## City of Eudora 239 S. Main Street Eudora, Chicot County, Arkansas 71640

STEPHEN TISDALE, MAYOR JOSEPH MAZZANTI, ATTORNEY JUANITA BURTON, CLERK BOARD OF ALDERMEN HOWARD BROWN TRAVIS COLLINS FRANK FARRIS BEULAH MAIDEN

DEBORAH SCOTT CHARLENE TAYLOR ROBERT THOMAS, JR MARCO TONEY

# MINUTES OF THE EUDORA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 5, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stephen Tisdale at 6:00 p.m. There were eight aldermen present at roll call.

The following aldermen were sworn in by Chicot County Judge Mack Ball, Jr.:

Howard Brown

Travis Collins

Beulah Maiden

Deborah Scott

Charlene Taylor

Robert Thomas, Jr.

Marco Toney

Chicot County Judge also administered the oath of office to Joseph Mazzanti, Attorney for the City of Eudora, and to Gregory Johnson, Chief of Police.

The mayor called for approval of the December 8, 2014 regular meeting minutes. There were no objections or corrections to the minutes. Minutes approved as printed.

Mr. Terrell Clark, CPA presented the Financial/Treasurer's Report. Mr. Terrell informed the council that the request for removal of the \$106,000 in penalties and interest was denied by IRS. Discussion ensued on Financial Reports. Results of discussion included the following action items:

- Alderman Collins made a motion, seconded by Alderman Toney that Mayor Tisdale seek some type of loan from a financial institution to pay off IRS to reduce cost to City. Currently, City of Eudora has an agreement to pay \$9100 monthly until obligation is paid off. Alderman Maiden asked for clarity on the issue. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.
- Alderman Farris questioned bill from Wayne Edwards Wrecker Service. Mr. Terrell will find out details of what bill was for and report back to council

Mayor's Update:

Mayor Tisdale introduced new Chief of Police Greg Johnson and asked that the Chief of Police be paid \$35,000 plus benefits per year (currently position pays \$28,000). Discussion ensued.

- Mayor Tisdale suggested and council agreed to have a Budget Meeting on Thursday, January 8, 2015, 6:00 p.m. to further discuss beginning salary for Chief of Police Greg Johnson and other budget items. Alderman Collins motioned and seconded by Marco Toney that any further discussion be tabled until after budget meeting. Vote was 7 in favor 1 opposed. Motion carried.
- Alderman Farris requested list of employees, job descriptions for each employee and rate of pay for Thursday's budget meeting. Mayor stated he would provide all information currently available.

Mayor asked for resolution to extend 2014 Budget for a month and half. Alderman Farris motioned, seconded by Alderman Maiden. Mayor read resolution. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried.

Alderman Maiden motioned discussion of Dispatcher Services be tabled, Alderman Farris seconded. Motion carried.

Ambulance Service Contract discussion resulted in:

- Ambulance Service Contract will be extended with the stipulation that mayor negotiate with Chicot Memorial and other necessary entities to house an ambulance locally. Motion made by Alderman Farris, seconded by Alderman Brown. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.
- > Mayor's long term plan is to secure grant for a Municipal Complex that will include ambulance and fire station.

Repayment of Old Council Members Legal Fees: Alderman Collins asked about repayment of former Mayor William Stanton's legal fees. Discussion ensued. Results were:

Alderman Collins moved that Mr. Stanton's legal fees of \$2200 be reimbursed. Motion seconded by Alderman Maiden. Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes 3 No 1 Abstaining. Mayor Tisdale asked if an abstaining vote meant no. Atty Mazzanti stated he did not believe so but he would look into it further and give a definitive answer at next meeting.

Mayor asked that M & I Electric invoice be paid. Alderman Frank Farris made motion that bill be paid. Motion seconded. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.

Mayor presented \$6,000 plus repair bill for police car damaged when officer hit a deer. Insurance should pay for car but mayor wanted authority to pay the City's portion of the insurance deductible. Alderman Farris made motion, Alderman Maiden seconded.

Alderman Marco Toney moved that Mayor Stephen Tisdale and City Clerk, Juanita Burton, be added to all of the City of Eudora's bank accounts and former Mayor William

Stanton and City Clerk Alexis Risper be removed. Motion seconded. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.

#### Ward Reports

Alderman Maiden, Ward 3,

- Asked that the lime deposit in water lines be addressed. Arthur James, City of Eudora Water Dept., reported a grant has been approved to address the problem. Mayor Tisdale stated some grants funds have not bee allocated but things are looking good for Eudora
- Clean up the town: grass, dilapidated buildings, etc. Mayor Tisdale offered 2 possible solutions:
  - O City clean the property and file a lien on property owner's taxes. A delay in the sale of the property could be as much as 5 years.
  - Condemn property and assess fines. Alderman Travis Collins suggested using 55+ Senior Program to address some problems. They can work 4 hrs a day. This will offset costs.
- Asked if burned structure on old school property could be torn down. Alderman Collins stated a problem may exist with toxic chemicals.

#### Alderman Collins, Ward 2

- ➤ Dirt need to be removed on city property near Clyde Kincade's residence.
- Alderman Collins asked about Adult Daycare, Nursing Home be established in Eudora. Mayor stated he had questioned some entities and was told adult daycare coupled with a rehab facility may be cost effective for Eudora.

## Alderman Marco Toney, Ward 1

➤ Debra Jasper has been having problems. Copy of letter from Ms. Jasper given to each alderman and Chief of Police Greg Johnson.

### Alderman Howard Brown, Ward 4

➤ Ditches need cleaning. Mayor suggested getting a Google map showing all drainage, start with lower end first and do as many ditches as possible each year until all ditches cleaned.

Meeting adjourned 7:42 p.m.

Stephen Tisdale, Mayor

Juanita Burton, Clerk