rowland, 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 Agee; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

Roll Call: Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; Long, yes; and Rowland, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2019-58)

**ITEM # 6**

**REPORT FROM VECTOR DISEASE CONTROL**

A report provided by Vector Disease Control stated that for the month of September/October, 2019 VCDI has utilized six light traps placed in residential and recreational areas throughout the city. The traps collected an average of 20.3 mosquitos per trap night, for a total of 487 mosquitos. Three sites were inspected for larval mosquito breeding. VCDI applied 200 ounces of granular BTI to these sites. VCDI applied adulticide on 14 truck nights spraying a total of 378. miles (13408.90 acres) using a total of 117.7 gallons of adulticide. VCDI responded to six service request and adulticided all parks and any special events during the months of September and October.

Also, a year-end report was provided for 2019. The report stated that VCDI applied adulticide a total of 82 nights spraying a total of 2690.5 miler (98,470.10 acres) using a total of 752.3 gallons of adulticide. VCDI has utilized six light traps placed in residential and recreational areas throughout the city. The traps collected three species a nightly average of 31.2 mosquitos per trap night, for a total of 2,090 mosquitos. Five aerial sprays were performed with a total of 2019 gallons used on 40,766 acres.

**ITEM #7**

**PRESENTATION OF 2020 BUDGET**

Mayor Gaskill presented the following budget to the council as required by law:

<b>City of Paragould</b>			
<b>2020 Proposed Budget</b>			
	2019 Budget Summary	2020 Budget Worksheet	2020 Proposed Budget
<b><u>Revenues and Bank Balances:</u></b>			
<b><u>Revenues &amp; Transfers In:</u></b>			
General Fund	14,735,684.00	2,057,492.45	16,793,176.45

Act 988 Emergency Vehicle Fund	67,400.00	-	67,400.00
ACEDP Grant #790-08905-15 Fund	-	-	-
Advertising and Promotion Fund	100,000.00	40,000.00	140,000.00
Airport Grant Fund	30,000.00	-	30,000.00
City Beautiful Fund	5,400.00	-	5,400.00
Court Automation Fund	44,000.00	2,000.00	46,000.00
Economic Development Fund	1,204,000.00	-	1,204,000.00
Landfill Account	900.00	-	900.00
Linwood Cemetery Trust Fund	9,200.00	1,800.00	11,000.00
Mission Outreach Grant #790-09042-19 Fund	-	218,500.00	218,500.00
Street Crimes Unit/Police Drug Fund	9,380.00	-	9,380.00
Street Fund	3,423,594.00	(646,443.00)	2,777,151.00
Subtotal	19,629,558.00	1,673,349.45	21,302,907.45
<b>Available Bank Balances:</b>			
General Fund	9,802,345.49	-	9,802,345.49
Act 988 Emergency Vehicle Fund	43.88	-	43.88
ACEDP Grant #790-08905-15 Fund	-	-	-
Advertising and Promotion Fund	40,225.26	-	40,225.26
Airport Grant Fund	1.00	-	1.00
City Beautiful Fund	12,355.79	-	12,355.79
Court Automation Fund	125,614.68	-	125,614.68
Economic Development Fund	390,478.56	-	390,478.56
Landfill Account	14,747.99	-	14,747.99

Linwood Cemetery Trust Fund	332,897.75	-	332,897.75
Mission Outreach Grant # Fund	-	-	-
Street Crimes Unit/Police Drug Fund	10,870.41	-	10,870.41
Street Fund	11,273,081.77	-	11,273,081.77
Subtotal	22,002,662.58	-	22,002,662.58
<b>Total Estimated Revenues &amp; Bank Balances</b>	41,632,220.58	1,673,349.45	43,305,570.03
<b><u>Appropriation- Expenditures &amp; Transfers Out:</u></b>			
General Fund:			
Administration & Miscellaneous	1,410,657.50	49,969.56	1,460,627.06
Fire Department	2,628,814.88	5,440,883.72	8,069,698.60
District Court	172,112.10	-	172,112.10
Police Department	4,148,390.95	75,316.73	4,223,707.68
Police Department (Jail Expenditures)	13,000.00	4,000.00	17,000.00
Animal Control	104,157.76	18,563.47	122,721.23
Cemetery	79,793.92	(8,724.03)	71,069.89
Mosquito Control	158,802.00	3,198.00	162,000.00
Sanitation Department	1,935,422.93	67,200.25	2,002,623.18
Parks Department	1,970,189.27	(220,289.68)	1,748,899.59
Airport Department	480,023.84	7,955.34	487,979.18
Emergency 911 Department	1,072,353.34	75,452.62	1,147,805.96
Emergency Dispatch Center	-	-	-
<b><u>Appropriation- Expenditures &amp; Transfers Out (cont'd):</u></b>			
Transfer OUT	-	-	-
Subtotal- General Fund	14,173,718.49	5,513,525.98	19,686,244.47

Act 988 Emergency Vehicle Fund	67,000.00	-	67,000.00
ACEDP Grant #790-08905-15 Fund	-	-	-
Advertising and Promotion Fund	100,000.00	40,000.00	140,000.00
Airport Grant Fund	30,000.00	-	30,000.00
City Beautiful Fund	1,900.00	-	1,900.00
Court Automation Fund	35,000.00	11,000.00	46,000.00
Economic Development Fund	1,097,500.00	-	1,097,500.00
Landfill Account	-	-	-
Linwood Cemetery Trust Fund	4,200.00	1,800.00	6,000.00
Mission Outreach Grant #790-09042-19 Fund	-	218,500.00	218,500.00
Street Crimes Unit/Police Drug Fund	7,900.00	-	7,900.00
Street Fund	3,369,884.45	226,832.35	3,596,716.80
<b><u>Total Appropriations</u></b>	18,887,102.94	6,011,658.33	24,897,761.27
<b><u>Unappropriated Funds:</u></b>			
General Fund	10,364,311.00	(3,456,033.53)	6,909,277.47
Act 988 Emergency Vehicle Fund	443.88	-	443.88
ACEDP Grant #790-08905-15 Fund	-	-	-
Advertising and Promotion Fund	40,225.26	-	40,225.26
Airport Grant Fund	1.00	-	1.00
City Beautiful Fund	15,855.79	-	15,855.79
Court Automation Fund	134,614.68	(9,000.00)	125,614.68
Economic Development Fund	496,978.56	-	496,978.56
Landfill Account	15,647.99	-	15,647.99

Linwood Cemetery Trust Fund	337,897.75	-	337,897.75
Mission Outreach Grant #790-09042-19 Fund	-	-	-
Street Crimes Unit/Police Drug Fund	12,350.41	-	12,350.41
Street Fund	11,326,791.32	(873,275.35)	10,453,515.97
<b>Total Unappropriated Funds</b>	22,745,117.64	(4,338,308.88)	18,407,808.76
	22,745,117.64	(4,338,308.88)	18,407,808.76
<i>Note: The following City-owned bank accounts are used to process credit card transactions only: Municipal Airport, City Credit Card, and Parks Credit Card.</i>			

Mayor Gaskill asked the council to approve the raises for the employees so that they may be notified at the December meetings and the purchase of three new police vehicles so that they may be ordered to receive early in 2020.

Motion made to approve the purchase of three police cars in the 2020 budget made by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Long.

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

Motion made to approve raises for city employees made by Councilmember Branch; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; Long, yes; and Rowland, yes. Employee raises approved.

Mayor Gaskill asked to amend the agenda and add a resolution supporting the House Joint Resolution 1018 of 2019.

Motion made to amend the agenda and add a resolution supporting House Joint Resolution 1018 of 2019 made by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Long. All in favor.

**ITEM #8**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS SUPPORTING THE HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1018 OF 2019 (HJR 1018 OF 2019), PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO CONTINUE A LEVY OF A ONE-HALF PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX FOR STATE HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES; COUNTY ROADS, BRIDGES AND**

**OTHER SURFACE TRANSPORTATION; AND CITY STREETS BRIDGES, AND  
OTHER SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AFTER THE RETIREMENT OF THE  
BONDS AUTHORIZED IN ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENT 91, AS  
SPECIAL REVENUE TO BE DISTRIBUTED UNDER THE ARKANSAS  
HIGHWAY REVENUE DISTRIBUTION LAW.**

Motion made that the resolution be presented by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

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

Mayor Gaskill stated that he received this resolution from the Arkansas Municipal League to show support for Governor Hutchinson's initiative to continue the one-half percent sales and use tax on gasoline to improve, maintain and repair our state highways, county roads and city streets. If not renewed this tax will expire on June 30, 2023.

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

Roll Call: Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; Long, yes; and Rowland, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2019-59)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None

**ADJOURMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the council, Councilmember Branch moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilmember Biggs. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 6:56 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Gaskill, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Andrea Williams, City Clerk