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

July 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stephen Tisdale at 6: 00 p.m. There were 8 aldermen present at roll call. 2013 Audit was reviewed by Council. Mayor Tisdale brought the Council’s attention to the deficits found by the Legislative Audit Committee. Mayor asked CPA Clark Terrell to check on all deposits to ensure that we have separate collateralization for each account at all institutions that the City does business with and to give more detail where deemed necessary to Council on Audit Findings. Question and Answer period was allotted for Council to ask any questions or make comments on the Audit.

Financial/Treasurer’s Report, Clark Terrell, CPA- Mr. Terrell read prepared statement that all payroll taxes due for the month of June 2015 are current and paid. He reported that he was able to obtain balances on the last 4 qtrs that the City of Eudora still owes for FY 2010-2011. He stated if the taxes were paid today the balance would be $178,219.04. Mayor interjected explanation for why Mr. Terrell explains each month that all taxes due and payable are current and paid. Mr. Terrell asked if there were any questions about the monthly financial statement. Alderman Collins asked for amount per mth being paid on the FY 2010-2011 taxes. Mr. Terrell responded $9100. Aldeman Collins asked how much per mth on regular taxes, Mr. Terrell and Mayor responded it depends on the monthly payroll amount. Alderman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_moved, seconded by Alderman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Financial Report be approved. Motion carried.

Mayor Tisdale thanked Alderman Beulah Maiden for noting that the June minutes approval had not been done. Alderman Robert Thomas,Jr. moved, seconded by Alderman Beulah Maiden that the Minutes of City Council Regular Meeting June 1, 2015 be approved. Motion carried. Mayor noted that a Special Called Meeting was held but no action was taken. It was moved by Alderman Maiden, seconded by Alderman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_that the Minutes of the Special Called Meeting of June 15, 2015 to work on budget be approved. Motion carried.

City Attorney Mazzanti present. –Attorney Mazzanti reported that he had made inquiries as requested at last council meeting about holding a special election to enact a Sales Tax for the purpose of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.He has received some feedback from the City of Blytheville but did not have an opportunity to prepare a report for the City Council but would have something prepared for the August meeting.

Department Reports

*Police Department*

Chief of Police, William El-Amin reported he had completed a USDA Grant application requesting $52,433.16 (75 % of Cost) for the purpose of purchasing two police vehicles (Ford Taurus,V6s ), the City’s match amount would be $17,477.72 (25% of cost). He requested permission to proceed with submission of grant. Alderman Robert Thomas moved, Alderman Marco Toney seconded that Chief El-Amin proceed with USDA Grant application. Motion carried. Two old vehicles will be sold. Chief El-Amin stated he also planned to apply for a grant for a digitalized finger printing machine.

Mayor requested that Alderman speak up as Clerk/Recorder was having a hard time hearing who was making motions.

Alderman Frank Farris questioned Chief El-Amin how many police officers are currently employed and how many lived in Eudora. Chief El-Amin responded that there are currently 4 police officers on staff and 2 live in Eudora. Alderman Farris asked who were they, Chief El-Amin stated they are Officers Gayfield and Williams (2 part-time officers). Alderman Frank Farris asked when would the other 2 officers be moving to Eudora. Chief El-Amin stated there were no plans for officers to move. Alderman Farris stated it was a requirement by an Ordinance. Chief El-Amin stated he received no applications from residents of Eudora but asked for Council help in recruiting applicants and promised he would give qualified applicants from Eudora first priority when hiring. Mayor suggested that Council take into consideration that they may be limiting best talent of qualified applicants with the stipulation that officers live in Eudora.

Code Enforcer

David Jones, Code Enforcer, reported Notices on Condemned Property of Mr. Carl Terry and Ms. Smith. Neither property owner was present. Pictures of dilapidated homes were presented to Council. After discussion Alderman Beulah Maiden moved, Alderman Robert Thomas seconded that the property occupied by tenant Ms. Williams and property on Jones Street citation be tabled, and that Mr. Jones go ahead with citation on all other property including Mr. Terry property that is not occupied. Motion carried.

Other actions taken by Council included:

* the approval of bid by Gaunt Engineering for Superior parking lot. Alderman Travis Collins made the motion to approve bid for $98,000, Alderman Howard Brown seconded. Motion carried.
* It was recommended by Stax that the City accept the 1.18 million grant, $250,000 loan for replacing old water lines and replacing and connecting new meters. New meters will be connected at no cost to owners where meters are currently already there. Upon approval by City, a contract will be drawn up and presented at next month’s meeting. The bidding process will take 1 year and 9 months to complete job.
* Caney Watershed will clean Caney ditch behind old high school for $3250. Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Robert Thomas seconded that an expense of $3250 be taken from Street Department to pay Caney Watershed. Motion carried.
* Mayor reported that he had asked Alderman Collins to secure prisoners to clean up ditch that runs along Double Quick.
* Council organization that should have been done first of the year was completed:
  + Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Robert Thomas seconded that Municipal’s League Procedural Rules for Municipal Officials be adopted. Motion carried.
  + Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Robert Thomas seconded that Mayor set Agenda with input from Council and a minimum of 3 days prior to meeting when requesting item be placed on Agenda. Motion carried.
  + Alderman Frank Farris moved, Alderman Howard Brown/Deborah Scott seconded that Public Comments be allowed at the end of meeting without prior notice and comments be limited to 2 minutes. Motion carried.
* Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Robert Thomas seconded that Fixed Assets Agenda item. Motion Carried.
* Alderman Robert Thomas moved, Alderman Charlene Taylor moved that 2 new tires for backhoe be bought. Motion carried.
* Mayor reported that Chamber of Commerce building had been secured for City use as Court House and meeting room for City Council for $1 per year. City must maintain it. Alderman Frank Farris moved, Alderman Robert Thomas seconded that Mayor proceed with securing Chamber of Commerce building for City Council meetings, Municipal Court, et al. Motion carried.
* No Ward Reports
* Alderman Maiden complimented the Police Department on outstanding performance and coverage on 4th of July. Mayor Tisdale added his congratulations and thanked Alderman Maiden for her compliments.
* Application for a Recycling Grant was suggested by Mayor Tisdale in response to request from Audience about cleaning up trees.

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Travis Collins, seconded by Alderman Howard Brown . Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

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Stephen Tisdale, Mayor Juanita Burton, Clerk