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| **Members in Attendance** | **Others in Attendance** |
| Howard Brown | Bill Gaunt, Gaunt Engineers |
| Travis Collins | Johnathan R Minniefield-Patrick, Mayors Assistant |
| Frank Farris | William El-Amin, Chief of Police |
| Beulah Maiden | Kayla M. Pitts (Proxy for City Clerk) |
| Danita Turner |   |
| Charlene Taylor |   |
| Robert Thomas, Jr. (not present @ roll call but entered 2 minutes later) |   |
| Marco Toney |   |
| Mayor Stephen Tisdale |   |
| City Clerk Juanita Burton (Absent)  |   |

Mayor Tisdale called the meeting to order and welcomed the guests and Kayla Pitts who was filling in for Mrs. Juanita Burton called the roll.

**Minutes:**

Councilmember Farris made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Seconded by Taylor. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Financial/Treasurer’s Report:** Clark Terrell, CPA gave a verbal report and written report of the months and previous finances. Councilmember Farris made a motion to approve the report. Seconded by Thomas. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**Monthly Department Reports:**

*Police Department*: Chief El-Amin was present and informed the council that the emergency siren system was repaired and is being tested every Wednesday at noon.

*Fire Department*: Chief Bunn was not present due to illness.

*Water-Sewer-Street*:

* Engineer Bill Gaunt and Mayor Tisdale reported that the collection of easements for a water project has not been productive. The easements are for purpose a water infrastructure project to replace portions of city lines with a $3,000,000 grant and a $250,000 loan. A portion of this will be spent at the water plant to upgrade it. The easements are needed for permission from the citizens to lay the new water lines next to the old ones. Very few citizens have signed the easements. Concerns from the council and some citizens were discussed in reference to a letter sent out with the easements referring to citizens donating a portion of their property for the purpose of the easement. During discussion it was clarified by Mayor Tisdale and the City Engineer Mr. Bill Gaunt that the citizens were not being asked to donate their property but to give their permission and allow the city to have a contractor to lay a portion of a new line and a new water meter to certain residents. Council suggested writing a new letter making a correction to the wording of the letter to hopefully resolve any confusion about the intended purpose of the easement. Further discussion took place on how best to get the signatures from the citizens. The Engineer Mr. Gaunt gave options/recommendations for how he thought the city could resolve the issue. Councilmember Maiden made a motion to allow the city to pursue the signatures but for the ones who did not sign by January 1st to allow the city to pursue condemnation easements. Seconded by Turner. Motion carried.

Polled Voting

#1Brown-Nay

#2Collins-Nay

#3Farris-Nay

#4Maiden-Yay

#5Turner-Yay

#6Taylor-Yay

#7Thomas-Yay

#8Toney-Yay

* *York Williams Unexplained High Water Bill*: Mayor Tisdale reported to the Council that a request for an adjustment to York Williams water bill had been made due to no leak being found and no explanation of where the water went. After discussion from Council and Mayor Tisdale, Councilmember Collins made a motion to grant a one-time adjustment to the water rate portion of the water bill. Seconded by Turner. All voted aye. Motion carried.
* *Jimmy Littleton water bill:* Mayor Tisdale presented the council with a request for an adjustment to Mr. Littleton’s water bill due to a leak/high use. After discussion, Councilmember Farris made a motion to adjust the difference of the water bill after configuring the average bill prior to the leak. Seconded by Turner. All Voted aye. Motion carried.
* *Viola Johnson water bill*-Mayor Tisdale reported an issue with Mrs. Johnsons water bill. After discussion Councilmember Farris made a motion to allow Mrs. Johnson to pay the bill out in installments. Seconded by Toney. All voted aye. Motion carried.
* *Code Enforcement*: Mr. Jones was not present due to being out of town. Written report on the table.

**Agenda:**

1. City Accountant Contract Renewal: Mayor Tisdale presented the council with a request to renew the contract with the City Accountant, Mr. Clark Terrell, CPA. After a brief discussion from council, Councilmember Farris made a motion to renew the contract with Clark Terrell, CPA. Seconded by Toney. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Polled Voting

#1Brown-Nay

#2Collins-Nay

#3Farris-Nay

#4Maiden-Yay

#5Turner-Yay

#6Taylor-Yay

#7Thomas-Yay

#8Toney-Yay

1. Advertise Bids for Ambulance Service: Councilmember Collins informed the council of the need to advertise for bids for ambulance service to cover the city. After discussion, Councilmember Collins made a motion to advertise to accept bids for ambulance services by the end of December 2016 to have coverage effective January 1, 2017 to be based in Eudora and have secondary coverage to provide coverage to the city at all times when the primary ambulance is away from the city on a transport. Seconded by Turner. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Polled Voting

#1Brown-Yay

#2Collins-Yay

#3Farris-Yay

#4Maiden-Yay

#5Turner-Yay

#6Taylor-Yay

#7Thomas-Yay

#8Toney-Yay

1. 2016 & 2017 Budget: Mayor Tisdale informed council that he would present the council with an amended budget to match the accounts reconciliation in December for the 2016 year and present them with the proposed 2017 budget. Councilmember Collins voiced his concern with some old budget line items. Clark Terrell, CPA clarified some misunderstanding in the previous day’s conversation between himself and Councilmember Collins. Mayor Tisdale explained the difference between the budgeted line items and what was actually expended.
2. Christmas Decorations: Councilmember Taylor reported to council that Zach from Arkansas Lighting was scheduled to come to the council meeting but had to cancel. After discussion, Councilmember Collins made a motion to spend up to $5,000 from Park Fund for Christmas lighting/decorations and to spend up to $2,500 from the General Fund account for Main Street decorations. Seconded by Brown. All voted Aye. Motion carried. Councilmember Farris made a motion to resend the previous motion and spend up to $2,500 from Park Fund for Christmas lighting/decorations and to spend up to $2,500 from the General Fund account for Main Street decorations. Seconded by Brown. All voted Aye. Motion carried.
3. Christmas Parade: After discussion, Councilmember Toney made a motion for the city to sponsor the Christmas parade. Seconded by Collins.

Polled Voting

#1Brown-Nay

#2Collins-Yay

#3Farris-Nay

#4Maiden-Nay

#5Turner-Nay

#6Taylor-Nay

#7Thomas-Nay

#8Toney-Yay

After discussion, Councilmember Farris made a motion to authorize the Chief of Police to form and organize a committee to hold the Christmas Parade. Seconded by Thomas. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Polled Voting

#1Brown-Yay

#2Collins-Yay

#3Farris-Yay

#4Maiden-Yay

#5Turner-Yay

#6Taylor-Yay

#7Thomas-Yay

#8Toney-Yay

1. Speed Bumps on Prospect & Scott Street: After discussion by council, Councilmember Collins made a motion, motion died for lack of a second.
2. Cell Tower Agreement: Mayor Tisdale presented council with a proposal to sell the Cell Tower Lease for $58,000 and place funds into an account for expenditures to be determined at a later date. After discussion, Councilmember Maiden made a motion to sell the Cell Tower Lease for $58,000 and place funds into an account for expenditures to be determined at a later date. Seconded by Thomas. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Polled Voting

#1Brown-Yay

#2Collins-Yay

#3Farris-Yay

#4Maiden-Yay

#5Turner-Yay

#6Taylor-Yay

#7Thomas-Yay

#8Toney-Yay

1. Gregory Miles: Mr. Miles addressed the council advising them of his new business a beauty supply and variety store to be opened on Main Street. Mr. Miles commented that though he lives in Louisiana he is from Eudora and believes that the city can be made better if everyone works together. Mr. Miles thanked the City Hall staff and the Police Department for all their help in preparation for the business opening. Mayor Tisdale voiced his excitement about a new business opening.

**Mayors Reports:**

1. Mayor Tisdale reported that the Bank on Main Street would remain in its location with a new roof currently being installed for improvements.
2. Mayor Tisdale asked the Chief to report on the Halloween Bash hosted by the emergency services departments at the J. Austin White Cultural Center. Chief El-Amin reported that numbers for the turn out were more than double last year with at least 400 children coming from all over the county to attend. Council recognized the Chief for a job well done on the organization of the event and past Christmas parade.

**Citizen’s Communication:**

George Marshall: Mr. Marshall made a request to the council to approve a building permit for a trailer house/mobile home that had been updated to building codes as previously directed by the council for approval. Council and Mayor Tisdale notified Mr. Marshall that there is building inspector now and that he would need to contact Mr. David Jones for a building inspection and that if the home met the current building and zoning codes that there should be no reason why the permit would not be issued. Mr. Marshall voiced concerns about having to be out of town and make arrangements for someone else to be there for the inspection.

Faye Moore: Mrs. Moore reported 2 bad water leaks on the city to the council. Mayor Tisdale asked if it had been reported to City Hall and Mrs. Moore stated that she had not called. Mayor Tisdale reminded the council that there is a record made when leaks are reported and a time frame on repair work was being tracked for future reporting purposes. Mayor Tisdale stated he would report the leaks to Mrs. Lucille at City Hall for repair purposes and tracking.

**Adjourned:**

There being no further business, at 8:00 p.m. Councilmember Collins made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Farris. All voted aye. Motion carried.

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 Stephen Tisdale, Mayor

Attest:

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Juanita Burton, City Clerk