

May 29, 2007

REGULAR MEETING 1

The City Council of the City of Sherwood met for a regular meeting on May 29, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Those present were Aldermen Vassar, Rankin, Fender, Davis, Sulcer, Henry, Brooks, and Harmon; Interim Mayor Bill Harmon, City Attorney Steve Cobb, and City Clerk Virginia Hillman.

Alderman Sulcer led in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

A motion was made by Alderman Vassar to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on April 23, 2007, as transcribed. Alderman Sulcer seconded the motion and the roll call was unanimous to accept the minutes.

Jon Swanson, Director of MEMS, presented to the council the MEMS report. In his presentation he covered issues about the response time by MEMS, the number of calls that have occurred in Sherwood and stated that MEMS is above 90% compliance in response time. He also reported that out of the \$28 million dollars in services provided only 50% of that is collected, giving them a working budget of \$14 million. He advised that the department is still putting forth effort to upgrade the department in areas that will increase service to emergency calls. In 2006 a transfer ambulance service, that does not carry a paramedic, was put in force that allows them to transfer patients to and from the hospital and the nursing home. Also in effect, is the new 12 bit EKG program that allows a patient who meets certain medical criteria to have service that has cell phone devices that can send an EKG reading to the receiving hospital allowing them to prepare the cath lab reducing the time of wait by up to two hours. Also, all ambulances have computer mapping programs. MEMS has a specialized medical SWAT team that is deployed in real world situations to assist in emergency medical attention. They are trained to respond in the event of a natural disaster, situations as that at Virginia Tech, etc. Currently MEMS services Faulkner, Grant, NE Saline, and all of Pulaski County with the exception of Jacksonville. There are 225 uniformed full time employees, 75 part-time employees, and 41 ambulances.

Chief Kel Nicholson presented Detective Spence with an award for the successful negotiation of a suspected bank robber from a home in Sherwood. In March of 2007, an armed bank robbery occurred at Twin City Bank in Little Rock, the suspect came into the Sherwood area and barricaded himself in a house off of Rixey Road and for 2 hours Detective Spence negotiated with the suspect until he turned himself in. He was praised by the Pulaski County Swat Team as well as the Little Rock Police Department. The Sherwood Police Department would like to recognize him for his efforts in this incident.

Alderman Sulcer, Advertising and Promotion Commission Chairman, announced that they did not meet, but will have a meeting on June 6, 2007, at 3:00 p.m.

Alderman Rankin, Parks and Recreation Committee Chairman, announced the committee had no report.

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Alderman Vassar, Personnel Committee Chairman, announced they did meet. An ordinance referencing the City of Sherwood policy changes and amendments on the agenda will not be discussed at this time.

An ordinance No. 1738, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE CREATING TWO ADDITIONAL DRAINAGE WORKER POSITIONS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" was read for the first time. A motion was made by Alderman Sulcer, seconded by Alderman Rankin, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the second time. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by Alderman Rankin, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the third time. A motion was made by Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Davis, to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous to adopt the ordinance. The emergency clause passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Alderman Fender, Street Committee Chairman, announced they did meet. The overlay project soon be bid, but the number of streets that will be done is uncertain until bids are received. The ordinance regarding grading and excavation, does not prevent anyone from doing any excavation or grading, but rather implements a process on which you need to get a permit to do it. Michael Clayton, City Engineer stated that it primarily is for commercial and large-scale excavation work. He stated that they are working toward MS 4 compliance or the Phase 2 Clean Water Act meaning that areas around the city will start having to do storm water management and parts of this will include erosion control and water quality.

An ordinance No. 1739, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE CREATING A GRADING AND EXCAVATION CODE FOR THE CITY OF SHERWOOD, ARKANSAS DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" was read for the first time. A motion was made by Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the second time. A motion was made by Alderman Sulcer, seconded by Alderman Henry, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading. The roll call vote was unanimous. The ordinance was read for the third time. A motion was made by Alderman Sulcer, seconded by Alderman Brooks, to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous to adopt the ordinance. The emergency clause passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

Alderman Vassar asked when the overlay would start. Michael Clayton stated that advertisement would be going out in the next few days, and speculates that the bid opening will be sometime in the middle of June, and the work beginning

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in July or August. Alderman Fender stated that they do have a list of streets and they will be prioritized.

Resolution No. 16-2007 entitled, “**A RESOLUTION TO HONOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE SHERWOOD SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER AND TO NAME THE NEW CENTER ANNEX THE DON HINDMAN ANNEX**” was read. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, to adopt the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous to adopt the resolution.

Don Hindman, Senior Citizen Center Director, thanked the council.

Resolution No. 17-2007 entitled, “**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ESTABLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR ALL EMERGENCY RESPONSE BY ALL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES OF THE CITY OF SHERWOOD, ARKANSAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**” was read. A motion was made by Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, to adopt the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous to adopt the resolution.

Leon Nicholson, of 1007 Silvercreek, brought several concerns before the council. His first issue was a 1971 Chrysler that has set in front of a home for approximately one year, the City’s code enforcement has made contact with the owners, and still it sits there. He would like for the City to enforce the moving of this vehicle. Another concern is that he had herbicide sprayed on his rose bushes destroying them along with his tomato plants. The third issue is erosion cutting onto the bank of Silvercreek, the water comes down straight into his garden and hits below the street, soaking a tree which he believes will eventually break, possibly harming someone or something. Another issue is the pollution from a manhole on Silvercreek discharging sewage. His fear is that children will begin to play in this causing them harm.

Preston Brailsford, 219 Katye Lane, expressed his concern with the development of the Wal-Mart Super Center. Things that are supposed to be done in development are not taking place. There was concern with the buffer that is to go in; at this time there is no buffer. He questioned the entrance and exit of delivery trucks. He wanted to know what the City is doing to control the construction company and Wal-Mart and to make sure they follow through with the plans for development. He also stated that a note was stuck in the doors of the resident’s home informing them they would be dynamiting in the area. He wanted to make sure that his and other property would be taken care of in case of damage done by dynamiting.

Carrie Rounsaville, 221 Katye Lane, stated that the most recent plans they have received from the City for the Wal-Mart site is that of November 16th. She stated that is looked and sounded like a war zone in her neighborhood. Her property

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has been destroyed by everyone that has come into the site to do work on the Southside. She stated that Mr. Carlson with Carlson Engineering is doing the excavation and he informed them that some drainage is running through the area and he didn't believe they could leave a 50 foot buffer. That they would be going to work with the City to come up with a buffer that would be acceptable to the area. She also stated that the workers would not observe reasonable working hours; they would work well into the evening. She wants the City to do something about the buffer zone.

Robert Rounsaville, 221 Katye Lane, obtained construction plans and at the end of Katye Lane there is a small grove of trees. This would give the residents of this area a straight view of the Wal-Mart Super Center. He also was concerned with the blasting that would take place in the area, asking that the City protect the residents and the City of Sherwood from damaged property and possible death.

Mayor Harmon advised the issue would be looked into. Mr. Rounsaville asked if there could be a time limit on the time it would take to correct this issue. Mayor Harmon advised it will be looked into immediately but he can't give an exact time it would be corrected.

Alderman Fender congratulated two City employees. Chief Kel Nicholson who was appointed by Governor Mike Beebe to serve on the State Commission of Law Enforcement Standard and Training. Don Hindman who was appointed by Governor Beebe to serve on the Committee on Aging.

Alderman Sulcer, stated that seven children from Sherwood Elementary grades 3rd through 5th went to Odyssey of the Minds in Michigan. The team won Regional, State of Arkansas, and placed 10th in the World for their division.

Ron Campbell addressed the council about the golf course issue. City Attorney Steve Cobb advised Mr. Campbell that since there was a current lawsuit filed against the city pertaining to the golf course he advised the council and the Mayor not to discuss the issue. Mr. Campbell proceeded to state they would hear his speech, and Mr. Cobb advised they would not tonight. Mr. Campbell stated his speech would be heard or have him arrested. He stated he had a proposal that the city may be interested in. Mr. Cobb stated this would not be discussed at the City Council meeting tonight. Mr. Campbell advised that several people were in attendance opposed to he comment made by Mayor Harmon that he is not going to let the voters vote on the golf course issue.

Alderman Rankin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Davis.

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ATTEST:

Virginia Hillman, City Clerk

Bill Harmon, Interim Mayor