

COUNCIL MEETING

October 26, 2020

The Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, October 26, 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 Charles Long.

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

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

Councilmember Branch moved minutes from previous council meeting of October 12, 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	- None
Sanitation	- None
Street/Cemetery	- None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM #1

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF WATER, SEWER AND ELECTRIC REFUNDING AND IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS; PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Motion made by Councilmember Biggs to open the floor to a public hearing regarding the issuance and sale of water, sewer and electric refunding and improvement revenue bonds; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

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

Approximately ten people and the council were present. No one present addressed the council.

Public hearing was closed.

Motion made that the ordinance be offered by title only by Councilmember Branch; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

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

General Manager and CEO, Darrell Phillips, was present to address the council. Mr. Phillips told the council that this bond issue is restructuring debt with no rate increase. This bond issue will free up \$20,000,000.00 to use for three major sewer rehab projects including downtown sewer repair, over haul the head works at the waste water treatment plant and lift station and line work in the Purcell Road area.

Taylor Marshall with Friday, Eldridge and Clark Law Firm and Michael McBride with Stephens, Inc. were both present to answer questions the council may have.

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

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

Motion was made that the rules be suspended and the ordinance be placed on the second reading by title only by Councilmember Branch; seconded by Councilmember Long.

Roll Call: 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 title only by Councilmember Agee; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

Roll Call: 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 Williams.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2020-21)

Motion was made by Councilmember Gibson to adopt the emergency clause separately; seconded by Councilmember Branch.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Emergency clause adopted.

ITEM #2

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE TAX RATE TO THE COUNTY CLERK

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

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

Mayor Gaskill told the council that the city is required by law to certify the tax rate to the county clerk each year before November and that the tax rate has not changed.

Motion to adopt the resolution made by Councilmember Long; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-31)

ITEM #3

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 ADDRESS IS 610 SOUTH 8TH AVENUE**

Motion made that the resolution be offered by name, address and legal description by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Agee.

Roll Call: 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 photographs and documentation of the property.

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

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-32)

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 name, address, parcel and amount only by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll Call: 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 photos and documentation of the properties.

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

Roll Call: Williams, yes; Aden, yes; Agee, yes; Biggs, yes; Branch, yes; Gibson, yes; and Long, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2020-33)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Gaskill presented Councilmember Aden with a plaque from the Arkansas Municipal League for the Jack Rhoads Award honoring and acknowledging his 25 years of service.

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 6:34 p.m.

Mike Gaskill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Williams, City Clerk