

- (1) Pledge The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- (2) Prayer The prayer was offered by Keith Higginbotham.
- (3) Roll Call Those Present and answering Roll Call were Mayor Bill Edwards, Keith Higginbotham, Wayne Low, Darren Warren, Misty Elam, Robin Reed and Josie Reed. Those present and not answering Role Call were City Clerk Todd Wright, City Attorney Brian Rabal, Financial Director Pam Grant, Planning Director Lorene Burns, Police Chief Cody Harper, Fire Chief Matt Thompson, Director of Public Works Rick Hudson, Centerton Utilities Representative Billy Tyler, and Chief Building Inspector Robert Coffelt.

# (4) (Moved Up On The Agenda) City Hall Update – Josh Siebert, Modus Studios –

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that he has created a folder in Dropbox with the latest rendering of the City Hall building. He said he also listed the cost of a Light Bay that was questioned at the last Council Meeting. He recommended that the Council reach out to Robert Coffelt or Josh Siebert, with any questions they have about the project.

Josh Siebert, of Modus Studios, addressed the Council, stating that they have met with the Planning Staff since the last Council Meeting to address questions about Connectivity, Drive Lanes and Sidewalks, as well as added Parking for future growth. He said they are currently working with Staff and Engineers.

### (5) Council Minutes -

Wayne Low made a motion to Approve the Minutes of the January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 City Council Meeting, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

### Planning Commission, Water & Sewer and Parks & Recreation Minutes -

Keith Higginbotham stated that, in reading some of our Planning Meeting Minutes, he has seen where Planning is making requirements of Developers to provide things that are not required by Ordinance or Code. He stated that a Draft Landscape Code, that has not been passed, is being pushed on Developers and also gave an example of a Street Requirement he had heard about. He stated that people are talking about it and he was concerned.

Todd Wright stated that we obviously cannot "require" something that is not in our Code. He stated that we are working on a Master Street Plan, Master Land Use Plan, and a Landscape Plan, and he thinks it is somewhat fair to Developers to know what is coming down the pipeline. He said the Planning Commission may sometimes ask for things outside of Code, in a Development, such as a buffer or some additional landscaping, that a Developer may be willing to provide.

Higginbotham said he didn't believe it was being proposed as being "asked" for "something that might be required in the future", but rather, it is being proposed as a requirement. He said he heard we lost a Development due to this understanding, and may be facing a lawsuit. He did not want the City to be at legal risk from this perceived practice, and asked if anything could be done.

City Attorney Brian Rabal recommended a Memorandum from Council, to the Planning Commission, reiterating the City Council's position.

Mayor Edwards stated that even without a Landscape Ordinance, Developers need to come in with a Plan that shows some sort of landscaping, for the Planning Commission to review.

Wayne Low said at one meeting a Developer was only asked to do something, but one of the Planning Commissioners stated that the landscaping would be a requirement for the new City Hall. Mayor Edwards said we were just asked to provide landscaping comparable to the Draft.

Todd Wright said he felt we just need to make sure we are clear to Developers in the meetings, whether it is an "ask", or a Code requirement. He said it has been fairly clear in the planning Meetings he has attended. Brian Rabal said he has not seen push-back in the meetings he has attended, and was not aware that there was an issue. Darren Warren pointed out that PUD's and Conditional Use Developments could be asked for additional requirements. City Attorney Brian Rabal agreed.

Todd Wright pointed out that developments can sometimes take years to happen, so he didn't think it was unfair to the Developer to let them know we are going through a Comprehensive Plan, and there could be some changes coming, so they know there could be some additional ROW required, or whatever the case may be. He said he felt it has pretty much been presented in that way, so they are aware of what is coming down the road. He said he hasn't really seen any push back. He also pointed out the possibility that either the Development or the Draft Ordinance or both, may never happen as presented at the time, so there needs to be some give-and-take by both sides.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Acknowledge Receipt of the Minutes of the January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Planning Commission Meetings; January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 Board of Zoning Adjustment Meeting; January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Parks & Recreation Meeting; and December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 CWSD Meeting, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(6) City and Court Financials- Mayor Edwards stated that 8.33% through the year we have received 8.45% of our Budgeted Revenue. He stated that our Expenditures were at 8.47%. Edwards said we do get some large expenses in January and February, such as Workman's Comp, Building Insurance and Vehicle Insurance, and those numbers will balance back out.

Robin Reed made a motion to Accept the January, 2020 City Financials and Court Financials, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

# (7) Department Reports-

The Department Reports were in the Council Packet.

- **Police- Officer of the Year-** Chief Cody Harper and Captain Chris Kelly presented the Part-Time Officer of the Year to Scott Boyd and Full-Time Officer of the Year to Dylan Crase.
- (8) Ordinances -

# • Ordinance 2019-37- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CENTERTON MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 2.16.03 FIXING THE SALARY FOR CITY CLERK.

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is being brought before the Council for a 3<sup>rd</sup> time, as it was tabled at the previous two meetings. He said he has e-mailed the Council regarding questions that they have had, regarding Benefits and Salaries. He said the Ordinance has been reworded since the last meeting, regarding the duties as per State Statute. He said he thought we have hashed this out over the previous meetings and the current City Clerk e-mailed out a summary to Council yesterday.

Misty Elam stated that they have received two e-mails from the City Clerk, and she asked who the "we" is in those e-mails. City Clerk Todd Wright said the "we" is City Council Members, the Mayor, the City Attorney, the HR Director and the Financial Director, who have all had some input on this subject.

Darren Warren pointed out that the detailed Job Description had been removed. Mayor Edwards stated that the Job Description is covered by State Statute. Warren brought up the City of Siloam Springs and said they have 24 "bullet points" in their Job Description. Mayor Edwards pointed out that they are a Full-Time City Clerk. Warren said he spoke to 5 different cities where the City Clerk was also the Financial Director, and questioned whether we were headed in that direction, with a Full-Time City Clerk, and if so, would the Financial Director Position go away. He also questioned whether the Clerk would be paid if they did not attend a meeting. Mayor Edwards stated that the Harrison Part-Time City Clerk still gets paid. Warren questioned paying a Part-Time City Clerk, a Financial Director and someone to type Planning Commission Minutes. He proposed paying \$450, for attending each City Council and Planning Commission meeting and typing the Minutes, equaling around \$16,200, it he attends all meetings. He said we are already paying Wright \$11,000-\$12,000 for City Council and Planning Meetings and Minutes. Wayne Low said that doesn't include any other meetings he needs to attend, such as Bond Council, etc. Warren said he is not against paying more, and that we are blessed right now.

Misty Elam said she is not for the Position, but is for raising the pay for the extra time and additional duties. She said she wasn't sure that there weren't things the Clerk is doing, that should be done by someone on Staff or vice versa. Wright said that is not uncommon for Cities to have either Administrative Assistants or Financial Directors, or other positions that perform some of those duties when there is a Part-Time City Clerk. He said Centerton has done it this way for many years.

Todd Wright said he was concerned that if the City Clerk compensation was based strictly upon attendance of meetings and typing the Minutes, you may have an issue getting that person to do the other State Statute functions of the job at any

other time than a Meeting night. He said in that case, does Bond Counsel and Audit need to come to City Hall on a Meeting night, to meet with the City Clerk. Wright asked if we could require the City Clerk to come to City Hall at any other time, if we were solely paying based on Meetings and Minutes. Warren said he felt they were on the hook 24/7 by being an Elected Official. Wright said he was just trying to figure out how to manage the position in the future, based on how Warren and Elam wanted to pay based on Meetings and Minutes. Warren said he is concerned paying a Flat Salary, when we may possibly get someone who doesn't want to show up. Wright said that is why, when we saw that Greenwood was paying a Salary Range for their City Clerk, we thought that would be a good way to protect our City. He said that is where the Starting Salary of \$8000/year for a First Term Part-Time City Clerk, which is in this Ordinance being presented, came from. He said that was done to address the concerns of Warren and Elam. He also pointed out that Health and Employee Benefits were removed to address the concerns of Robin Reed. Reed asked if APERS was still an option. Pam Grant said she would need to do some more research.

Keith Higginbotham agreed with Wright, stating that the Clerk could say "Don't ask me to sign a check, or anything else, unless it's at a meeting". He said he has come to Wright before, when he was typing the Minutes on his own personal or work time. Higginbotham said he felt we should address this and compensate the Clerk for his time. Elam asked if the Clerk had to sign checks 4 times per month. Pam Grant said it is not just signing checks; it's also Bond paperwork, Planning Documents, etc. Mayor Edwards stated that it also includes meetings with Legislative Audit.

Misty Elam stated again that she did not support creating the position. Wright said the position already exists; we are just trying to set the compensation so that when the next person comes in, they understand that it includes City Council Meetings, the Minutes, and also coming to City Hall to sign required documents, as well as other duties, during business hours. Wright said the Salary initially proposed was higher, and we have brought that down, creating a Salary Range starting at \$8000.00 for a First Term Part-Time City Clerk. He said we do want to make the Salary somewhat appealing, to hopefully get someone that wants to do the job. He said the current City Clerk pay is \$4800, with the potential to make \$250 more per Special Meeting and set of Minutes. Wright said he spoke with Elam and told her that this is a small step toward working up to a Full-Time City Clerk position, which will be a large jump in pay. He said he feels this is a good starting point, where the job is somewhat appealing. He said the lowest Part-Time City Clerk pay on the list, in our area, is \$13,000 at Bentonville, and we are proposing a base salary for a First Term of \$8000.

Keith Higginbotham said we either need to approve this or drop it; and his motion at this time would be to Approve the Salary for our current City Clerk Todd Wright at \$15,000. Wayne Low said he would 2<sup>nd</sup> that motion. Higginbotham said that this is at least a start. Robin Reed asked if the Planning Meetings and Minutes

would still be separate. Darren Warren said those would be separate, and won't always be done by Wright. Wright said he just happens to be the one willing to do them at this time.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, setting the salary at \$15,000, retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Wayne Low. Darren Warren, Josie Reed, Keith Higginbotham and Wayne Low voted YES, Misty Elam and Robin Reed voted NO, and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the Ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. Darren Warren, Josie Reed, Keith Higginbotham and Wayne Low voted YES, Misty Elam and Robin Reed voted No, and the motion carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Wayne Low. Josie Reed, Keith Higginbotham and Wayne Low voted YES, Misty Elam, Darren Warren and Robin Reed voted NO. Mayor Edwards voted YES to break the tie, and the motion carried.

### • Ordinance 2020-06- AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE CENTERTON CITY LIMITS, BELONGING TO DEBBIE LEE HATCHER, FROM AGRICULTURAL (A-1) TO SINGLE FAMILY HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (R-3SF).

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to approve a Rezone property off of Walters Road from (A-1) to (R-3 SF). He said there was a Public Hearing at the 1/21/20 Planning Commission Meeting, where the Planning Commission recommended it to City Council for approval.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any questions. There were none.

Wayne Low made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Josie Reed made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the Ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

• Ordinance 2020-07- AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG BUCKHORN FLATS ROAD, PURCHASED BY THE CITY OF CENTERTON FROM MELVIN EUGENE AND JASON EDWARD HERRON PER WARRANTY DEEDS RECORDED IN BOOK 2020 PAGE L202005725 AND; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to accept ROW on Buckhorn Flats Road. He said the Council approved this payment at our last meeting. He said it has been paid and filed.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions. There were none.

Josie Reed made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Robin Reed made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the Ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Emergency Clause. Wayne Low made a motion to adopt the Emergency Clause, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Members voted in favor and the motion carried a motion to adopt the Emergency Clause. Wayne Low made a motion to adopt the Emergency and the motion carried. Members voted in favor and the motion carried for motion to adopt the Emergency Clause. Wayne Low made a motion to adopt the Emergency and the motion carried.

# • Ordinance 2020-08- AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT DEED OF DEDICATION FROM MORNINGSIDE LLC. PER DEED OF DEDICATION RECORDED IN BOOK 2020 PAGE L202005724.

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to accept a Land Dedication of Lot 1, on Seba Road from Morningside LLC., for Parks and Trails use.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any questions. There were none.

Darren Warren made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Josie Reed made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the Ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Wayne Low made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

# • Ordinance 2020-09- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to amend the 2019 City Budget. He said this is the same Budget we approved at the December 2019 Council Meeting, with the numbers balanced. He said we also created Budgets for the additional individual Funds, such as Street Fund, ACT988, etc., as we do each year.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any questions. There were none.

Josie Reed made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the Ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Wayne Low. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Emergency Clause. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Emergency Clause, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion to adopt the 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion to adopt the Emergency Clause, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion to adopt the Emergency Clause, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Emergency Clause, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

• Ordinance 2020-10- AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAT OF FOREST PARK PHASE 3 SUBDIVISION, LOTS 127-187, CITY OF CENTERTON, BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to approve the Final Plat of the Forest Park Subdivision Phase 3. He said it was recommended to City Council for approval by the Planning Commission at their 2/04/20 meeting.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any questions. There were none.

Josie Reed made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Wayne Low. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Darren Warren made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the Ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Wayne Low. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Josie Reed made a motion to adopt the

Ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

# • Ordinance 2020-11- AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE FINAL SUBDIVISION PLAT OF QUAIL HOLLOW PHASE III, LOTS 84-121, CITY OF CENTERTON, BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to approve the Final Plat of the Quail Hollow Subdivision Phase 3. He said it was recommended to City Council for approval by the Planning Commission at their 1/21/20 meeting.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any questions. There were none.

Wayne Low made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading of the Ordinance on 3 separate occasions with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Wayne Low. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Wayne Low made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

### (9) Acknowledge Receipt of Updated Fire Department SOG's -

Mayor Edwards addressed the City Council, stating that these changes have been reviewed by the City Attorney and are in Dropbox. Fire Chief Matt Thompson said the changes were mostly due to the growth of the Fire Department.

Wayne Low made a motion to Acknowledge Receipt of Updated Fire Department Stand Operating Guidelines, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

# (10) Purchase of Two (2) 2020 Dodge Durango's for Centerton Police Department -

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that near the end of last year, Council approved the purchase of a Dodge Charger. He said Dodge cancelled the order, so Council approved the purchase of a Dodge Durango. He said we hoped to have the Durango by the end of the year, but it didn't happen. He said it is still on order and should be here by the end of February, or first of March. Edwards said at Budget time we approved the purchase of four (4) Police Vehicles for this year; 2 out of ACT988 and 2 out of the General Fund. He said he was looking at the mileage on some of our other Police Vehicles, and asked that Council approve the purchase of two (2) of the four approved four (4) vehicles at this time. He said we likely wouldn't get them until June of this year. He said they have been approved in the Budget, but he is asking for approval to go ahead and purchase two (2) 2020 Dodge Durango's at the Bid Price of \$27,987.00 each. He said we will purchase one (1) out of ACT988 and one (1) out of the General Fund. Chief Harper said it will cost about \$8000 to outfit each vehicle.

Misty Elam made a motion to Approve the Purchase of Two (2) 2020 Dodge Durango's at the Bid Price of \$27,987.00, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All Council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(11) State of the City Address – Mayor Edwards

# State of the City Address—2020

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Centerton City Council, and fellow citizens, as your Mayor, I am honored to report to you the state of the city and its future needs. I am grateful for the opportunity that the citizens have given me to serve the City of Centerton over the past 9 years.

First of all, I am happy to announce that the City of Centerton is financially sound, and thru fiscal conservation, your staff and City Council has balanced its budget over the past 9 years. The 2019 financial statement will be presented tonight, and you will see that we are in a good financial condition.

Next, I would like to report on multiple road projects going on in and around our city. First, the Traffic Light installation at Main Street and Seba/Town View Road is underway and should be completed in the summer. When the project is done, sidewalk will be added along with turning lanes and pedestrian crossing signs and a traffic signal. Several roads in the community have been paved to include the completion of Kimmel Road and Allen Roads, and plans are underway to pave Walters Road in the near future as a new subdivision comes to the area. A State Aid grant was received this year and Tycoon, Shady Acres and Dorsey Lee Roads were repaired and repaved, an additional grant has been requested to continue paving Tycoon Road, Dorsey Lee and Motley Roads in this area as the area continues to grow. The city is also working with the City of Bentonville to redesign Greenhouse Road and then apply jointly for a grant to widen the road; this is in the early stages.

Our Planning Department has been very busy with several projects active at one time. At any given time there are 12-15 different subdivisions in some phase of development.

Page 10 of 13

The department is overseeing the 2040 Comprehensive Plan as the city continues to grow. This will give a direction for the future. The department is also working with other departments on the Master Street Plan, Land Use and Zoning plans and also working to update the current codebook. The Planning Department, due to the workload, has added an additional Planner and currently the Planning Department is at full staff, with 2 of our Planners having AICP Certification.

Centerton has seen a huge impact on building in our city with a total of over 7000 inspections 2019, with a total of over \$745,000 in building permit fees for the year, we have seen a huge increase in 2019 of many commercial projects coming to the city, bringing many more services and restaurants to our community. For 2019 we had 410 new residential permits, 7 duplex permits, 6 multi-family permits for a total of 136 units and 12 commercial permits. We are seeing a good start in 2020 with first month revenue of over \$72,000 there are several large subdivisions coming to the community, which will increase the number of inspections. Also, most permits now are done online, along with scheduling, which streamlines the process. The Grimsley Junior High is scheduled to open in August of this year, and we will see several new subdivisions in both our city and the City of Bentonville in the area.

The Code Enforcement division was extremely busy with a large number of grass complaints in 2019, along with a large number of inspections. Since implemented, the officer has been very proactive in identifying violators, which has kept the number of complaints down for the year.

The Parks Department has been busy in 2019, with the Kinyon Sports Complex; where all the fields, to include a soccer field, are now open and all have lights. Several teams use the fields on a regular basis, with the schedule normally staying full. Several members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory board have started the Centerton Little League, and it appears to be having a great response, allowing Centerton children to participate in the community. Work is underway on the Splash Pad and restroom facility at McKissic Park, and is planned to be available in late spring for the community. Also, the Parks and Recreation Department has replaced all playground equipment in the community, which are now all ADA compliant, and a new basketball court is being added to the main park.

Lighting has been added to the entire length of the trail at McKissic Park and the city has received a \$250,000 grant to continue the trail into the City of Bentonville. The city is actively working together to accomplish this goal. Also, the City gave away over 500 trees in October, and received over 1000 trees, thanks to a grant from the Wal Mart

Family Foundation. This has really enhanced the appearance of the community, along with another group of trees planning to be given away during Arbor Day.

The Centerton Police Department recorded over 16,820 total calls for service according to Central Dispatch, with 2,742 incident reports and 7,880 E-Cite reports. Centerton has been named the safest city in the State of Arkansas by several reports, to include Alarms.com. This is a great accomplishment for our Police Department, with 500 cities in Arkansas.

The Centerton Fire Department responded to over 1300 calls for service in 2019, and is currently staffed with 21 full-time Firefighters, 5 part-time Firefighters and 5 volunteers. Training continues on a regular basis. The new sign at the fire house is installed and is working great. The addition to the Fire Department is close to completion. Also in 2019, the Fire Department added a full time Fire Marshal. The Department also purchased a new UTV, which will help with brush and trail responses.

The Centerton Water and Sewer Department is currently installing new sewer line to the south part of the community, and work is underway on a new 3-million gallon water storage tank. A new Office building will be built just north of City Hall to house the Water Department, due to its rapid growth.

Centerton Animal Control, in 2019 had 288 impounds of Centerton dogs and 260 impounds of Bentonville dogs. The partnership with the City of Bentonville has been great, and many owners were able to reunite with their pets. Also, the shelter had 177 adoptions, and 350 dogs were released to their owner. The Shelter uses Facebook to post dogs picked up, and there is a great response from the Community, not only reuniting pets, but also adopting them from the Shelter. Also, the Shelter is featured once a month on KNWA Pet of the Month. The Staff has also participated in several adoption events during the past year.

As far as projects in 2019: the City purchased 30 acres on Keller Road for future projects, and the City is currently working to build a new City Hall and Courts Facility at cityowned property behind the Fire Department.

Lastly, I appreciate the opportunity to work with each of you and for the Citizens of our Community over the past 9 years. No Administration is complete without the support of the Centerton City Council and a loyal Staff of great employees. Our city has many hard working employees from the Department Heads to the troops that carry out the daily activities and duties to help keep our city running smooth and efficiently.

Thanks for a Job Well Done!!!

Page 12 of 13

(12) Public Comment - None

### (13) Other Business – Executive Session

Robin Reed made a motion to Enter into Executive Session at 7:30 PM, to discuss a Personnel Matter, Regarding a Promotion, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Misty Elam. All Council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Misty Elam made a motion to Exit the Executive Session at 8:18 PM, and Resume the City Council Meeting, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Robin Reed. All Council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Keith Higginbotham said no action was taken by the City Council in Executive Session.

### (14) Announcements -

- 2/12/20-2/14/20 AML Winter Conference
- 2/15/20 Coffee with the Mayor

### (15) Adjourn -

Misty Elam made a motion to adjourn at 8:21 PM with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Wayne Low. All Council members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Bill Edwards, Mayor

Todd Wright, City Clerk