

June 25, 2007

REGULAR MEETING 1

The City Council of the City of Sherwood met for a regular meeting on June 25, 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 May 29, 2007, as transcribed. Alderman Sulcer seconded the motion and the roll call was unanimous to accept the minutes.

Alderman Sulcer, Advertising and Promotion Chairman announced that the commission met and the main focus was getting ready for the 4th of July Annual Celebration. She also stated that the commission voted that no political booths or tables would be set up at the 4th of July Celebration. Candidates are welcome to distribute materials or have signs on their vehicles. No signage will be allowed on the premises.

A proposed ordinance entitled, "AN ORDINANCE RENAMING BROOKSWOOD, IN THE CITY OF SHERWOOD, ARKANSAS TO BROCKINGTON ROAD, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" was read for the first time. Mayor Harmon announced that he had requested that the proposed ordinance be read only one time to allow for all who are affected by the address change to receive notice.

Resolution No. 18-2007 entitled, "A RESOLUTION APPOINTING AND REAPPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE SHERWOOD PUBLIC FACILITIES BOARD" was read. City Attorney Cobb stated that the resolution originally submitted had been revised and requested a motion to amend the staggering terms. A motion was made by Alderman Brooks, seconded by Alderman Vassar, to approve the amendment. The roll call vote was unanimous to accept the amendment. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by Alderman Rankin, to adopt the resolution. The roll call vote was unanimous to adopt the resolution.

Alderman Fender, Street Commission Chairman, stated that the Arkansas State Highway Department is currently studying the feasibility of a traffic signal at Lee Avenue and Arkansas State Highway 107.

Mayor Harmon stated that item No. 7 is an ordinance to abandon an access easement at Oakbrooke Subdivision and stated that since there was a question as to whether or not the item should be an ordinance or resolution, he asked that the item be tables for 30 days. Discussion of how the easement originated was generated. Jim Davis addressed the Council. The easement contains a sidewalk

that was originally placed for children to walk to the Oakbrooke Elementary School. This was prior to the development of surrounding property. Today the children no longer use the sidewalk since the surrounding area is developed and contains sidewalks. Recently, the easement area has become a target area for graffiti as well as generating calls to the police regarding various activities.

An ordinance No. 1740, entitled, “AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING ANNEXED TERRITORY AND DESIGNATING SAID LANDS TO A WARD” was read for the first time. Mayor Harmon stated that this was the property recently annexed. Alderman Sulcer stated that she was abstaining from voting since she works with one of the owners. All of the property will be in Ward Four. City Engineer Michael Clayton stated that the land use map updated and an AICUZ ordinance will be introduced within the next couple of months. A motion was made by Alderman Vassar, seconded by Alderman Sulcer, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the second reading. The roll call vote was 7 ayes; Sulcer abstained. The ordinance was read for the second time. A motion was made by Alderman Rankin, seconded by Alderman Harmon, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on the third and final reading. The roll call vote was 7 ayes; Sulcer abstained. The ordinance was read for the third time. A motion was made by Alderman Davis, seconded by Alderman Brooks, to adopt the ordinance. The roll call vote was 7 ayes; Sulcer abstained, to adopt the ordinance. The emergency clause passed with 7 ayes; Sulcer abstained.

A proposed ordinance entitled, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 603, THE SIGN ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF SHERWOOD TO REFLECT THE CHANGES HEREIN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; REGULATING ELECTRONIC SIGNS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY” was read for the first time. Mayor Harmon stated that he had requested that the ordinance be read only one time. He also expressed that every sign already permitted and installed be grand fathered in. Steve Perry, a Sherwood business owner, addressed the Council. He expressed that he understood the need for regulation of electronic signage. He believes that an ordinance should make sense as well as be pro business. He expressed that some of the complaints regarding the usage of the electronic signage is that they are distractions. He submits that they are no more of a distraction than people eating while driving and talking on cell phones, etc.

Preston Brailsford, 219 Katye Lane, expressed his concern with the development of the Wal-Mart Super Center. The surrounding residents at last months Council meeting requested a fence. He has received no word. Alderman Vassar and Mayor Harmon stated that they have visited with some of the neighbors in the area. Those neighbors stated that they would relay the information to the other neighbors. Mayor Harmon stated that the property in question is actually out parcels, not the Wal-Mart constructions. Wal-Mart had to remove trees to place a sewer line. The City is currently under negotiations to cover the ditch rather than leaving the ditch open. Mayor Harmon stated that the buffer would not be

reduced from 90 feet. Mr. Brailsford questioned if the ditch was left open, it would be an attraction for mosquitoes. Mr. Brailsford distributed materials to the Council for their review. Mr. Brailsford still maintained that no one had visited with the neighbors on his end of the street. Alderman Vassar stated that she would be in touch with Mr. Brailsford.

Mayor Harmon introduced Jordan Johnson. She is on the People to People at UCLA ambassador program. She attends Northwood Middle School.

Advertising and Promotion Director Cheryl Ferguson announced the Annual 4th of July Celebration. More entertainment is planned for this year. Hot dogs, chips, and free Pepsi will be available to all. The Sherwood Rotary Veterans Memorial project will also be selling memorial bricks.

Alderman Fender announced that on Monday, July 2nd, the dedication of the Don Hindman room will be held at 11:15.

A special mayoral election will be held on July 10th. Early voting begins on July 2nd.

Mayor Harmon introduced the owners of the new Best Western in Sherwood. A ribbon cutting and open house will be on Thursday, June 28th.

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

ATTEST:

Virginia Hillman, City Clerk

Bill Harmon, Interim Mayor