



**Wednesday, December 16, 2015, Minutes
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Willie Hinton Neighborhood Resource Center**

At 11:38 AM the thirteenth meeting of the LR CENT Committee was called to order.

Committee Members present during the meeting were: Dr. Sybil Jordan Hampton, Peter McKinney O'Connor, Denise Jones Ennett, Dr. Anika Whitfield, Steve Strickland, Kenneth Gill, Mursheerah Tharpe, and Troy Laha.

Committee Members Not Present were: Donald Shellabarger, Rep. Charles Blake, Khayyam Eddings

Also present were: City Manager Bruce Moore and other City Staff

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Gill made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 16, 2015, meeting. It was seconded by Mr. O'Connor, and the minutes were approved without objection.

General Financial Report

Sara Lenehan, Finance Director, gave a summary update of new sales tax receipts for the month of November, collected in September. The total year-to-date proceeds were \$22,364,215 (5/8 Cent Operating) and \$13,385,050 (3/8 Cent Capital) for a total of \$35,749,265. This is up 3.15% from the previous year.

Department of Public Works

Public Works Director Jon Honeywell reviewed the status of the projects approved by the City Board for the 2013-2015 time period. Many of these have been bid and are now under construction. He also noted that the second round of public meetings for the 2016-2018 projects have taken place. Staff will prepare the final list and present it to the Board of Directors in January.

Little Rock Police Department

Chief Kenton Buckner reported that the construction had started at the Pankey Station (West Little Rock Police Station).

Recruit School #82 began June 29 with thirty-four (34) recruits and graduated twenty-three (23) officers on December 11. C.O.A.T. School #83 (for previously certified police officers) began on June 29, and those officers were assigned on August 8.

Questions:

Mr. Strickland asked about the parking situation for electric cars and handicapped individuals at the 12th Street Station. Chief responded that with the parking shortage in the area there were times people parked in those spaces. He would visit with the supervisors at that facility so that those spaces would be left available for their intended uses.

Mr. Strickland also asked about the status of the mixed-use space. Mr. Moore responded that a real estate professional was being engaged to market the space.

Department of Community Programs

Community Programs Director Dana Dossett discussed the successes of the Re-Entry program. Several of the participants have been hired full-time by the City or by private employers.

Chief Buckner then introduced LaShawn Malone, who has been hired by the Police Department after working with them through the Re-Entry Program. After Ms. Malone spoke, Dr. Whitfield expressed her appreciation for the presentation.

Department of Fleet Services

Donna Facen from Fleet Services reviewed a list of fleet purchases since the last report given. These have been for the Fire Department, Housing & Neighborhood Programs Department, Police Department, Public Works Department and Zoo. From September through December, these have totaled \$162,076.

Little Rock Zoo

Zoo Director, Mike Blakeley reported that the Arkansas Heritage Farm exhibit was nearing completion and a grand opening is scheduled for the spring of 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38pm.