

**City of Eudora
239 S. Main St.
Eudora, Chicot County, AR 71640**

**WILLIAM STANTON, MAYOR
JOSEPH MAZZANTI, ATTORNEY
ALEXIS RISPER, CLERK/TREASURER**

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MABLE ALLEN
FRANK FARRIS
CHARLENE TAYLOR**

**DENNIS BUTLER
BECKY SERIO
ROBERT THOMAS, JR.**

**MINUTES OF THE EUDORA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 1, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stanton at 6:00 P.M. There were seven aldermen present at roll call. Alderman Thomas arrived shortly after.

The minutes were approved as read with the necessary corrections.

Each alderman was given a financial statement on all city account funds for the month ending March 31, 2013. Mrs. Allen asked if the Park Fund was in the red. Yes, replied Mr. Terrell. Mrs. Butler and Mr. Morphis are paid from the Park Fund. There were no deposits from Region Bank. Mrs. Allen also asked if the Sanitation Fund was in the red. Yes, replied Mr. Terrell. The sanitation fund is a combination of funds. There were also questions concerning an \$828.78 check to Windham Riverfront. The check was for reservations for the Municipal League meeting. Mr. Farris wanted to know whose salary and retirement was the city paying. The response was the judge and court clerk. Mr. Farris also asked who voted to pay the health insurance for the judge and court clerk. The response was the council. Mr. Thomas questioned an invoice to Wayne Edwards in the amount of \$1,176.96 for brake pads.

Mr. Terrell told the council that if they were to hire another police officer, they needed to look at the budget and make it fit into the budget.

During the Mayor's Report, Mayor Stanton informed the council and citizens that he met with representatives from the State Hwy. Dept. and went through the street proposal and surveyed streets. Some of our streets may be funded. The state committee will meet in June. All streets may not be fixed. The fire truck has been ordered from Deep South. It should be here in about six months. The mayor also contacted FEMA about the check for the clean-up. The check should be received shortly.

Our bill with Arkansas Department of Corrections was \$127,000.00 in 2007 the balance as of today is \$49,000.00. The city pays \$1,500.00 per month on this bill.

Maxwell will have the Water Audit ready for the May meeting. He also contacted Mrs. Mabel Gibbs and asked her to put the water project back on track. She sent a letter including the items she would need. Those items are as follows: budget, financial statements and other items. These items have been complied and sent back to USDA.

During Chief Watkins reports, he explained to the council about the car repairs that were addressed early. The 2009-2010 cars need to be put on a machine to determine the problems. The city is not equipped to do that. Mr. Sibley tried several times to make the necessary repairs but was unable to. The front end needed replacing and the rotor needs replacing. Chief Watkins also asked for additional officers. Crime is running wild in the city of Eudora. There was a shoot out on Saturday night. One guy was shot in the back and one in the hand. One police officers for the city was in Little Rock and one in Monticello taking statements. Two officers cannot patrol the city.

Alderman Thomas made a motion to amend Resolution 2012-03 clarifying legal description authorizing the mayor and clerk to enter into agreement with the owners of real estate adjacent to the alley or passageway, running between Lots 7 and 8, Block 4 and Lots 1 and 2, Block 5, Academy Addition to the town of Eudora, AR. Alderman Farris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderman Serio made the motion to go into executive session to discuss the resignation of Officer Stevie Thomas and Alderman Farris seconded the motion.

Upon returning from executive session the mayor announced a city wide clean from May 1-31, 2013. A large bin will be placed on Armstrong St.

The mayor asked the council to pay \$5,000.00 legal fees for the attorney representing him with the IRS. The IRS has filed against him for \$91,000.00. The \$5,000.00 would be a contractual agreement. The mayor has appealed the decision. The mayor also spoke to two other mayors who were in the same situation and the IRS relieved their debt. A letter from the Municipal League stating that if criminal action (Hall vs. Thompson) was found the city could not pay. The last paragraph of the letter states that the city can pay this fee. No action was taken on this matter.

An ordinance for sales tax has to be approved by the council. The election must be held within 120 days after the ordinance has been passed. The city of Eudora collected \$370,000.00 in sales tax for the year 2012. A one cent sales tax equals

\$180,000.00. Half will be used for the general fund and half for the street fund. This will be for a five year period.

Attorney Mazzanti informed the council of the class action lawsuit filed against the district court clerk involving fees that were or were not reduced. The lawsuit is proceeding. An answer has been filed by the Municipal League. We are being represented by the Municipal League along with the other district clerks in the state. We do belong to the Municipal Legal Program which represents the city and there is a \$3,000.00 fee. All the cities are being charged. We could approach the county about paying half this fee. Alderman Tisdale made the motion to try to get the county to pay half the fees back to the city. Alderman Allen seconded the motion. There were 7 yeas and 1 nay. Alderman Turner voted nay

The city is in need of a new mover. No action was taken on this matter.

Alderman Taylor announced that the Personnel Policy Committee should be ready by the next meeting to present the update policy book to the council.

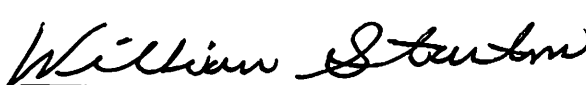
Alderman Tisdale made know that in order for new business to come into a city it must be clean and enforce ordinances.

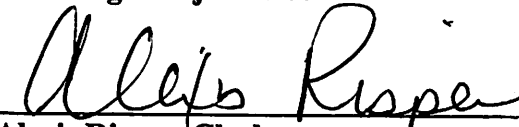
The Grant committee missed the deadline for submitting an Innovative Grant.

During ward reports concerns were with a house on Armstrong & Mabry needing repairs from where a tree fell into it, the answering machine at city, people picking up garbage and don't have anywhere to put the trash and the answering machine at the police station.

During audience comments Mr. David Jones made a plea to the city council and mayor to hire more police officers for the safety of the citizens. Mrs. Toccara Miller asked why when she pays her water bill on the 20th of the month, why is she charged a \$5.00 late fee? Mrs. Rosie, the water clerk stated if received after 4:00 P.M. on the 20th the system automatically charges a late fee.

Alderman Tisdale made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Alderman Taylor seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting is adjourned.


William Stanton, Mayor


Alexis Risper, Clerk