City of Eudora

239 S Main Street

Eudora, Chicot County, Arkansas 71640

STEPHEN TISDALE, MAYOR **BOARD OF ALDERMAN**

JOSEPH MAZZANTI, ATTORNEY HOWARD BROWN DEBORAH SCOTT

JUANITA BURTON, CLERK TRAVI S COLLINS CHARLENE TAYLOR

FRANK FARRIS ROBERT THOMAS, JR.

BEULAH MAIDEN MARCO TONEY

MINUTES OF THE EUDORA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 4, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stephen Tisdale at 6: 11 p.m. There were 7 aldermen present at roll call. Alderman Howard Brown arrived later.

Minutes of City Council Regular Meeting April 6, 2015 were approved as printed.

Financial/Treasurer’s Report, Clark Terrell, CPA

Mr. Terrell read prepared statement. Alderman Beulah Maiden moved, Alderman Frank Farris seconded that Mayor Tisdale seek out tax attorney on contingency basis to appeal case in Tax Court for penalties with IRS. Motion carried.

Alderman Maiden reported she had been talking with Eudora citizens about supporting a ½ cents sales tax to get the City out of hole it’s in and wanted to know if the other Council members supported it. Mayor Tisdale responded with explanation that he thought the citizens should be asked after several months of proving that this council could be trusted to handle the City business responsibly and was trying to move forward.

In response to questions, it was noted that Auxiliary Officer Wayne Williams training came out of Police Budget.

Alderman Collins questioned $600+ bill of Jones Tire Company. Mr. Terrell stated he would get back with Mr. Collins on what the exact expenditure item was.

Alderman Farris questioned diesel (off the road) fuel.

Alderman Collins moved, Alderman Marco Toney seconded that Financial Report be accepted. Motion carried.

City Attorney Mazzanti present.

Department Reports

*Police Department*

Chief Johnson was not present but a written request presented asked for an additional 46,000 be added to the Police Department budget to hire an additional full time and 2 part-time officers. In Chief Johnson’s absence, questions and comments from the Council were addressed to Captain Douglas Penwick. Questions varied from number of current police staff, scheduling, comp time and salary to comments on how well Captain Penwick performed.

Mayor Tisdale reported that Police Dept. was $4,000 over budget and the only way to find additional monies was to cut payroll. Mayor stated that a recent hire had been made for additional part-time officer David Corden, a retired homicide officer.

Discussion about the Chief of Police patrolling ensued. Alderman Frank Farris moved, Alderman Marco Toney seconded that Eudora Police Dept. decal on cars. Motion carried. Alderman Farris moved, Alderman Toney seconded that all police vehicles be parked at police station.

Alderman Frank Farris moved, Alderman Beulah Maiden seconded that Chief of Police be given until June 1, 2015 to move to Eudora. Motion carried.

*Fire Dept-*

Rural Fire Dept Association membership fee $20 per Fire Fighter

*David Jones, Code Enforcer.-made power point presentation later in session*

Old Business

New Business

1. Occupational License Ordinance Review –Mayor asked Council if they wanted to go with Schedule 1 of Ordinance. Mayor advised to bring updated Ordinance back to City Council meeting in June.
2. City Building Rental Fees-Alderman Farris moved, Alderman Collins seconded that Fee Schedule presented be adopted with variance if City is co-sponsor. Motion Passed
3. Youth Advancing Program’s Access to the Community Room – not addressed
4. Contract-Out Park Maintenance ($10,000)
5. Street Dept. Tractor Motors Repair – Alderman Frank Farris moved, Alderman Marco Toney seconded that $8,000 be expended for motor for tractor mower. Motion carried.
6. Mason’s Salvage bid on old police cars – Alderman Marco Toney moved, Alderman Charlene Taylor seconded that cars will be disposed of for anything over $450
7. Prioritize City Ditch Cleanup – Use City Backhoe to drain/clean up ditches McBride’s
8. Compliance Officer Presentation – David Jones, Code Enforcer made power point presentation on bldgs. And streets that needed addressing by code enforcement.
9. Police Department Budget – discussed earlier in session.

Results of Other items discussed-

Alderman Marco Toney moved, Alderman Frank Farris seconded to remove limits on Mayor’s spending on parts and chemicals for Water Dept. Motion carried.

Alderman Marco Toney moved, Alderman Charlene Taylor seconded that $1068 peat gravel bill be paid. Motion carried.

Alderman Frank Farris moved, Alderman Robert Thomas, Jr. seconded that Mayor and City Clerk/Treasurer attend Rural Services Conference. Motion carried.

Mayor reported in an effort to cut expenses, one telephone line has been deleted at City Hall and one internet line disconnected. Additionally, Mayor requested input on whether city employees should work longer to offset time used for lunch and or whether City Hall should be open during lunch with city employees rotating lunch. Alderman Maiden moved, Alderman Toney seconded that hours at City Hall stay the same. City Hall will be closed from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Alderman Robert Thomas, Jr. moved, Alderman Debra Scott seconded that Handicap Accessibility be painted . Motion carried.

Alderman Maiden reported complaint from Ward 3 of wire hanging from light pole.

Other Ward discussion included replacing fire hydrant on Front Street and Readland’s water bill.

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Travis Collins, seconded by Alderman Beulah Maiden. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

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Stephen Tisdale, Mayor Juanita Burton, Clerk