

**Little Rock Board of Directors Meeting
October 5, 2021
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: Richardson; Webb; Peck; Wright; Wyrick; Kumpuris; Phillips; Adcock; Vice-Mayor Hines; and Mayor Scott. Open Position: Ward 1. Director Doris Wright delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

ADDITIONS:

M-1 RESOLUTION: To authorize the City Manager to transfer \$5,000,000.00 to the Little Rock Port Authority for land acquisition for use by the Little Rock Port Authority for Economic Prospect Recruitment; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

M-2 RESOLUTION: To authorize the Mayor to enter into a contact with Southport Properties, LLC, Charles Thomas, Ruth Thomas, Charles R. Thomas Living Trust and Ruth L. Thomas Living Trust for the purchase of approximately 300 acres of land for use by the Little Rock Port Authority for Economic Prospect Recruitment; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

M-3 RESOLUTION: To authorize the Mayor to enter into a contact with the Jack Tyler Family, LLC, for the purchase of approximately sixty (60) acres of land for use by the Little Rock Port Authority for Economic Prospect Recruitment; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

M-4 RESOLUTION: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with RX Benefits, for the City's Pharmacy Benefit Management, for a twelve (12)-month period effective January 1, 2022; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with RX Benefits for Pharmacy Benefit Management for the period of January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022, in conjunction with the proposed Self-Insured Group Health Plan.

M-5 RESOLUTION: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Lincoln Financial, in the amount not to exceed \$750,000.00, for Group Life, Group AD&D and Long-Term Disability Insurance for City employees and their dependents, for a twelve (12)-month period effective January 1, 2022; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: To authorize the City Manager to approve a contract with Lincoln Financial for the period of January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022, for Group Life, Group AD&D and Long-Term Disability Insurance for City employees and their dependents.

Director Richardson made the motion, seconded by Director Phillips, to add Items M-1 - M-3 to the Consent Agenda and to add Items M-4 & M-5 to the Separate Items. By

unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **Items M-1 - M-3 were added to the Consent Agenda and Items M-4 & M-5 were added to the Separate Items.**

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 – 3, and Items M-1 – M-3)

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 15,541:** To grant the authority to submit bids to purchase properties at the Arkansas State Land Commissioner’s 2021 Auction, to be used for Neighborhood Revitalization Programs; and for other purposes. *Land Bank Commission: 9 ayes; 0 nays; and 1 abstention) Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to grant authority to the Land Bank Commission to accept title to properties purchased at the State Land Commissioner Auction on August 3, 2021.

2. **RESOLUTION NO. 15,542:** To authorize the purchase of the property located at 3517 West 11th Street, offered for sale to the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, to be used for Neighborhood Revitalization Programs; and for other purposes. *(Land Bank Commission: 9 ayes; 0 nays; and 1 abstention) Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: In an effort to maximize the Land Bank’s revitalization efforts, staff would like to purchase the property located at 3517 West 11th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. The parcel is a 6,850 +/- square-foot lot with no structure. (Located in Ward 1)

3. **RESOLUTION NO. 15,543:** To authorize the City Manager to appropriate \$98,439.00 from the City’s 3/8-Cent Capital Sales and Compensating Use Tax proceeds, to the Arkansas Live Stock Show Association, for capital improvements to the Arkansas State Fairgrounds; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

M-1 RESOLUTION NO. 15,544: To authorize the City Manager to transfer \$5,000,000.00 to the Little Rock Port Authority for land acquisition for use by the Little Rock Port Authority for Economic Prospect Recruitment; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

M-2 RESOLUTION NO. 15,545: To authorize the Mayor to enter into a contact with Southport Properties, LLC, Charles Thomas, Ruth Thomas, Charles R. Thomas Living Trust and Ruth L. Thomas Living Trust for the purchase of approximately 300 acres of land for use by the Little Rock Port Authority for Economic Prospect Recruitment; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

M-3 RESOLUTION NO. 15,546: To authorize the Mayor to enter into a contact with the Jack Tyler Family, LLC, for the purchase of approximately sixty (60) acres of land for use by the Little Rock Port Authority for Economic Prospect Recruitment; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Director Richardson 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

Karen Zuccardi: Ward 1 City Director Election.

Joyce Dixon: Demolition of 3519 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive

Maybelline Miller: Railroad Workers Harassment.

Mary Jones: Elderly Abuse at Parkview Towers.
Kathy Wells: Terry Mansion.

SEPARATE ITEMS (Items 4 – 8 and Items M-4 & M-5)

4. RESOLUTION NO. 15,547: To direct that in October 2021, a Small Business Advisory Council will be formed to advise the Little Rock City Board of Directors on policies affecting small businesses in the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Director Phillips made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, to approve the resolution. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the resolution was approved.**

5. RESOLUTION: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Symetra for Stop Loss Insurance for the City's Self-Insured Group Health Plan, effective January 1, 2022; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to approve a contract with Symetra for Stop Loss Insurance for the City's Self-Insured Group Health Plan for the period of January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.

Director Kumpuris stated that the self-funded plan was the best option moving forward; however, he did not think that a self-funded plan without control mechanisms was the right option. Director Kumpuris stated that he felt that the item needed to be deferred for two (2) weeks so that additional information could be reviewed. Mayor Scott stated that either the City remained in a Fully-Insured Plan, which would include a 4% increase, or transition to a Self-Insured Plan, which was cheaper and a cost benefit. Director Peck stated that she was not comfortable voting on Items 5, 6 or M-4.

Director Peck made the motion, seconded by Director Adcock, to table Items 5, 6 and M-4 & M-5 for two (2) weeks until October 19, 2021. Mayor Scott stated that there would be no motion or second as there was already a motion and second on the floor to approve the resolution. City Attorney Tom Carpenter stated that a Motion to Table could be made at any time prior to the vote. Mayor Scott asked if the Chair could entertain to not recognize the motion. City Attorney Carpenter responded by stating no.

Mayor Scott asked Human Resources Benefits and Risk Manager Jenny Bradford to state what would happen over the next two (2) weeks if the items were deferred. Vice-Mayor Hines asked for a Point of Order. Mayor Scott instructed Ms. Bradford to continue with her response. Vice-Mayor Hines again asked for a Point of Order. City Attorney Carpenter stated that Vice-Mayor Hines should be given the floor to state his Point of Order. Vice-Mayor Hines stated that the Motion to Table, which was seconded, was not a debatable motion; therefore, the Board should proceed to the vote. Mayor Scott asked for an opinion from the City Attorney. City Attorney Carpenter confirmed that the Motion to Table was in fact a non-debatable motion and the Board should proceed to vote.

By voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Richardson voting in opposition, **the motion to defer Items 5, 6 and M-4 & M-5 until October 19, 2021, was approved.**

6. RESOLUTION: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with UMR (United Healthcare) for the City's Self-Insured Group Health Plan, effective January 1, 2022; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to approve a contract with UMR (United Healthcare) for a Self-Insured Group Health Plan for the period of January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022.

7. ORDINANCE NO. 22,040; Z-7901: To repeal Ordinance No. 18,593 (November 20, 2021) to revoke a Planned Residential District titled Presbyterian Village Long-Form PRD, to reclassify property located in the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *(Planning Commission: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent; and 1 open position)* *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: The property owner is requesting that the PRD, Planned Residential District, zoning for the property located at 810 Brookside Drive be revoked and the previous R-2, Single-Family District, and O-3, General Office District, Zonings be restored. (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. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the **the ordinance was approved.**

8. ORDINANCE NO. 22,041: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 21,946 (December 29, 2020), to adjust the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Ordinance to reflect revenue and expenditure adjustments for the General Fund, Street Fund, Fleet Fund, Vehicle Storage Fund, Waste Disposal Fund and the Parking Garage Fund; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: Twenty-one (21) adjustments need to be made to the 2021 Budget to adjust for changes in anticipated revenues and expenditures.

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 voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Wright voting in opposition, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a third time. By voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Wright voting in opposition, **the ordinance was approved.**

M-4 RESOLUTION: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with RX Benefits, for the City's Pharmacy Benefit Management, for a twelve (12)-month period effective January 1, 2022; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with RX Benefits for Pharmacy Benefit Management for the period of January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022, in conjunction with the proposed Self-Insured Group Health Plan.

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(12)-month period effective January 1, 2022; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: To authorize the City Manager to approve a contract with Lincoln Financial for the period of January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022, for Group Life, Group AD&D and Long-Term Disability Insurance for City employees and their dependents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Item 9)

Mayor Scott stated that there were twenty (20) individuals that had submitted applications for consideration of filling the vacant Ward 1 Position seat. Mayor Scott stated that the Board would go through the process of ranking the twenty (20) applications and after that process, seven (7) individuals would be invited to interview before the Board at the October 12, 2021, Board of Directors Agenda Meeting. Director Kumpuris stated that he had reviewed all twenty (20) applications and he would like for the Board to consider interviewing all twenty (20) individuals. Mayor Scott stated that as Chair, the process had been explained and when the Board went into Executive Session, the Board could discuss the recommendation.

Vice-Mayor Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Wright, for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the Ward 1 Candidates. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the Board went into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the Ward 1 Candidates.**

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Review of Ward 1 Position Candidates

Mayor Scott stated that as a result of a tie in the ranking process, there would be a total of eight (8) individuals that would be invited to interview before the Board. City Manager Bruce Moore stated that the eight (8) individuals would interview before the Board at the October 12, 2021, Board of Directors Agenda Meeting, and then there would be a Special Called Meeting on October 13, 2021, at 4:00 PM, for the Board to consider the candidates. City Manager Moore read the names of the following eight (8) individuals that would interview to fill the Ward 1 Position seat: Michael Atkins; Frederick Gentry; Shelia Miles; Virgil Miller; Sarah Pilcher; Valerie Pruitt; Anika Whitfield; and Karen Zuccardi.

Vice-Mayor Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Adcock, to accept the slate of candidates. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the Board accepted the slate of candidates.**

Director Phillips 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