

APRIL 21, 2020 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting location: Pike Co. Fairgrounds Building

Regular Monthly meeting: 6:00 in the evening

The Glenwood City Council was called to order by Mayor B. T. Smith at 6:07 Tuesday evening. City Recorder Sharon Noble made the council roll call, with the four council members being present: Karen Baker, Charlie Caldwell, Jimmy Clark, and John Powell. The opening prayer was given by newspaper editor, Joe May.

The mayor and city recorder briefly discussed the February 25th prepared council minutes, and those will be read at the next council meeting. The March 31, 2020 called meeting minutes were reviewed next, and they were accepted and approved on a 4/0 council vote. The motion to approve was made by Baker, with a second by Clark.

The February 20, 2020 financials were next on the agenda. The treasurer asked about the Sanitation money market account, and the mayor agreed it can be an item for later consideration. Councilman Powell made the motion to approve the February financial report, and Councilwoman Baker seconded the motion. The approval vote was unanimous.

Mayor Smith spoke briefly about the city effort to handle the disposal of large garbage items the sanitation truck cannot pick up as a regular weekly service. The additional cost to the city for the personnel and equipment required will be approximately \$1,400. Council members agreed the large pick up effort is a continuing need residents support.

There was brief discussion between Smith and Powell on the city being double charged by the city attorney on an ordinance Powell had authored recently. Powell said he had gone to the city attorney for clarification since the ordinance was to be considered as an emergency measure. The mayor and Powell agreed they will coordinate their future legal efforts before seeking assistance from the city attorney.

Recent citizen questions regarding the city siren system were explained by the mayor. He told the council a malfunctioning item in the electronic board has been replaced. The cost was approximately \$669. A city employee and fire department volunteer said the siren is activated in case of a tornado warning, not high winds.

The mayor told the council that Texarkana Digital had handled the work required for the state required notice, mailed to all Glenwood water customers. The mailout was sent to 1,466 water users, at 61 cents a mailer. Smith referred to a missed water sample being collected and sent to the Health Department last August. He said the water was safe, but the missed sample was why the letter was necessary.

An agenda item requesting that A-1 Fireworks company be allowed to use city property to set up that business for the 4th of July and New Year's was briefly discussed. The location is on

highway 70 East, and the company has used the location the past few years. Baker made the motion to approve, with a second by Powell. The vote was 4/0.

Under agenda item #13, the mayor announced an official bid opening set for May 7, at 1:00 in the council chambers. This is for the Lakeshore Drive area where the old water lines have deteriorated, requiring frequent city repairs. Franks Engineering submitted the preliminary project report and specifications.

Mayor Smith asked the council for their approval of a recent fire department payment made to Bumper to Bumper Auto Parts to assure that all fire department trucks are serviced adequately. He said the new fire department officers could not locate some needed servicing records. The expense shown was \$830.

Under announcements, no council members had specific reports or items listed, but the mayor had several. He said the sewer system DMR February and March reports showed no excursions. He said on one, the department "came close, but were within limits." He said water samples have been testing clear also. Then he asked the council about discontinuing the use of a paid Glenwood City listing in the phone company Yellow Pages. He and the council agreed "no one sees it," and the savings per year would be approximately \$380. Baker made the motion to approve, with Powell seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The Arkansas Department of Transportation's recent notification to the city was the next announcement item. Smith said they were informing the mayor and council that the bridge on Caney Creek needs repair work. The bridge is structurally sound, but needs concrete poured to check the erosion issues. The mayor said he will bring back a proposal to the council soon. Then he talked about the continuing street project along First Street and Hays. He said the only thing remaining since the sidewalk work, is the actual paving.

Grant Farm Road was the subject of the next announcement. Smith said the distance of the road in the city limits may require a "chip and seal" job, rather than paving. There was brief discussion, and the mayor said he will come back to the council after obtaining some area bids.

The final major discussion was on the purchase of the second Lagoon Commander equipment the city authorized at the last council meeting. With the two installed, the mayor said this will help with the summer algae problems in the water treatment holding tank or settling pond. The cost of the second Lagoon Commander was \$19,086.80. The used unit approved earlier by the council was near \$14,000. Including installation costs, the total for the two units is approximately \$35,000.

Councilwoman Baker told the council that someone is interested in the city owned land on Highway 70, the mayor stated he would present any proposal to the council. Then the mayor brought up his meeting with three Caddo River property owners recently, and a representative of the "Stream Team" of the state Game and Fish department. He said the proposal will be a "cooperative effort" to improve the banks of the Caddo River within the city. The study has

gone to West Central Planning later in the fall to seek grant funding. Smith told the council the Stream Team report has the full support of the property owners involved. He said Johnny Plyler, one of the property owners initiated this Meeting with the stream team. The other property owner is David Clayborn, who owns Caddo River Canoes. Smith said the erosion problem along this shoreline has been years in the making, is getting worse. There was considerable discussion and the mayor told the council he would move forward with the proposed grant application.

In final remarks, Mayor Smith and the council discussed the city's financial shortages related to the corona virus shut down of state and local businesses. We will have a decrease in sales tax and state turnback funds. He told the council that we use a portion of the city's water and sewer revenue to supplement the note payment.

Smith also asked the council to authorize him, as mayor, to change the way the city currently pays its monthly AFDA interest payments on current city water department loans. Smith requested that the council change to the AFDA recommendation of automatic drafts for city note payments, rather than the current city check writing procedure. The motion was made by Powell and seconded by Clark. The vote was 4/0.

Powell then made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Baker. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:04.

(Minutes drafted by city recorder, Sharon Noble)

APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON _____, 2020. VOTE COUNT _____

MAYOR BILLY T. SMITH _____

COUNCIL MEMBERS: KAREN BAKER _____

CHARLIE CALDWELL _____

JIMMY CLARK _____

JOHN POWELL _____

ATTESTED BY CITY RECORDER/TREASURER:

SHARON NOBLE _____