



**Wednesday, November 7, 2018, Minutes**  
**11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**Centre at University Park**

At 11:40 AM the twenty-fourth meeting of the LR CENT Committee was called to order by Dr. Sybil Jordan Hampton, co-chair. Committee Members present during the meeting were: Erma Peterson, Steve Strickland, June Matheny, Kenneth Gill, Musheerah Tharpe, Donald Shellabarger, Kristi Lambert and Troy Laha.

Committee Members Not Present were: Peter McKinney O'Connor, Denise Jones Ennett, and Rep. Charles Blake.

Also present were: City Manager Bruce Moore, LR CENT staff member Scott Whiteley Carter, and other City Staff.

**Welcome:** Dr. Hampton welcomed everyone at 11:32 am.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes from the August 15, 2018, meeting were approved. Motion was made by Mr. Laha, seconded by Mr. Strickland.

**General Financial Report**

Sara Lenehan, Finance Director presented the General Financial Report. Year to date, the City is down up 0.55% to where it was the prior year. Internet purchases continue to impact the City's revenue.

Mr. Shellabarger noted that revenues have not been at the level the City had predicted in 2011. Given the fact that there may not be as much money available, he asked about the City's plans for projects that have not yet been started.

Ms. Lenehan stated that at the current rate, there would be money for 94% of the projects. Mr. Moore added that the new Courts building will likely be the only project not funded. He stated that the purchase and renovations of the McFadden building (for Police headquarters) will cost less money than would have the construction of a new building. He anticipates that savings will ensure there are enough funds for the other projects which have not yet been started.

## **Community Programs**

Dana Dossett introduced Dwight Pridgeon, the new Re-entry Coordinator. He is redeveloping the system of creating job opportunities and documenting results. 232 Little Rock citizens met with City Hall staff between January 1 and August 31 in 2018.

Dr. Hampton stated that she knew Community Programs kept track of those persons who were hired for the various Re-Entry positions, but wondered if the City was keeping track of Re-Entry participants who were hired in regular full- and part-time positions with the City. Ms. Dossett stated that Human Resources was creating a code to be able to do that.

Ms. Dossett also reported on the program for Disconnected Youth in Transition (ages 18 to 30). As of October 2018, this contract has served 222 clients. Sixty-five were confirmed for employment with local employers; forty-one have maintained employment for 90 days.

## **Fire**

Chief Delphone Hubbard reported that the groundbreaking for Station 24 took place on October 29, 2018. The projected completion date is scheduled for November of 2019. Baldwin Shell is the general contractor for the project.

The Fire Department is currently in the interview and background phase of the Firefighter hiring and selection process. This process will take place the week of November 5th-9th to staff 12 vacant Firefighter positions.

## **Fleet Services**

Donna Facen presented the report for Fleet Services. Since June, the department has purchased \$88,505 in LR CENT projects. This includes \$72,816 for the Fire Department and \$15,689 for the Parks and Recreation Department.

## **Parks and Recreation**

Mark Webre presented the report for Parks and Recreation. In September, the Department dedicated the Margaret Clark Adventure Park play area for preschoolers in Riverfront Park. The new sand volleyball courts and space net climbing area have been installed in Murray Park. A new area has been created where the Arkansas River Trail and pedestrian/bike approach to the Broadway Bridge converge in Riverfront Park.

## **Police**

Assistant Chief Wayne Bewley announced Recruit Class #92 started August 20, 2018. The class currently has 24 recruits and is scheduled to graduate in February 2019. The next recruit class is scheduled for February 2019.

Mr. Shellabarger asked whether the new Traffic Positions were being successful. Chief Bewley responded that the four positions had freed up time for other officers to address non-traffic accident calls.

In November 2017, the City purchased a building at 615 West Markham Street. The building, once renovated, will be the new headquarters for the Little Rock Police Department. A selection committee has been formed and the procurement process will begin to find a vendor for building renovation. The anticipated project completion date is 2020.

Regarding 911 Communications personnel, five (5) call takers graduated from an 8 week training academy on October 12, 2018. The next 8 week training academy is scheduled to start January 22, 2019. It is anticipated that there will be ten (10) people in that class. The next class after that will start in late spring/early summer.

### **Public Works**

On the 2013 – 2015 Sales Tax Projects, a total of \$2,600,000 in Sales Tax funding was allocated for each ward and the projects were approved by the Board of Directors for construction. Public Works has managed and reviewed the design of these projects by selected design engineering firms. The public meeting process that allows citizens to review and comment on the design of the selected projects has been completed. Multiple projects have now been completed with one project still under construction.

As of July 23, 2018, the in-house Sidewalk Program crew has completed 187,469 square feet (approximately 37,494 linear feet) of new sidewalks since July 2012. Sidewalk constructed by contractor with Sidewalk Program funds 95,084 square feet (19,017 linear feet) since September 2015. A total of 282,553 square feet (56,510 linear feet) of sidewalk reconstruction.

Regarding the 2016 to 2018 Street Drainage Improvement Program, Public Works has managed and reviewed all project designs by selected design consultants. All design work is 94% complete. Public meetings to receive input from neighborhoods have been completed. Right of way and easement acquisitions are 78% complete. Most projects are in the Bid and Construction Phases.

The 2016 Street Resurfacing Program was funded by the sales tax issue. The 2016 Street Resurfacing Program has completed asphalt resurfacing on 84,780 linear feet of City streets. The 2016 Street Resurfacing Program is complete. The 2017 Street Resurfacing Program is also funded by the sales tax issue. The 2017 Street Resurfacing Program has completed asphalt resurfacing on 92,323 linear feet of City streets. The 2018 Street Resurfacing Program has completed asphalt resurfacing on 55,067 linear feet of City streets.

### **General Questions and Comments**

Mr. Moore thanked the Committee members for their service in 2018. He noted that their packets included photos from various LR CENT press events. Plans are underway for more press events in 2019.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.