



**CITY OF CENTERTON  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 9, 2024  
6:00 PM**

- (1) **Pledge** – The Pledge Allegiance was recited.
  
- (2) **Prayer** – Todd Wright offered the prayer.
  
- (3) **Roll Call** - Those Present and answering Roll Call were Mayor Bill Edwards, Cody Miles, Darren Warren, Josie Reed, Keith Higginbotham, and Justin Cowgur. Those present and not answering Roll Call were City Clerk Todd Wright, City Attorney Brian Rabal, HR Director Jocelyn Diaz, Financial Director Shannon Zappettini, City Engineer Alan Craighead, Planning Director Lorene Burns, Police Chief Cody Harper, Chief Building Inspector Robert Coffelt and Director of Public Works Anthony Martinez.

(4) **Council Minutes** –

**Cody Miles made a motion to Approve the Minutes of the June 11, 2024 City Council Meeting, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

**CWSD, Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and A & P Commission Minutes** –

**Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Acknowledge Receipt of the Minutes of the June 11, 2024 CWSD Meeting, June 4, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting, and the June 3, 2024 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

(5) **City and Court Financials** -

Financial Director Shannon Zappettini addressed the Council, detailing the Financial Reports for June 2024, as provided in the Council packets. Revenue was at 60.06 % and Expenses were at 51.39 %. She also gave an update on Ambulance billing.

Tyler with FNB gave an update on the Investment Account.

The June 2024 Financial Report and Court Report were contained in the Council packets.

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

**Keith Higginbotham made a motion to accept the June, 2024 City & Court Financials, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Justin Cowgur. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

#### **(6) Department Reports -**

The Department Reports were in the Council Packets.

Mayor Edwards commended Council Member Cody Miles on achieving Level 1 AML Training.

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

#### **(7) Public Comments –**

**Teresa Thompson – 211 Dawn Drive** – Ms. Thompson expressed concern with the current Firework Policy. She recommended that firework not be allowed in residential areas in the city.

**Thomas Loukes – 1420 Florentine Road** – Mr. Loukes recommended that Council Members be good stewards of taxpayer's funds.

**Wendy Henson – 368 N. B Street** – Ms. Henson asked for a formal commitment for dedicated space for Senior Citizens use in the City's future plans for the previous City Hall.

**Chris Mooney – 1325 N. Main Street** – Mr. Mooney questioned any possibility of liability with the donation of the Crane Truck to the City of Highfill. He also questioned the selection process of WER Architects for the Community Center.

**Cindy Zumstein – 230 Town Vu Road** – Ms. Zumstein asked for dedicated space for Senior Citizens use in the City's future plans for the previous City Hall.

**Kenny Wong-Many – 1521 Florentine Road** – Mr. Wong-Many expressed concern with traffic safety on Wolverine Drive, adjacent to his subdivision. He expressed concern with the number of speed limit signs in his neighborhood, compared to another subdivision. Mayor Edwards stated that four (4) additional signs have been added to Wolverine Drive, and that additional signs inside the subdivision would be at the expense of the developer and/or the POA.

**Shawn Henning – American Legion Post 77** – Mr. Henning asked for dedicated space for American Legion use in the City’s future plans for the previous City Hall.

**(8) Ordinances –**

**Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Read Ordinance 2024-22; and Resolutions 2024-20, 2024-21 and 2024-22 by Title only, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Justin Cowgur. There was a roll call. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

- **Ordinance 2024-22 - AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DONATION OF ONE (1) F450 CRANE TRUCK FROM THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS TO THE CITY OF HIGHFILL, ARKANSAS; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THE DONATION ON THE CITY’S BEHALF; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Ordinance is to allow the donation of a F450 Crane Truck to the City of Highfill.

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

**City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Ordinance by title only. Josie Reed made a motion to suspend the rule requiring the reading on three (3) separate occasions, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. There was a roll call. 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. There was a roll call. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.**

**(9) Resolutions –**

- **Resolution 2024-20 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN EQUIPMENT PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH STRIBLING EQUIPMENT COMPANY LLC, SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A JOHN DEERE 190G WHEELED EXCAVATOR.**

Mayor Bill Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Resolution is to enter into an agreement with Stribling Equipment Company for the purchase of a 190G Wheeled Excavator. He said this item was budgeted for Public Works, and is not to exceed \$258,484.20.

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

**City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the Resolution, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Justin Cowgur. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.**

- **Resolution 2024-21 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN EQUIPMENT PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH SPIREON COMPANY IRVINE, CALIFORNIA FOR THE PURCHASE OF A GPS SYSTEM FOR CENTERTON PUBLIC WORKS.**

Mayor Bill Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Resolution is to enter into an agreement with Spireon Company for GPS for the Public Works Department.

Director of Public Works Anthony Martinez detailed the need and use of this service, mainly for Lawn Mowers and Snow Plows, as well as during storm cleanup. The cost of this service is not to exceed \$12,000.00 annually.

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

**City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Keith Higginbotham made a motion to adopt the Resolution, contingent upon review by the City Attorney, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Cody Miles. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.**

- **Resolution 2024-22 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK, AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH WER ARCHITECTS, FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS FOR ARCHITECT SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF CENTERTON, ARKANSAS.**

Mayor Bill Edwards addressed the Council, stating that this Resolution is to enter into an agreement with WER Architects of Fayetteville, Arkansas for Architecture Services for the Community Center Project. He stated that there were 17 applicants and detailed the process that arrived at WER Architects.

John Langham and Kristi Beattle of WER Architects made a presentation to Council for the Centerton Community Center.

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

**City Attorney Brian Rabal read the Resolution by title only. Justin Cowgur made a motion to adopt the Resolution, contingent upon review by the City Attorney, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.**

**(10) Discuss Remodel of Old City Hall Building into a Retail and Community Gathering Space –**

Mayor Edwards made a presentation to City Council of a proposed remodel of the previous Centerton City Hall, which includes a Sharing Library, Gathering space, Two (2) Retail spaces, Seniors/American Legion space, Community Use space and Storage space. A diagram was provided for Council.

Mayor's Assistant Nicola Hoofard and Builder/Developer Dave Marrs addressed Council, detailing a development for the previous City Hall and adjacent properties, which would possibly include HGTV. Marrs stated that they are limited to approx. \$375,000.00 that can be spent on a remodel, due to the location of the building being in a Flood Plain and Floodway.

Mayor Edwards stated that we had budgeted \$250,000.00 for this project and asked that Council vote to earmark that amount for this project. Council wanted to review the sizes of the proposed spaces, but was in favor of earmarking the funds, in order to move the process forward.

**Justin Cowgur made a motion to Earmark \$250,000.00 for the previous City Hall Project, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Josie Reed. All Council Members voted in favor, and the motion carried.**

**(11) Approve Consumer Price Index Increase for Waste Management -**

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that the City's contract with Waste Management allows for an annual Consumer Price Index increase.

Jamie Burnham with Waste Management addressed Council, stating that per their contract with the city, there will be a .59% increase effective August 1, 2024. He detailed how that amount is achieved. A list of the new prices was provided for Council.

Mayor Edwards asked if there were any questions from Council. Council Members Justin Cowgur and Keith Higginbotham expressed some service and container concerns.

**Justin Cowgur made a motion to approve the Consumer Price Index Increase for Waste Management, as presented, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Keith Higginbotham. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

**(12) Acknowledge Receipt of 2023 Water & Sewer Audit -**

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that the Centerton Water & Sewer Audit was contained in the Council Packets. He asked for Council Acknowledgement.

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

**Keith Higginbotham made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the 2023 Water & Sewer Audit, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Justin Cowgur. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

**(13) Acknowledge Resignation of Council Member Amy Rochette -**

Mayor Edwards addressed the Council, stating that Council Member Amy Rochette has sold her home and moved out of the City of Centerton. He stated that he received a Letter of Resignation from her. He said we will need to accept her resignation and declare a vacancy for the position. He said he will post the opening on our website in the morning, and will reach out to the applicants that applied for the previous opening. He said the Term for this position expires 12/31/2026.

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

**Justin Cowgur made a motion to accept the resignation of Council Member Amy Rochette, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried. Justin Cowgur made a motion to Declare a Vacancy for Centerton City Council, Ward 1, Position 2, Term to expire 12/31/2026, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Darren Warren. All Council Members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

**(14) Other Business –**

- **Park Impact Fees Update** – Mayor Edwards stated that he will get an update from Director of Public Works Anthony Martinez.
- **Dude Solutions Update** – City Attorney Brian Rabal stated that he had received a list of complaints from the Planning Department and he will be sending a Demand Letter.

**(15) Announcements -**

- **7/16/2024 – Planning Commission Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **7/19/2024 – Coffee w/ the Mayor @ 9:00 AM**
- **7/23/2024 – Planning Commission Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **8/06/2024 – Planning Commission Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **8/13/2024 – City Council Meeting @ 6:00 PM**
- **8/20/2024 – Planning Commission Meeting @ 6:00 PM**

**(16) Adjourn -**

**Keith Higginbotham made a motion to Adjourn at 7:54 PM with a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Cody Miles. All Council members voted in favor and the motion carried.**

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Bill Edwards, Mayor

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Todd Wright, City Clerk