

COUNCIL MEETING

March 9, 2020

The Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 9, 2020 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 Charles Long, Mark Rowland, Susan Williams, Randy Aden, Josh Agee, Jeremy Biggs, Jackie Branch and Farrell Gibson.

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

Councilmember Branch moved minutes from previous council meeting of February 24, 2020 be approved as transcribed; seconded by Councilmember Williams. All in favor.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

Public Service - None

Finance - None

Parks and Recreation - None

Police - Councilmember Agee stated the committee met at 5:45 this evening to discuss changes to the police department policy.

Changes include storage of body cam video pertaining to civil matters from three years to 90 days; replacing Naloxone with state policy; storage of property evidence management to no longer include name and disposition (case number only); update of reserve policy taking out CALEA requirements; change in firearms training to state low light and decision making scenarios should be included instead of must be included; and under appearance and hygiene allowing officers to have facial hair with guidelines.

Councilmember Agee stated the committee recommends approval of the changes to the police department policy.

Motion made to accept the changes as presented by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs. All in favor.

Public Health and Ordinances	- None
Fire	- None
Sanitation	- None
Street/Cemetery	- None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM #1

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT CHANGES TO PERMITS FOR RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION OR RELOCATION 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 Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Long.

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

After some discussion, Councilmember Biggs made the motion to table this matter until some changes can be made; seconded by Councilmember Long.

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

ITEM #2

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A BUILDING AND/OR STRUCTURE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OR 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: 700 EAST LAKE STREET

Motion made that the resolution be offered by title, owner's name, legal description and address only by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

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

Code Enforcement officer, J.D. Stephenson, was present and presented the council with documentation and photographs of the property.

Property owner, Dawn Leah Cox, was present and told the council that she was planning on tearing the house down herself but was waiting on her income tax return.

Councilmember Biggs made the motion to adopt the resolution but give Ms. Cox sixty days instead of the usual thirty days after the condemnation to have the house torn down; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: Long, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; and Gibson, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-07)

ITEM #3

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A BUILDING AND/OR STRUCTURE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OR 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: 325 SOUTH 5TH AVENUE

Motion made that the resolution be offered by title, owner's name, legal description and address only by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

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

Code Enforcement officer, J.D. Stephenson, was present and presented the council with documentation and photographs of the property.

Property owner, Linda Bridges, was present to address the council. Ms. Bridges stated that she does not own the property even though all court and tax records list her and her sons as the owners. She stated the house has been vacant for ten years, has no utilities, and is being used for storage.

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs to table this matter until Mark Bridges and Henry Bridges can be served; seconded by Councilmember Rowland. All in favor. Resolution tabled.

ITEM #4

**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: 501 EAST GARLAND STREET**

Motion made that the resolution be offered by title, owner's name, legal description and address only by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

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

Code Enforcement officer, J.D. Stephenson, was present and presented the council with documentation and photographs of the property.

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs to table this matter until Mark Bridges and Henry Bridges can be served; seconded by Councilmember Rowland. All in favor. Resolution tabled.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

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 6:36 p.m.

Mike Gaskill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Williams, City Clerk