

**Little Rock Board of Directors
October 3, 2022
6:00 PM**

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

PRESENTATIONS

Fire Prevention Week Proclamation
Code Enforcement Month Proclamation

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 – 4)

1. RESOLUTION NO. 15,799: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Quickbase, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$55,250.74, plus applicable taxes and fees, for the purchase of a Business Application System for the 911 Emergency Communications Center; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Quickbase, Inc., for the purchase of a Business Application System for the 911 Emergency Communication Center.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 15,800: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Gulf State Distributors in an amount not to exceed \$69,020.92, plus applicable taxes and fees, for the purchase of Service Weapons for the Little Rock Police Department; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Gulf State Distributors for the purchase of Service Weapons for the Little Rock Police Department.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 15,801: To dedicate certain real property to public use and to provide for the maintenance of said for use as the Southeast Trail Pedestrian and Bicycle Route; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: To approve Permanent and Temporary Easements of City-owned land east of Clinton Avenue for use as the Southeast Trail Pedestrian and Bicycle Route. (Located in Ward 1)

4. RESOLUTION NO. 15,802; G-25-227-B: To extend the Heights Temporary Entertainment District for four (4) days on October 20, 2022, October 23, 2022, October 29, 2022, and January 19, 2023; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: The Heights Business Association is seeking Board approval to extend a Temporary Entertainment District to support outdoor dining areas not adjacent to the associated restaurant facility. (Located in Ward 3)

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

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Willis Bailey: City Attorney.

Kobi Knight: City Attorney.

Neil Sealy: Rental Property.

Jimmie Cavin: Transparency.

Luke Skrable: Crime Stats & Mayor New Jobs.

Marion Humphrey, Sr: LIT Fest.

GROUPED ITEMS (Items 5 - 6)

5. ORDINANCE NO. 22,177: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 21,639 (October 16, 2018), to allow for a \$250.00 per month increase in benefits to members of the Little Rock Fireman's Relief and Pension Fund, now administered by the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System (LOPFI); to amend the amortization period; **to declare an emergency**; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: Authorization for the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System (LOPFI) to implement a \$250.00 per month benefit increase to all Little Rock Firemen's Relief and Pension Fund Retiree and Survivor Accounts, excluding alternate payees under a Qualified Domestic Relations Order, effective January 1, 2022.

6. ORDINANCE NO. 22,178: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 20,805 (October 15, 2013), as amended by Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 21,473 (September 5, 2017), to allow for a \$250.00 per month increase in benefits to members of the Little Rock Police Pension and Relief Fund, now administered by the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System (LOPFI); to amend the amortization period; **to declare an emergency**; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: Authorization for the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Retirement System (LOPFI) to implement a \$250.00 per month benefit increase to all Little Rock Police Pension and Relief Fund Retiree and Survivor Accounts, excluding alternate payees under a Qualified Domestic Relations Order, effective January 1, 2022.

The ordinances were read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director 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. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hines, to suspend the rules and place the ordinances on third reading. By voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Richardson voting in opposition, the rules were suspended and the ordinances were read a third time. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the ordinances were approved.** By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the emergency clause for Item 5 was approved.** By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the emergency clause for Item 6 was approved.**

SEPARATE ITEMS (Items 7 - 8)

7. ORDINANCE; Z-9695: To approve a Planned Zoning Development and to establish a Planned Residential Development, titled The Villas at Autumn Road PRD, located at 400-412 Autumn Road, Little Rock, Arkansas, amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *(Planning Commission: 7 ayes; 2 nays; 1 absent; and 1 open position) (Deferred from September 20, 2022) Staff recommends approval.*
Synopsis: The applicant is requesting that the 5.06-acre property, located at 400-412 Autumn Road, be rezoned from PRD, Planned Residential District, to allow development of fifty-one (51) attached single-family residences. (Located in Ward 4)

The ordinance was read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hines, 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 Vice-Mayor Hines, 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.

Anthony Rivera: Stated that with the real estate market like it was, the development would be a great opportunity for Little Rock.

Brittany Oakes: Stated that she was in favor of urban housing; however, she did not think it was a good idea to get rid of more green space.

Jessie Gamble: Stated that he was one of the property owners and was favor of the improvements that would be made to the area.

Genie Harper: Stated that she had lived in the neighborhood for over twenty-five (25) years and was concerned about the addition of that many single-family homes, as well as the potential for the increase in traffic.

Larry Gamble: Stated that he was in support of the plan and felt that it would beautify the neighborhood and would increase the property values for the current properties.

Margerit Fleischmann: Stated that she had lived in the neighborhood since 1968, and was against the development.

Dana Kellerman: Stated that she represented the sellers of the property and that a buyer had been secured.

Robert Howell: Stated that he had lived in the area since 1969 and was very concerned with the possibility of increased traffic.

Lorraine Kasmire: Stated that there did not need to be any apartments built in the area.

Louis Heard: Stated that the traffic in the area was horrible in that Autumn Road had become a thoroughfare from individuals traveling from Chenal Parkway to Markham Street. Mr. Heard asked that the Board reject the application.

Rodney Chandler: Stated that the application had been carefully planned out and he felt that it would complement the adjacent neighborhood.

Sherry Parker: Stated that she was against the application and the area did not need an additional fifty-one (51) homes.

Jonathan Hope: Stated that his firm had worked with the property owner for the development of the property and that he had met with the residents in the adjacent neighborhood to address all their concerns.

JoAnn Keith: Stated that had lived in the area for approximately forty (40) years and was the President of the Birchwood Neighborhood Association and was opposed to the proposed development.

Walter Reynolds: Stated that he was a resident in the area and he felt that the proposed development was fundamentally flawed.

James Chastain: Stated that he had lived in the area for approximately twenty (20) years and he felt that fifty-one (51) homes was too many for an already congested area.

Director Peck stated that the area in question was located in her Ward and that she was in support of the neighborhood's position regarding the proposed development and asked for the Board's support.

By roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Ayes: Richardson; Phillips; and Vice-Mayor Hines. Nays: Miller; Peck; Wyrick; Kumpuris; and Adcock. Absent: Webb and Wright. By a vote of three (3) ayes, five (5) nays and two (2) absent, **the ordinance failed.**

8. ORDINANCE NO. 22,179: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 22,079 (December 21, 2021), to adjust the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Ordinance to reflect revenue and expenditure adjustments for the General Fund, Street Fund, Fleet Fund, Vehicle Storage Fund Waste Disposal Fund and Parking Garage Funds; **to declare an emergency**; and for other purposes. *(Deferred from September 20, 2022) Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: Nineteen (19) adjustments need to be made to the 2022 Budget to adjust for changes in actual and anticipated revenues and expenditures.

The ordinance was read the first time. Vice-Mayor Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, 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. Vice-Mayor Hines made the motion, seconded by Directors Adcock, 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. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the ordinance was approved.** By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the emergency clause was approved.**

PRESENTATIONS (Item 9)

9. PRESENTATION: Condemnation Update, 5204 Ives Street – Kyle Bridges, Bernhard TME Engineering.

Mr. Bridges stated that he had conducted a site visit to the property on August 15, 2022, and that the house was in extremely poor condition with numerous safety and structural concerns. Mr. Bridges stated that the roof had started to cave in on the right side and that it was unsafe for anyone to enter the interior of the house.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Item 10)

Director Richardson made the motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hines, for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Board & Commission appointments. By unanimous vote of the Board Members present, **the Board went into Executive Session.**

10. RESOLUTION NO. 15,803: To make appointments and reappointments to various City of Little Rock Boards and Commissions; and for other purposes.

Board of Adjustment: Appointment of James Harkins to serve his first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire on February 19, 2025. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointment was approved.**

City Beautiful Commission: Appointment of Kristen Dane to serve her first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire on October 19, 2025. Reappointment of Troy Laha to serve his second three (3)-year Professional Urban Planner Representative term, said term to expire on October 19, 2025. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Commission on Children, Youth and Families: Appointment of Vicki Hatter to serve her first three (3)-year Little Rock School Board Representative term, said term to expire on May 31, 2025. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointment was approved.**

Community Housing Advisory Board: Appointment of James Dylan Ashcraft to serve his first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire on June 2, 2025. Reappointment of Philip Hood to serve his third three (3)-year Non-Profit Representative term, said term to expire on June 2, 2025. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Little Rock Parks & Recreation Commission: Appointment of Ben France to fill the unexpired term of Abby Jennings, said term to expire on January 31, 2023. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointment was approved.**

Director Richardson made the motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Hines, 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