

**Little Rock Board of Directors
March 1, 2022
6:00 PM**

The Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, met in a regular meeting with Mayor Frank Scott, Jr., presiding. City Clerk Susan Langley called the roll with the following Directors present: Miller; Richardson (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Webb (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Peck (enrolled at 6:02 PM via WebEx Teleconferencing); Wright; Wyrick (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Kumpuris; Phillips (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Adcock; Vice-Mayor Hines; and Mayor Scott. Director Doris Wright gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Scott asked for a moment of silence for one of the Little Rock Police Department Motorcycle Officers that was injured earlier in the day in the line of duty.

ADDITIONS:

M-1 ORDINANCE: To grant a Franchise to Uniti Fiber, LLC, as a Telecommunication and Fiber Optics Service Provider; to permit the use of rights-of-way and airspace within the corporate limits of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; to reserve for both parties, the right to seek modifications of this agreement as may be required by changes in Federal or State Law; **to declare an emergency**; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Peck, to add Item M-1 to the Grouped Items. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **Item M-1 was added to the Grouped Items.**

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 – 6)

1. RESOLUTION NO. 15,630: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Risk Management Resources, in the amount of \$72,000.00, to provide Third-Party Administration Services for the City's Self-Funded Workers' Compensation Program; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager renew the agreement with Risk Management Resources to provide Third-Party Administration Services for the City's Self-Funded Workers' Compensation Program.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 15,631: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with North American Fire Equipment Company, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$250,407.50, plus applicable taxes and fees, for the purchase of Firefighting Protective Coats, Pants and Particulate Blocking Hoods for the Little Rock Fire Department; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with North American Fire Equipment Company, Inc., for the purchase of Firefighting Protective Coats, Pants and Particulate Blocking Hoods for The Little Rock Fire Department.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 15,632: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Precision Delta Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$260,462.50 for the bulk purchase of practice and duty ammunition for the Little Rock Police Department; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Precision Delta Corporation for the purchase of ammunition for the Little Rock Police Department to complete Firearms Training in 2022.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 15,633: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Doyme Construction, Co., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$89,586.00, to renovate the Membership Ticket Area at the Little Rock Zoo; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Doyme Construction Co. Inc., to renovate the Little Rock Zoo's Membership Ticket Area by adding a Membership Office and Window.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 15,634: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Resolution No. 15,525 (August 17, 2021), and to authorize the City Manager to enter into an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with TruePoint Solutions, LLC, in an additional amount not to exceed \$417,050.00, plus applicable taxes and fees, for a total contract amount of \$1,238,050.00, plus applicable taxes and fees, for Software and Information Technology Upgrades for the Finance Department Purchasing Division and the Planning & Development Department; and for other purposes. *(Funding from the American Rescue Plan Act) Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to amend Resolution No. 15,525 (August 17, 2021) to authorize the City Manager to enter into an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with TruePoint Solutions, LLC, for Software and Information Technology Upgrades for the Finance Department Purchasing Division and the Planning & Development Department.

6. RESOLUTION NO. 15,635: To authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Downtown Little Rock Partnership, in an amount not to exceed \$195,000.00, for the provision of services to the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, including, but not limited to, Main Street Revitalization, creative ideas for spaces in the downtown area, overseeing light and other decorations on Main Street, coordinating special events and providing Downtown Ambassadors; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Downtown Little Rock Partnership to provide services to the City of Little Rock including, but not limited to, enhancing the overall Downtown Little Rock experience through Main Street revitalization, exploring and implementing creative ideas for spaces in the Downtown area, overseeing lights and other decorations on Main Street, coordinating special events, and providing Downtown Ambassadors.

Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Wright, to approve the Consent Agenda. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the Consent Agenda was approved.**

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

There were no cards received from individuals wanting to speak during Citizen Communication.

GROUPED ITEMS (Items 7 – 9 and Item M-1)

7. ORDINANCE NO. 22,099: To declare it impractical and unfeasible to bid; to authorize Osborn, Carreiro & Associates, Inc., to perform an Actuarial Evaluation and Stress Testing, at a cost not to exceed \$6,750.00, for the purpose of evaluating the feasibility of various benefit increase amounts for members of the Little Rock Firemen's Relief and Pension Fund, now administered by the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: An ordinance to authorize a sole-source contract with Osborn, Carreiro and Associates, Inc., to perform an actuarial evaluation and stress testing of the Firemen's Relief and Pension Fund, now administered by the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System, for the purpose of evaluating the feasibility of various benefit increase amounts for members of the Firemen's Relief and Pension Fund and eligible survivors.

8. ORDINANCE NO. 22,100: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 22,067 (November 16, 2021), to include funding for a pilot program for the project for a Community Schools Afterschool Arts Program by the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, A+ Arkansas, and to amend the date of the grant term; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: An ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 22,067 (November 16, 2021), to add funding from the Windgate Grant to the Subrecipient, University of Arkansas, A+ Arkansas to provide funding for Afterschool Programming and a pilot thereof and to amend the term of the grant.

9. ORDINANCE NO. 22,101: To call a Special Election in the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, for the purpose of submitting to the electors of the City the question of reducing the existing Combined Annual Library Ad Valorem Property Tax for capital improvements from the existing combined rate of 1.8 mills (currently consisting of two (2) separate 0.9 mills) to the new rate of 1.3 mills on the dollar assessed valuation of taxable property in the City of Little Rock, to be extended and pledged to an issue or issues of taxable, tax-exempt, or both, bonds not to exceed \$42,000,000.00 in aggregate principal amount, to refund one (1) or more outstanding issues of Capital Improvement Bonds and to finance the acquiring, constructing and equipping of additional capital improvements of public libraries owned and operated by the City of Little Rock and Central Arkansas Library System; and, to authorize the issuance of the bonds on such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the City of Little Rock; prescribing other matters relating thereto; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval*

M-1 ORDINANCE NO. 22,102: To grant a Franchise to Uniti Fiber, LLC, as a Telecommunication and Fiber Optics Service Provider; to permit the use of rights-of-way and airspace within the corporate limits of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; to reserve for both parties, the right to seek modifications of this agreement as may be required by changes in Federal or State Law; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

The ordinances were read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hines, to suspend the rules and place the ordinances on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinances were read a second time.

City Attorney Tom Carpenter stated that in regards to Item M-1, the Franchise was agreed upon by Uniti Fiber and the City. City Attorney Carpenter stated that there had been a question regarding the typical grant of four (4) dark fiber to the City and language was presented and accepted by the City.

Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, to suspend the rules and place the ordinances on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinances were read a third time. By voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Wright voting in opposition to Item 7, **the ordinances were approved.** By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the emergency clause for Item 7 was approved.** By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the emergency clause for Item 9 was approved.** By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the emergency clause for Item M-1 was approved.**

DISCUSSION (Item 10)

10. DISCUSSION: COVID Emergency Declaration Discussion.

Mayor Scott asked Director Kumpuris to provide an update from the COVID-19 Task Force. Director Kumpuris stated that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had recommended the discontinuation of masks in areas that did not have a high rate of infectivity; however, according to the map that was recently published in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, that weekend, Central Arkansas – specifically Pulaski County – remained in the ‘red area.’ As a result, Director Kumpuris stated that the Task Force recommended the continuation of the wearing of masks. Mayor Scott stated that he would review the recommendation and the latest data before making a decision regarding extending the emergency declaration.

Director Richardson made the motion, seconded by Director Phillips, to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the meeting was adjourned.**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Susan Langley, City Clerk

Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor