

**Little Rock Board of Directors Meeting  
September 1, 2020  
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: Hendrix (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Richardson (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Webb (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Peck (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Hines; Wright; Kumpuris; Fortson (via WebEx Teleconferencing); Adcock; Vice-Mayor Wyrick; and Mayor Scott. City Attorney Tom Carpenter delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 – 12)**

1. **MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the July 21, 2020, and August 4, 2020, Little Rock City Board of Directors Meetings.

2. **RESOLUTION NO. 15,275:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Escamilla Excavating, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$396,302.70, for the Leatrice Drive Drainage Improvement Project; and for other purposes. *(Funding from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax and the Limited Tax General Obligation Capital Improvement Bonds) Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Escamilla Excavating LLC, for Leatrice Drive Drainage Improvements, Project No. 04-17-DR-179, Bid No. 941. (Located in Ward 4)

3. **RESOLUTION NO. 15,276:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Vortex Aquatic Structures International, for a total contract amount of \$450,000.00, to construct and install a splash pad and make improvements at Crump Park; and for other purposes. *(Funding from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax) Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Vortex Aquatic Structures International for the installation of a splash pad, including site work, sidewalks, shade shelters, benches, tables and trash receptacles at Crump Park. (Located in Ward 1)

4. **RESOLUTION NO. 15,277:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Landscape Structures, for a total contract amount of \$71,643.78, to install Synthetic Turf for the Dunbar Community Center Playground; and for other purposes. *(A portion of the funding from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax) Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Landscape Structures for installation of Synthetic Turf Surfacing for Dunbar Community Center Playground. (Located in Ward 1)

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 15,278:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with CXT Concrete Buildings, in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00, for Construction Services for the Hindman Park Restroom Project; and for other purposes. *(A portion of the funding from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax) Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with CXT Concrete Buildings for Construction Services of the Hindman Park Restroom Project. (Located in Ward 7)

**6. RESOLUTION NO. 15,279:** To express the willingness of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, to utilize Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism Outdoor Recreation Grant Program Funds; to authorize the City Manager to execute any and all necessary applications, agreements and contracts for its administration; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to apply for a grant from Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to make renovations in MacArthur Park and Wakefield Park. (Located in Wards 1 & 2)

**7. RESOLUTION NO. 15,280:** To express the willingness of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, to apply for, and utilize, Federal-Aid Transportation Alternative Program and Surface Transportation Program Grant Funds for a shared use Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail to be known as the Tri-Creek Greenway; and for other purposes. *(A portion of the funding from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax) Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to apply for a Surface Transportation Program Grant from Metroplan for trail development for the Tri-Creek Greenway Project. (Located in Wards 6 & 7)

**8. RESOLUTION NO. 15,281:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$150,866.00, for Design and Engineering Services of the Western Hills Masterplan; and for other purposes. *(A portion of the funding from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax) Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with McClelland Consulting Engineers, Inc., to provide Design and Engineering Services of the Western Hills Masterplan. (Located in Ward 7)

**9. RESOLUTION NO. 15,282:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Gametime, in an amount not to exceed \$515,000.00, for the construction and installation of a Pavilion and Modular Playground Structure for Western Hills Park; and for other purposes. *(A portion of the funding from the 3/8-Cent Capital Improvement Sales Tax) Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Gametime for installation of a Gametime Superior Recreational Products Pavilion and a Gametime Powerscape Modular Playground Structure with accessible poured-in place rubber surfacing for Western Hills Park. (Located in Ward 7)

**10. RESOLUTION NO. 15,283:** To authorize the City Manager to renew contacts for a one (1)-year term with Pulaski County Community Services, in a total combined amount of \$382,346.80, for Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA); and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** Renewal of the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Funding Grant to the Pulaski County Community Services.

**11. RESOLUTION NO. 15,284:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into a five (5)-year Enterprise License Agreement with SHI, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$909,144.00, plus applicable taxes and fees, for VMWare Service, Support, Maintenance and Licensing; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** To authorize the City Manager to enter into an Enterprise License Agreement with SHI International (State Contract No. 081419-SHI) for five (5) years for VMWare Service, Support, Maintenance and Licensing.

**12. RESOLUTION NO. 15,285:** To extend the South Main (SOMA) Temporary Entertainment District, for approximately nine (9) consecutive weeks starting on September 1, 2020, and ending on October 31, 2020; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** The South Main (SOMA) District of Downtown Little Rock is seeking Board approval to extend a Temporary Entertainment District to support outdoor dining areas not adjacent to the associated restaurant facility.

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**

Darryl Turner (via e-mail): Redistribution of Police Funds.

Daniel Parnell (via e-mail): Little Rock Police Department Reform.

Dawn Jeffrey: Community Concern.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS (Items 13 - 14)**

**13. ORDINANCE NO. 21,899; G-23-473:** To approve the partial right-of-way abandonment for the east fifteen (15) feet of the eighty (80)-foot wide Polk Street Right-of-Way, located adjacent to 5423 Hawthorne Road, in the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

**Synopsis:** The owner of the property located at 5423 Hawthorne Road requests to abandon the east fifteen (15) feet of the eighty (80)-foot wide Polk Street right-of-way adjacent to 5423 Hawthorne Road. (Located in Ward 3)

Mayor Scott opened the public hearing.

The ordinance was read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Wright, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a second time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Wright, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a third time.

Mayor Scott asked if there were individuals present that wished to speak for or against the item. There being none present, Mayor Scott closed the public hearing.

By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the ordinance was approved.**

**14. ORDINANCE NO. 21,900:** To abandon a sixty (60)-foot Utility and Drainage Easement located at 16801 Chenal Parkway, at the southwest corner of Chenal Parkway and Kanis Road, in the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Mayor Scott opened the public hearing.

The ordinance was read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Wright, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a second time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Wright, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a third time.

Mayor Scott asked if there were individuals present that wished to speak for or against the item. There being none present, Mayor Scott closed the public hearing.

By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the ordinance was approved.**

## **REPORTS (Item 15)**

### 15. REPORT: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report – Sara Lenehan, Finance Director.

Ms. Lenehan reported that as of June, the City had recognized 44.54% of the Annual Revenue Budget, which compared to 48.29% at the same time one (1)-year prior, and revenues were approximately \$11.4 Million below budget and approximately \$5.2 Million below the same period one (1)-year prior. According to Ms. Lenehan, the original charge for General Property Taxes, which was the assessment of real and personal property from the prior year, was 4% higher than the previous year, although actual collections slightly trailed the same period a year ago. Property taxes are due annually in October.

Ms. Lenehan reported that through June, the Charges for Services Revenue trailed prior year revenues by \$2.37 Million, and declines in the Little Rock Zoo, Golf, Parks and Recreation, the River Market and the Jim Dailey Fitness & Aquatics Center made up the unfavorable variance, and primarily attributed to revenue lost during the months from March through June associated with closures to contain the spread of the coronavirus. Most charges for services revenues are seasonal with the heaviest concentration in the spring and summer seasons. According to Ms. Lenehan, fines and fees collected in January and February are usually related to fines assessed prior to the end of December; therefore, depending on the date the fines were levied, the revenues were accrued back to the previous year. In 2020, approximately \$156,200 in court fines collected in January and February were associated with tickets issued before December 31, 2019. The comparable adjustment for 2019 was \$178,200. Excluding these adjustments, fine revenues trail the same period a year ago by \$364,000. The unfavorable variance was primarily due to the suspension of court activities beginning in mid-March due to the coronavirus. Traffic Court implemented a “virtual court cyber-docket,” and based on data received from State, County and local officials, they do not plan to re-open for in-person hearings until October at the earliest.

Ms. Lenehan reported that the Blended Sales Tax Revenues for the second quarter received in June, July and August decreased 3.34%, 2.65%, and increased 5.33%, respectively, from the same period a year ago, and year-to-date results were 1.2% above the prior year and 1.66% above budget. According to Ms. Lenehan, over the last

twelve (12) months, results had grown by 4.78%. The Fiscal Year 2020 Budget estimated total Sales and Use Tax collections at \$108,439,925, or \$1,221,765 less than the amount collected in the most recent twelve (12) months. The 2019 actual revenues were adjusted to exclude approximately \$1.06 Million in one-time revenues for the purpose of forecasting revenue for the 2020 Budget. The one-time 2019 adjustments were associated with audits performed by the State that resulted in a large adjustment to December 2019 revenues received in February 2020 and the unusual receipts in June 2019 in the Electric Goods Wholesalers NAICS category. Utilizing the adjusted 2019 revenue of \$107,935,567, the growth rate required to achieve the 2020 Adopted Budget was 0.47%.

Ms. Lenehan reported that through the end of June, expenditures were at 46.40%, compared to 50.87% one (1)-year prior, which was approximately \$7.2 Million below budget and approximately \$8 million below the same period one (1)-year prior. In addition to the 129 unfilled positions in the General Fund, as of the June 19, 2020, there were sixty-seven (67) unfilled positions in the Street and Enterprise Funds for a grand total of 196 authorized, but unfilled positions. According to Ms. Lenehan, the 129 vacant positions included fifteen (15) Police Officers and three (3) higher level uniformed positions (3 Sergeants).

Mayor Scott adjourned the meeting.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

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**Susan Langley, City Clerk**

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**Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor**