

COUNCIL MEETING

July 26, 2021

The Paragould City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 26, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall with Mayor Agee presiding.

Invocation was led by Councilmember Mark Rowland.

The meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Those present were Aaron Camp, Mark Rowland, Susan Williams, Neal Adams, Randy Aden, Brad Baine and Jeremy Biggs. Lindsey Boggs was absent.

City Attorney Robert Thompson and City Clerk Andrea Williams were present.

Councilmember Williams moved minutes from previous council meeting of July 12, 2021, be approved as transcribed; seconded by Councilmember Aden. All in favor.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES:

Public Service	- None
Finance	- Councilmember Rowland stated the committee met at 5:30 this evening to review a tower space lease agreement from Gant, Inc. Councilmember Rowland stated the committee would bring an ordinance to the next meeting.
Parks and Recreation	- None
Police	- None
Public Health and Ordinances	- Councilmember Biggs stated the committee met at 5:15 this evening and have item number one (1) on tonight's agenda.
Fire	- None
Sanitation	- Councilmember Aden stated the committee met at 5:45 p.m. on July 12, 2021 and have item number two (2) on tonight's agenda.

Street/Cemetery

- None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

REPORT FROM CITY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE REGARDING 411 NEWTON STREET

Property owner, Aundra Woods, was present to address the council. Director of Planning and Development, Kevin Lang and Deputy City Inspector, Greg Trout were present and told the council that substantial improvements have been made to the property at 411 Newton Street.

Motion was made by Councilmember Rowland to allow Mr. Woods to continue to work on the property and a resolution to resend the condemnation will be presented to the council once a certificate of occupancy is obtained; seconded by Councilmember Camp.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs. Motion carried seven to zero.

NEW BUSINESS:

ITEM #1

AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH PARKLETS AND POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR THE LEASING OF PUBLIC PARKING SPACES AND SIDEWALKS TO BE UTILIZED AS PARKLETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Councilmember Biggs stated the ordinance committee met at 5:15 this evening to discuss this ordinance. He explained that a parklet will allow businesses and restaurants to lease the parking spaces in front of their business to allow more seating for customers. Councilmember Baine asked if alcohol would be served outside and if so, what the difference was in parklets and an entertainment district. Councilmember Biggs explained that restaurants will have to expand their building footprint with Alcohol Beverage Control to serve outside and will not be able to let customers leave with an alcoholic beverage.

Councilmember Biggs stated the parklet area will have to have barriers and be designed as a semi-permanent area with regulations as to how they look.

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Motion made that the rules be suspended and the ordinance be placed on the second reading by Councilmember Camp; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Motion made that the rules be suspended and the ordinance be placed on the third and final reading by Councilmember Williams; seconded by Councilmember Aden.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2021-20)

ITEM #2

AN ORDINANCE TO WAIVE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR NEW EQUIPMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Councilmember Aden stated the council met on July 12th at 5:45 p.m. to discuss the lease of sanitation trucks. Councilmember Aden stated that in the past we have leased the equipment with a buyback option to continually have new equipment. Mayor Agee stated that we will be leasing three (3) Heil 28 yard DuraPack Python automated collection body mounted on 2022 Mack LR Dual Drive Chassis for a total of \$941,421.96, payable \$16,700.00 a month at 2.25 % interest; one (1) 28 yard Heil Halfpack frontend loader mounted on a 2022 Mack TE64T for \$298,498.06, payable \$5,050.00 a month at 2.25% interest; and a Heil 5000 – 18 yard compaction rearloader mounted on a Freightliner M2 for \$193,630.56, payable \$3,750.00 per month at 2.25% interest. Councilmember Aden stated the committee recommends this lease.

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Motion made that the ordinance be adopted by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Camp.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Ordinance adopted. (Ordinance No. 2021-21)

ITEM #3

A RESOLUTION TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Mayor Agee explained that this resolution is needed to apply for a \$13,000.00 Coronavirus Response Grant from the Federal Aviation Administration to be used for operations, personnel, cleaning supplies, sanitation and janitorial services to combat the spread of Covid-19 at the airport.

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2021-60)

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 by Councilmember Rowland that the resolution be offered by title, owner, parcel number and amount only; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Code Enforcement Officers, J.D. Stephenson and Omer Overbay, were present and provided the council with photographs and documentation of the properties. No one appeared in opposition.

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

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2021-61)

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 by Councilmember Rowland that the resolution be offered by title, owner, parcel number and amount only; seconded by Councilmember Biggs.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes.

Code Enforcement Officers, J.D. Stephenson and Omer Overbay, were present and provided the council with photographs and documentation of the properties. No one appeared in opposition.

Motion made that the resolution be adopted by Councilmember Camp; seconded by Councilmember Adams.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Resolution adopted. (Resolution No. 2021-62)

ITEM #6

PARAGOULD HOUSING AUTHORITY – RE-APPOINTMENT OF SUSAN YOUNGBLOOD. TERM TO EXPIRE FEBRUARY 2026

Mayor Agee stated that he had been contacted by David Lange, Executive Director of the Paragould Housing Authority requesting the re-appointment of Susan Youngblood to the Housing Authority board of directors for a term expiring in February 2026.

Motion to re-appoint Susan Youngblood to the Paragould Housing Authority board of directors made by Councilmember Biggs; seconded by Councilmember Baine.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes. Motion carried seven to zero. Re-appointment confirmed.

ITEM #7

VECTOR DISEASE CONTROL REPORT – JUNE 2021

A report provided by Vector Disease Control stated that for the month of June, 2021. VCDI has utilized five light traps placed in residential and recreational areas throughout the city. The traps collected an average of 14.493 mosquitos per trap night, for a total of 426 mosquitos. Three sites were inspected for larval mosquito breeding and two of those sites had larval present. As a result of these inspections, .5 ounces of granular BTI (Aquabac 200g) was applied to the breeding sites. VCDI applied adulticide on 14 truck nights spraying a total of 480.50 miles (17,03.30 acres) using a total of 15.40 gallons of adulticide. VCDI responded to twelve service request and adulticided all parks and any special events during the month of June.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Wilma Jones, property owner of 2101 Fairview Road, which was condemned on June 14, 2021, came before the council to ask for more time to remove her belongings from the property before it was taken down. Ms. Jones stated that she was planning on hiring someone herself to take the property down.

Motion was made by Councilmember Camp to give Ms. Jones until September 14, 2021 to have the property cleared out and taken down; seconded by Councilmember Rowland.

Roll call: Camp, yes; Rowland, yes; Williams, yes; Adams, yes; Aden, yes; Baine, yes; and Biggs, yes. Motion carried seven to zero.

Mayor Agee told the council that the city received money from the American Rescue Plan in the amount of \$2,994,835.48. Mayor Agee stated that the money will be put in a separate account and we will wait further guidance from the state on how the money is to be utilized.

Mayor Agee also explained that Code Enforcement has been receiving several complaints regarding trash containers being left by the streets, which is prohibited per the city's ordinance. Code Enforcement is notifying residents that have trash containers that have been left out for days that they should move them off the street or they may be issued a citation.

Mayor Agee handed out departmental incident numbers for the month of June, 2021.

City Clerk Andrea Williams presented Mayor Agee with the Adrian L. White Leadership Award from the Arkansas Municipal League. This award is given to league members that serve on league committees and commissions for six (6) years. The award is in memory of Adrian L. White, who was the mayor of Pocahontas from 1967-1974. Mr. White served as the Arkansas Municipal League president and vice-president.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the council, Councilmember Williams moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Councilmember Adams. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 7:42 p.m.

Josh Agee, Mayor

ATTEST:

Andrea Williams, City Clerk