



**CITY OF CENTERTON
SPECIAL
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 28, 2020**

(1) Roll Call-

The Virtual Zoom Special City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor, Bill Edwards at 6:15 p.m. Those Present and answering roll call were Mayor Bill Edwards, Keith Higginbotham, Robin Reed, Josie Reed, Wayne Low and Darren Warren. Misty Elam was absent. Those present and not answering roll call were City Clerk Todd Wright, City Attorney Brian Rabal, Financial Director Pam Grant, HR Coordinator Jocelyn Diaz, Planning Director Lorene Burns and Director of Public Works Rick Hudson.

(2) Resolutions -

- **Resolution 2020-08- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH HERITAGE TRACTOR INC. ANDERSON, MISSOURI FOR THE PURCHASE OF A JOHN DEERE 5075E UTILITY TRACTOR FOR THE CENTERTON STREET DEPARTMENT.**

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Resolution is to purchase a Tractor for the Street Department. He said we will save 10% if we take delivery by 4/30/2020. He said he sent an e-mail to Council, detailing the purchase. He said this purchase will come out of the Street Fund.

Director of Public Works Rick Hudson addressed the Council, stating that this is the 2nd year he has looked at purchasing a tractor, and that he had it listed as a Budgeted Item last year. He said he was able to get one more year out of the other tractor and was able to carry funds over to this year. He said we did put it out to bid and received 2 bids. He detailed the intended use for the tractor.

Mayor Edwards asked the Council if there were any other questions.

Josie Reed asked if the Warranty had been reviewed. Hudson said that it had.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to read the Resolution by title only, with a 2nd from Robin Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the Resolution, with a 2nd from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

- **Resolution 2020-09- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHWEST EAP LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS FOR AN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

Mayor Edwards introduced the item to the Council.

HR Coordinator Jocelyn Diaz addressed the Council, stating that this program offers Emotional, Financial and Legal Counseling for Employees, by phone. She said each Employee and their Dependents will have access to five (5) Sessions per Issue; for example: Up to five (5) sessions to resolve a specific emotional matter (Marriage Counseling or something similar), and then later down the line, they could call back, if they are going through financial stress or bereavement, etc. She said the goal of the program is to resolve whatever the issue is for the member, in five (5) sessions or less, but they are prepared to make referrals for further treatment as needed, at a discounted price. She said that the first 30 minutes with a Legal Attorney is free, followed with a 25% discount if the Attorney is retained for those services. She said the service is voluntary and confidential (unless they are found to be a danger to themselves or anyone else). She detailed the benefit of the program to the employer, such as attendance and performance. She said the total cost of the program up to 100 employees is \$3000.00/year, and up to 150 employees is an additional \$600.00/year. She said they also offer training to the employer. She said we can terminate the program at any point (with a 60-day notice), should we decide that we are not utilizing the program.

Financial Director Pam Grant stated that our cost is going to be \$3600.00/year for up to 150 Employees. She said the Water & Sewer Commission met and discussed this program and would like participate under the umbrella of the City, and has offered to pay the \$600/year difference. She said our rate would be reduced, should Water & Sewer decide, at any point, not to participate.

Mayor Edwards said that City Attorney Brian Rabal has reviewed the agreement and recommended two (2) small changes. Edwards asked that the Motion be contingent upon those changes.

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

Robin Reed made a motion to read the Resolution by title only, Contingent upon the recommended changes, with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Wayne Low made a motion to adopt the Resolution, with a 2nd from Keith Higginbotham. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(3) Ordinance-

- **Ordinance 2020-25- AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING EASEMENT DEDICATIONS BY CPW INVESTORS, LLC PER CORRECTIVE EASEMENT PLAT FOR TRACT 3 CREATED BY PROPERTY LINE ADJUSTMENT PLAT FILED IN PLAT BOOK 2017 PAGES 882-884, PROPERTY LOCATED IN PART OF THE E1/2 OF THE NE1/4 OF THE NW1/4 OF S05-T19N-R31W, IN THE CITY OF CENTERTON, BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS.**

Mayor Edwards introduced the Ordinance to the Council.

Planning Director Lorene Burns addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to accept a Utility Easement Adjustment for the Centerpoint Apartments. She said they filed a Plat in 2017, containing Utility Easements. She said that some of the garage structures that they built, were found to be encroaching about 8' into the Utility Easement. She said the engineers contacted the Utility Companies and they agreed that the best solution is to make an adjustment to that Utility Easement. She said this Plat is just correcting the Easement so that these garage structures will not be encroaching. She said this solution keeps us from having to vacate and then re-establish the Easements. She said we are doing this by Administrative Approval of the Plat, and it will be presented to PC on 5/19/2020, where the PC Chairman will sign off on the Plat. Engineer Larry Grelle, with Morrison Shipley was attending the meeting, and agreed with Burns.

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

Wayne Low made a motion to read the Ordinance by title only, with a 2nd from Darren Warren. 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 2nd from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Robin Reed made a motion to adopt the Ordinance with a 2nd from Wayne Low. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(4) Authorize Destruction of 2015 Documents -

Mayor Edwards introduced the item to the Council.

Financial Director Pam Grant addressed the Council, asking for Council Approval to destroy 2015 City Documents approved by State Statute 14-59-114, (1) (A) & (B). She provided the Council with a list of those documents, stating that they have been maintained for a minimum of four (4) years and have been audited.

Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Approve the Destruction of Approved 2015 City Documents, with a 2nd from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

(4) Discuss May 2020 Meetings -

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that the 5/05/2020 Planning Commission Meeting has been cancelled, due to lack of content. He said we will, for the time being, plan on our 5/12/2020 City Council Meeting and 5/19/2020 Planning Commission Meeting being done virtually via Zoom, and they will be made available to the Public, as have our other Virtual City Council and Planning Commission Meetings. He stated that the City Hall will be on the 5/19/2020 Planning Commission Meeting and asked for the Council Members to attend, if possible. Edwards said he had his last "Coffee with the Mayor" Meeting on Zoom and Facebook Live, and had good response, and will likely do his May meeting the same way. Edwards said that we are waiting for guidance from the State, as far as opening our City Parks and Ballfields, to continue to protect our citizens.

(5) Adjourn-

Robin Reed made a motion to Adjourn at 6:42 p.m. with a 2nd from Wayne Low. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.

Bill Edwards, Mayor

Todd Wright, City Clerk