

April 28, 2008

REGULAR MEETING 1

The City Council of the City of Sherwood met for a regular meeting on April 28, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Those present were Mayor Virginia R. Hillman, City Attorney Steve Cobb, City Clerk Angela Nicholson, Aldermen Vassar, Rankin, Fender, Davis, Sulcer, Henry, Brooks and Harmon.

Keith Brickell, pastor of Sylvan Hills First Baptist Church, led in prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was given to the flag.

Alderman Brooks, seconded by Alderman Rankin, made a motion, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 24, 2008, as transcribed. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Donna Humphries, Coordinator for Sherwood Elementary Odyssey of the Minds addressed the council. She asked for financial support from the citizens of Sherwood to help send the Odyssey of the Minds team to the world finals in Maryland on May 30, 2008. She announced the team would be having a fundraiser on Saturday, at the Gander Mountain/Tractor Supply Company parking lot beginning at 10:00 a.m. They will serve hot dogs, sodas, and chips.

Present from the 2008-2009 Mayor's Youth Council were Jorden Pruitt, Mayor Elect, Allison Frymark, Vice Mayor Elect, Savannah Lancaster, Sydney Venus, Sarah Dunning, Tristen Walker, Lance Green, Erin Williamson and Alex Pavan-. The youth council presented a slide show of their recent trip to Washington, D.C. National League of Cities and spoke of things they learned and people they met.

Pulaski County Treasurer, Debra Buckner, introduced Debbie Walter and Karen Kelley, employees for the treasurer department. Ms. Buckner informed the people about the tax-free homestead credit. The credit increased to \$350.00. To receive the credit you have to be owner/co-owner of a home and call the assessors office to apply. If you are owner or co-owner of a home and are 65 years old or older you may file to have the assessed value of your home frozen. Ms. Buckner presented the council with a chart showing where the distribution of Sherwood tax dollars goes.

Alderman Sulcer, Chairman of Advertising & Promotion Commission, stated there would not be a May 2008 meeting.

Ordinance No. 1773, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONIES FROM THE SHERWOOD, ARKANSAS, GENERAL FUND TO THE SHERWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACQUISITION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PARK PLANNING ANALYSIS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" was read. 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 Vassar, 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 Harmon, seconded by Alderman Rankin, to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Sonny Janssen, Director of Parks and Recreation Department, addressed the council and gave an update on the cleanup and reconstruction of the Sherwood Sports Complex due to the April 3, 2008, tornado. The contractors have removed most of the damaged fencing, wood, metal, etc., and replaced most of the sheet metal on the softball field. They have ordered bleacher and dugout covers for the baseball field(s). They are in the process of re-aiming all of the field lights at the softball complex and will begin to rebuild the baseball office and concession building. Alternative sites have been secured for the youth soccer program. Victory Baptist School will host the U6 and U8 divisions, and the Sylvan Hills High School will host the U10 and U12 divisions. The Optimist Club has found alternate sites for youth baseball and softball. The following parks have

April 28, 2008

REGULAR MEETING 2

offered their help: Cabot, Rose City, North Heights, Jacksonville, and Lakewood. Optimist Club volunteers and the City of Sherwood reconditioned a t-ball field at Sherwood Forest for the four-year-old program. The City of Sherwood has temporarily loaned office space to the Optimist Club until the reconstruction is complete at the baseball complex. The City expects the softball complex to be ready well before the baseball complex. During this time the baseball and softball games will be played on the five available fields. The Bill Harmon Recreation Center was host to Sylvan Hills High School 12th grade. Mr. Janssen advised this was working out well. He praised the students saying they behaved as ladies and gentleman. The school district did everything they said they would do. Mr. Janssen stated that today (Monday) was the final day the students would be at the recreation center. Mr. Janssen stated for the record the city has not received any insurance money. He also asked that people remain off the fields for safety reasons. Mayor Hillman commented that the Parks and Recreation Department has done a great job taking care of the ballpark since the tornado. Mr. Bruce Mason board member with the Sherwood Optimist Club stated there have been a lot of people working on the fields. Other communities have stepped up and helped the teams have a place to play. The girl's softball is playing at Burns Park. The optimist club is making sure that the parks that are offering them space are cleaned after they are done playing. The schedule is worked up in two-week increments. Meetings are held on a regular basis with Mr. Janssen. The optimist club will host a chili supper/silent auction fundraiser on Friday, May 2, 2008, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Sherwood Forest. The Buzz and 107 will host a fundraiser at Dickey Stephens Park on Tuesday, April 29, 2008. Money from the fundraiser will go to help the optimist program, and if there are available funds left over they will go to help contribute to rebuilding the park. There will be an accounting of all funds raised. The funds are being raised to pay for umpires and expenses of the program. The optimist club is appreciative of all that is being done to help get the program going again.

Alderman Fender, Chairman of Street Committee, asked the council if they were in agreement to go forward with the purchase of a horizontal grinder. Alderman Vassar asked if the site is being prepared for the location of the grinder. Alderman Fender stated as far as he know there had not been anything done yet. Alderman Sulcer stated the property on Trammel Road was never surveyed. The council needs to check on the survey first. Alderman Vassar asked if the horizontal grinder had been in place before the tornado damage, would this have saved many hours of cleanup and helped the surrounding areas. Alderman Fender stated it would have expedited the cleanup. Mayor Hillman stated that Pulaski County brought in a grinder at no cost to the city. Lanny Leder, Director of Public Works, stated that the grinder had not been delivered as of yet. Alderman Fender stated he was looking for a long-term solution and believed this would save the city money. Alderman Fender further advised that the City was not under contract with American Composting at this time, therefore, American Composting could increase our rates. Alderman Rankin stated he believed the repair was being done on the roads going into the site to accommodate heavy trucks. Alderman Sulcer asked where would you come off the road from. Alderman Vassar stated she thought the process for the grinder was ongoing and that payments would be made over a period of time. Alderman Fender stated the property is about 50 acres. Alderman Vassar asked the street committee to do further research on this and bring it back to the council. Mayor Hillman stated she asked the director of the Regional Solid Waste about the grinder and he felt the city needed to do more research. She recommended the council meet with Mr. Roberts. Alderman Davis stated that the problem might be the land because it is lowland. Alderman Sulcer stated the people that put the roads in did not take their big equipment down the road, and they parked their vehicles on the side of Trammel Road and brought their other equipment out. Alderman Vassar asked where the debris was that was going to be removed when Pulaski County brought out a grinder. She was advised it was at Sherwood Forest. Alderman Vassar asked if there were someplace at Sherwood Forest that a grinder could be placed. Lanny Leder stated once the limbs are grinded the City still has to have a place to haul them to. Alderman Davis asked that when the County brings the chipper if Lanny would telephone him so he could see how it operates. Alderman Fender suggested that the city lease to purchase the equipment. Alderman Vassar wants the committee to research the prices and a location for a grinder. Mr. Price

April 28, 2008

REGULAR MEETING 3

McMillan addressed the council and stated he would like to see the grinder someplace other than around a residential area. Alderman Vassar asked if the resolution that was tabled last month had been discussed. Alderman Rankin stated that he would like to see the resolution brought back before the council. Alderman Vassar said her recommendation was to leave off Section 3 and 4. Mayor Hillman advised that since the last council meeting she has been informed the City has received funding to finish Brockington Road.

Resolution No. 5-2008, entitled, “A RESOLUTION APPOINTING MIKE PRESSON, REPLACING JOHN HESTER, TO THE ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONS COMMISSION” was read. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, to adopt the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Alderman Harmon, seconded by Alderman Rankin, made a motion to table the resolution for condemnation on property at 7900 Hwy 107 (Couch’s garage). The roll call vote was unanimous. Alderman Harmon stated that the owners have a contract in place to start the demolition of the property. Mayor Hillman asked if a plan would be submitted to code enforcement. Alderman Harmon stated the demolition has planned to be started in 30 days. Kristi Couch and Cindy Couch addressed the council and stated that a contract has been signed and the cleaning should start this weekend. The trash will be hauled off by Monday, and as soon as this is complete demolition of the main building and the shed behind it will begin. Ms. Kristi Couch advised that the tanks have been removed and the building will be taken down to the dirt. Ms. Couch will hire someone to come out and test the dirt. Alderman Vassar asked if there was asbestos. Ms. Couch stated none.

Ordinance No. 1774, entitled, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF A SHERWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT STATE DRUG FUND BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF SHERWOOD, ARKANSAS, FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2008, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2008; APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR EACH AND EVERY ITEM OF EXPENDITURE THEREIN PROVIDED FOR; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES” was read. Mayor Hillman advised the auditors brought this to the city’s attention and it should have been done annually. Alderman Harmon asked what the plans for the funds were. Chief Kel Nicholson stated this is money received from drug seizures. The money fluctuates on the amount the city receives. The police department will use the money to buy equipment for the SWAT team and purchases of the more expensive items for the Police Department. Alderman Fender asked if the money was divided up by the State for Sherwood’s seizures. Chief Nicholson stated the county usually holds out twenty percent. Alderman Sulcer asked if a house has been busted for methamphetamine could it be recorded at the courthouse. City Attorney Steve Cobb stated he is working with North Little Rock on this to try and get some policy in place for Sherwood. Alderman Sulcer stated there was a methamphetamine house on Sherwood Avenue that did not get cleaned up. Chief Nicholson stated there are records here at the city. Alderman Harmon stated he was familiar with the house on Sherwood Avenue and it was cleaned by a professional environmental service prior to the owner’s being able to sell it. A motion was made by Alderman Harmon, seconded by Alderman Davis, 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 a third time. A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous. The emergency clause passed with a unanimous roll call vote.

Ordinance No. 1775, entitled, AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE ANNEXATION OF THE TERRITORY COMMONLY KNOWN AS GRAVEL RIDGE TO THE CITY OF SHERWOOD, ARKANSAS, ASSIGNING THE TERRITORY TO WARDS, DELCARING AN EMERGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES” was read. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by

April 28, 2008

REGULAR MEETING 4

Alderman Brooks, 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 Harmon, seconded by Alderman Davis, 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 Brooks, to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous. The emergency clause passed with a unanimous roll call vote. Alderman Vassar asked about the wards. City Attorney Steve Cobb stated west of Highway 107 will be Ward 1, and east of Highway 107 will be Ward 2.

Resolution No. 6-2008, entitled, RESOLUTION NO. 6-2008 OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHERWOOD, ARKANSAS TO REQUEST THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND GOVERNOR OF ARKANSAS TAKE ACTION TO PREVENT EXPLOITATIVE PAYDAY LENDING PRACTICES IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS” was read. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, to adopt the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Resolution No. 7-2008, entitled, “A RESOLUTION APPOINTING DENNY TIPTON, REPLACING MIKE PRESSON, TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE” was read. A motion was made by Alderman Sulcer, seconded by Alderman Brooks, to adopt the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Alderman Sulcer stated she was informed that North Little Rock was going to give the citizens of that city a discount on their electric, but Sherwood residents would not receive this discount. City Attorney, Steve Cobb stated Mayor Hayes has suggested a one percent sales tax increase that will be utilized to reduce the impact of the increase on electric rates and the discount would not be passed on to Sherwood residents. Alderman Harmon stated that the City of Sherwood has been subsidizing North Little Rock for years.

A motion was made by Alderman Harmon, seconded by Alderman Brooks, to suspend the rules and place on the council agenda a Revised Pit Bull Ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous.

Ordinance No. 1776, entitled, “AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE KEEPING OF PIT BULL DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS OF A VICIOUS NATURE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF SHERWOOD; AS AMENDED AND REVISED, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES” was read. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by Alderman Davis, 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 Davis, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, 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 Davis, to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous. The emergency clause passed with a unanimous roll call vote. Alderman Vassar stated that this was not a new ordinance, but an updated ordinance. This was not because of the newly annexed area. The council commended Robin Breaux, Animal Services Director for her research. Alderman Davis stated that the pit bulls that are in Gravel Ridge now would be grandfathered in until they die. Steve Cobb, City Attorney, stated they would have to be registered. Alderman Sulcer asked if the residents were only allowed two. Alderman Harmon asked if they have more than two pit bulls would they also be grandfathered in. Steve Cobb stated there is a provision in the ordinance that puts everyone on notice. Owners of pit bulls in newly annexed areas will need to register their pit bull(s) with animal control. Robin Breaux stated that more than two pit bulls would cause a pack situation and this makes them more dangerous to the public. Local cities in the state of Arkansas have banned pit bulls. Alderman Sulcer asked if this ordinance was allowing pit bulls in the current Sherwood city limits. She was advised that the ordinance only applies to a newly annexed area. This ordinance will be updated

April 28, 2008

REGULAR MEETING 5

for future annexations. The newly annexed residents will be allowed 90 days to register their pit bull.

Mayor Hillman introduced Melissa Duncan, a representative for Sylvan Hills High School. She thanked the city for allowing the seniors to use the Bill Harmon Recreation Center facilities for school. She stated that Mr. Ebbs, the current principal at Sylvan Hills High School is leaving, and she would like the council to reinstate an education committee to help locate a principal for the school. A letter has been written to the school district asking that the site base committee be allowed to help in the selection of a new principal and to allow the community and the city to be a part of this. Ms. Duncan also informed the council that the Sylvan Hills High School cheerleaders are on the Arkansas Academic Challenge television commercial. Mayor Hillman advised the committee is still in place.

Mayor Hillman announced the following:

Senior Citizen Fun Day Fish Fry and Silent Auction will be Saturday, May 3, 2008, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, May 6, 2008, 7:00 a.m. at Sherwood Forest. Reservations are available until Friday, May 2, 2008.

2008 Sherwood Fishing Derby at Lake Cherrywood, May 9, 2008, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

COPPS Kids Summer Camp June 23-25, 2008, at Sherwood Forest.

Mosquito spraying will start early this year. Volunteers for driving the mosquito trucks are needed to help control overtime.

Wal-Mart opens June 11, 2008.

Filing for all municipal offices begin April 30, 2008.

Curbside pilot program started in Gap Creek and approximately 50 percent of the residents had recycling out. Alderman Vassar asked if there would be a charge for this service. Mayor Hillman stated there would not be an extra charge for this service.

Mayor Hillman commended the employees of the City for their hard work during and after the tornado on April 3, 2008.

A motion was made by Alderman Vassar to adjourn.

ATTEST:

Angela Nicholson, City Clerk

Virginia R. Hillman, Mayor