

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 8, 2020**

The Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, June 8, 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 Mark Rowland.

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

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

Councilmember Aden moved minutes from previous council meeting of March 9, 2020 be approved as transcribed; seconded by Councilmember Agee. All in favor.

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

Public Service	- None
Finance	- None
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 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 Gibson; seconded by Councilmember Rowland.

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

Mayor Gaskill stated this ordinance was prepared by the city attorney in conjunction with the city inspector's office. This ordinance will allow the city inspector to charge a fee for additional permits if the work is not completed in a timely manner or give additional time on a large project that requires more than 12 months.

Motion made to place the ordinance on the first reading by Councilmember Rowland; 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 that the rules be suspended and the ordinance placed on the second reading by Councilmember Agee; 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 rules be suspended and the ordinance placed on the third and final 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 that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Rowland; 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 No. 2020-10)

## **ITEM #2**

### **A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLOSING AND USE OF CERTAIN STREETS FOR AN EVENT ENTITLED “PARAGOULD FARMERS MARKET”**

Motion made that the resolution be offered by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

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

Mayor Gaskill stated this is a yearly resolution to close streets downtown for the Paragould Farmer’s Market. Due to Covid-19 Main Street Paragould is not sure of the opening date but hopeful it will be soon.

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. 2020-08)

## **ITEM #3**

### **A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS TO UTILIZE FEDERAL-AID TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FUNDS**

Motion made that the resolution be offered 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.

Mayor Gaskill explained that this a 80/20 grant to help fund the Eight Mile Creek Trail that the Greene County Future Fund is developing. Councilmember Agee explained that grants for \$403,000.00 and \$383,000.00 have already been obtained and GCFE will request \$500,000.00 for this grant.

Councilmember Agee told the council that after approval from Arkansas Department of Transportation this project will be bid out and once a bid is accepted the project could possibly take up to one year to complete.

Motion made to adopt the resolution 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. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-09)

#### **ITEM #4**

**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, owner, address, parcel and total only by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

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 was present and provided the council with photos and documentation of work performed.

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

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. 2020-10)

#### **ITEM #5**

**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: 508 W. HIGHLAND**

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

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

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

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. 2020-11)

#### **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: 325 S. 5<sup>th</sup> 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: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

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

Motion made that the resolution be adopted 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 carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-12)

#### **ITEM #7**

**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 E. GARLAND**

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

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

Motion made that the resolution be adopted 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 carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-13)

## **ITEM #8**

**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 BOGIL ROAD**

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

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

Property owner, John Otto, was present to address the council. Mr. Otto explained that his residence had burned in May, 2019 and there is an ongoing arson investigation. Because of the investigation his insurance company has not settled his claim. Mr. Otto stated that he is unsure at this time whether he wants to repair the existing home or tear it down and build a new residence.

Motion made by Councilmember Rowland to table the resolution until July 13, 2020 for Mr. Otto to provide more information regarding the insurance claim; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

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 tabled.

## **ITEM #9**

**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: 701 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes.

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

Motion made that the resolution 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. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-14)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Councilmember Biggs stated that he would like to commend the organizers, protesters and the Paragould Police Department for the peaceful protest that took place in Paragould last week.

**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 6:41 p.m.

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Mike Gaskill, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Andrea Williams, City Clerk