

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

**September 14, 2020**

A public hearing was held Monday, September 14, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the closing of a platted alley situated in Block “J” of Howell’s Addition to the City of Paragould, Arkansas, and a portion of “Short Street” as platted, to the City of Paragould, Arkansas.

Attorney Roger Colbert, representing Elizabeth Mills, executrix of the estate of Eula Hurd, was present and stated the advertisement for this public hearing ran in the newspaper on August 27, 2020 and September 3, 2020 as required by law. Mr. Colbert stated that no one had contacted him regarding this matter and no one appeared tonight in opposition.

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**September 14, 2020**

The Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 14, 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 Farrell Gibson, Charles Long, Mark Rowland, Susan Williams, Randy Aden, Josh Agee, Jeremy Biggs and Jackie Branch.

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

Councilmember Branch moved minutes from previous council meeting of August 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	- None
Public Health and Ordinances	- None

Fire	- Councilmember Long called for a committee meeting on September 28, 2020 at 5:45 p.m.
Sanitation	- None
Street/Cemetery	- None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ITEM #1**

**AN ORDINANCE VACATING AND CLOSING A PLATTED ALLEY SITUATED IN BLOCK "J" OF HOWELL'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS, AND A PORTION OF "SHORT STREET" AS PLATTED, TO THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS**

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

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

Attorney Roger Colbert was present representing Elizabeth Mills, executrix of the estate of Eula Hurd. Mr. Colbert stated there was a public hearing regarding this matter held at 5:30 this evening and no one appeared in opposition.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion made to adopt the ordinance made by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll Call: Gibson, yes; Long, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; and Branch, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2020-17)

## **ITEM #2**

### **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PARAGOULD, ARKANSAS. LOCATION: 115 N 14<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

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

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

Tom Dearin, owner of the property, was present. Jack Stewart, potential buyer of the property, was also present. Mr. Stewart stated that he is wanting to purchase the property to be used for a pediatric therapy center. He is requesting the property be rezoned from R2 to OP. This matter was presented to the planning commission on September 3, 2020. Five members of the commission were present and all five voted in favor of this rezone.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion made to adopt the ordinance made by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Agee.

Roll Call: Gibson, yes; Long, abstain; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; and Branch, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2020-18)

### **ITEM #3**

#### **A RESOLUTION TO GRANT A VARIANCE FOR A BILLBOARD REPLACEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

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

Mayor Gaskill told the council that this resolution was needed so that Curtis Davenport could replace the billboard that was removed at the intersection of Highway 412 and North Third Street. The variance states that the billboards must be placed in the same area, must be the same size and cannot be LED or back lit.

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

Roll Call: Gibson, yes; Long, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; and Branch, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-25)

### **ITEM #4**

#### **A RESOLUTON 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 name, address, parcel and amount only by Councilmember Rowland; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

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

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

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

Roll Call: Gibson, yes; Long, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; and Branch, yes. Motion carried eight to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-26)

## **ITEM #5**

### **REPORT FROM ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION BOARD**

Councilmember Biggs told the council that the balance in the A & P account is \$184,425.06. 2020 revenues were projected at \$93,333.36, actual revenue is \$58,218.87. A total of \$31,250 of funding has been returned to the A&P Commission this year due to events being cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Councilmember Biggs told the council that the A & P Commission funded the following events this year: Big Bang 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Show in the amount of \$15,000, Paragould ATA Southwest Regional in the amount of \$5,000, Paragould Kiwanis Club Downtown Park Project in the amount of \$20,000 and they have recommitted to a five year pledge totaling \$250,000 to help fund and complete the Downtown Power Plant Cultural and Event Center.

## **ITEM #6**

### **APPROVAL OF KIRBY MCCHRISTIAN TO THE A&P COMMISSION – TERM TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2022**

Councilmember Biggs stated that commission member Kodi Dobbins resigned from the commission in July, 2020. Councilmember Biggs stated the commission is recommending Kirby McChristian, the new general manager at Hampton Inn, to replace Ms. Dobbins.

Motion made by Councilmember Rowland to appoint Kirby McChristian to fill the unexpired term of Kodi Dobbins until December 31, 2022; seconded by Councilmember Williams. All in favor.

## **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 6:24 p.m.

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Mike Gaskill, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Andrea Williams, City Clerk