

**Little Rock Board of Directors Meeting
March 17, 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: Webb; Peck; Hines; Wright; Kumpuris; Adcock; Vice-Mayor Wyrick; and Mayor Scott. Directors Absent: Hendrix; Richardson; and Fortson. Director Doris Wright delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDITIONS:

M-1 ORDINANCE: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 2-50 (1988) to define the word present to include attendance by electronic means; **to declare an emergency**; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Director Kumpuris made the motion, seconded by Director Hines, to add Item M-1 to the Agenda. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **Item M-1 was added to the Agenda.**

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 – 6)

1. RESOLUTION NO. 15,184: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with L.E.G. Enterprises, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$284,978.64, for the Chenal Parkway Signal at Chenal Valley Drive; 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: To authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with L.E.G. Enterprises, Inc., for the Chenal Parkway Signal at Chenal Valley, Bid No. 814. (Located in Ward 5)

2. RESOLUTION NO. 15,185: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with James A. Rogers Excavating, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$233,537.36, for the Landfill Fleet Shop Access Drive and Parking Lot; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: To authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with James A. Rogers Excavating, Inc., for the Landfill Fleet Shop Access Drive & Parking Improvements, Bid No. 751.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 15,186: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Escamilla Excavating, LLC, in an amount not to exceed \$321,354.00, for the Madison Street Reconstruction Project, 10th Street to 12th Street; 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: To authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with Escamilla Excavating, LLC, for the Madison Street Reconstruction Project, 10th Street to 12th Street, Bid No. 813. (Located in Ward 2)

4. RESOLUTION NO. 15,187: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Galls, LLC, in the total amount of \$207,195.05, for the purchase of Duty and Practice Ammunition for the Little Rock Police Department; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: The Little Rock Police Department is requesting approval to purchase Duty and Practice Ammunition from Galls, LLC, through State Contract No. 4600033832.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 15,188: To disband the Advisory Board for the Midtown Redevelopment District No. 1 of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

6. RESOLUTION NO. 15,189: To amend certain parts of the City of Little Rock's Parks and Recreation Master Plan of July 17, 2001; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Director Hines asked if the naming of the Ottenheimer Hall at the River Market would be affected. City Manager Bruce Moore stated that it would not affect the naming of any of the facilities.

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

SEPARATE ITEMS (Item M-1)

M-1 ORDINANCE: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 2-50 (1988) to define the word present to include attendance by electronic means; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

The ordinance was read the first time. Due to the fact that there were only seven (7) Board Members in attendance, the rules could not be suspended for a motion to be made for the ordinance to be read a second time.

City Manager Moore stated that the thought was that the Mayor would call a Special Called Meeting the following Tuesday so that the ordinance could be read a second time, and if there were at least eight (8) Board Members present, the ordinance could possibly advance to third reading and be voted on.

Director Adcock asked for a presentation regarding the proposed ordinance. City Manager Moore stated that considering the current state with the COVID-19 Pandemic, the ordinance would allow the Board to meet the State Statute of convening twice a month and allow some of its members to participate via video conferencing. Director Adcock asked how it would affect receiving input from the citizens. City Manager Moore stated that the City would utilize the same procedure that was used that day, which was to encourage individuals to submit any comments online to the City Clerk's Office. Director Adcock asked if would just be used for Board Meetings or Agenda Meetings. City Attorney Tom Carpenter stated that the process would be utilized for all meetings. Vice-Mayor Wyrick asked if a City Staff member would have to be present any Board Meeting choosing to participate via video conferencing. City Attorney Carpenter stated

that Subsection 2 of the ordinance stated that the Mayor, or the Member who was presiding over the meeting, had to be physically present at the place where the Board Meeting was being held. In addition, Board Members appearing at meetings pursuant to the Subsection would be entitled to participate by electronic means in matters coming before the Board, including discussion, debate and voting, as if they were physically present at the meeting as long as a City Staff Person was with the Member in order to confirm the Member's identity and location; or, the Member participated by electronic or other means which allowed the Mayor, other Members of the Board of Directors, and the public, to see and hear the Member participating electronically.

Director Adcock asked what would determine if a Board Member was able to participate in a Board Meeting via video conferencing. City Manager Moore stated that the purpose of the ordinance was to address the issue of complying with the State Statute under the current circumstances and being able to maintain the ability to carry on the business of the City. City Manager Moore stated that he would be open to including an end-date in the ordinance. Director Wright stated that she was not comfortable with the ordinance as it was written and that it was important to include an end-date.

Mayor Scott stated that with the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City was in uncharted waters and it was important that technology be utilized to ensure that the Board could continue to do the people's business.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

Jeffrey Vickery: Repeal of Curfew.

Mayor Scott read Citizen Communication comments from the following individuals that submitted their concerns online:

Shauna Ferguson: Concerns about unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Kathleen Moray: Lack of guidance for small daycares during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Dorita Nelson: Finance concerns as related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Bob Hayden: Concerns regarding the Sales Tax Proposal.

Vice-Mayor Wyrick made the motion, seconded by Director Webb, 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