

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY ~ MARCH 18, 2014 ~ 6:00 P.M.

FORT SMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS SERVICE CENTER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Sanders, presiding. Invocation was given by Reverend Joshua Willadsen of Bethel Lutheran Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. On roll call the following members of the Board were present: Directors Keith Lau, Mike Lorenz, George Catsavis, Pam Weber, Kevin Settle and Philip H. Merry, Jr. The Mayor declared a quorum present. Director Andre' Good arrived prior to consideration of the Consent Agenda (Item No. 2).

The Mayor recognized David Heinrich from Boy Scout Troop 380, who was in attendance to earn his Communications Merit Badge.

The Mayor inquired if any Board member had any item of business to present that was not already on the agenda. There was none presented.

The minutes of the March 4, 2014 regular meeting were presented for approval. Weber, seconded by Lorenz, moved approval of the minutes as written. The members present all voting aye, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor Sanders announced this was the time and place set for a public hearing regarding the Year 40 Community Development Block Grant Budget (CDBG), the Year 21 HOME Investment Partnership Act Program Budget and authorizing the submission of the Program Year 2014 Action Plan. Notice of public hearing was duly published as required by law. Following the public hearing, consideration of a resolution authorizing same would be given (Item No. 1).

Director of Community Development Matt Jennings briefed the Board on the item as discussed at the March 11, 2014 study session. The proposed resolution authorizes

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funding to various organizations as reviewed and recommended by the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC).

There being no individual present to address the Board, Mayor Sanders closed the public hearing.

Director Weber expressed gratitude to Community Development staff and the CDAC for their time and effort to review all funding applications.

Merry, seconded by Settle, moved adoption of the resolution. The members present all voting affirmatively, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the resolution was adopted and given No. R-24-14.

The Consent Agenda (Item No. 2) was introduced for consideration, the items being as follows:

- A. Resolution amending Resolution No. R-13-14 regarding priorities for the 2015 session of the Arkansas General Assembly ~ *Weber/Catsavis placed on agenda at the March 4, 2014 regular meeting ~*
- B. Resolution granting a temporary revocable license for the placement of a storage building within a public utility easement and authorizing the Mayor to execute agreement
- C. Resolution authorizing the acquisition of real property interests for Jenny Lind Road and Ingersoll Avenue Widening, Project No. 07-01-A (\$59,643.63 / *Engineering Department / Budgeted – Sales Tax Program Fund*)
- D. Resolution authorizing the acquisition of real property interests for the Jenny Lind Road and Ingersoll Avenue Widening, Project No. 07-01-A (\$14,200.00 / *Engineering Department / Budgeted – Sales Tax Program Fund*)
- E. Resolution accepting completion of and authorizing final payment for the construction of 2013 Traffic Signal Improvements, Project No. 13-09-A (\$65,891.78 / *Engineering Department / Budgeted – Sales Tax Program Fund*)
- F. Resolution accepting the bid of and authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Preload, Inc. for the Chaffee Crossing

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Water Supply Improvements (\$2,034,000.00 / Utility Department / Budgeted – 2012 Sales and Use Tax Bonds)

- G. Resolution authorizing acquisition of easements in connection with the Massard 48-Inch Interceptor Sewer Easement Clearing and Access Road Construction (\$31,008.00 / Utility Department / Budgeted – 2008 Revenue Bonds)
- H. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute Authorization No. 2 to the agreement with RJN Group, Inc. for the Basin 17 Collection System Improvements (\$168,175.00 / Utility Department / Budgeted – 2012 Sales and Use Tax Bonds)

Regarding Item No. 2D, Director Lorenz advised of his intent to abstain from voting on the item due to a conflict of interest.

With regard to Item No. 2F, Director Weber requested City Administrator Gosack to provide a brief explanation.

Administrator Gosack advised this is the fourth and final project being designed by Mickle Wager Coleman Inc. for the purpose of providing water system improvements needed to support growth in the Chaffee Crossing and southeast Fort Smith area. He provided detail of each project and conveyed funding is derived from the voter approved 2012 sales tax and use tax bonds issued for water transmission system improvements.

Settle, seconded by Lau, moved adoption of all consent agenda items. The members voted affirmatively on all items, with the exception of Item No. 2D whereby Director Lorenz abstained. The Mayor declared the motion carried and the resolutions were adopted and numbered R-25-14 through R-32-14 respectively.

Mayor Sanders opened the Officials Forum with the following comments offered:

➤ Mayor Sanders

- Re: 1. Announced the open house/dedication of Fire Station No. 11 occurred on Thursday, March 6th; therefore, he expressed much gratitude to all who attended the event and commended Fire Department staff for getting the new station operational.

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2. Announced the groundbreaking for the aquatic center at Ben Geren Regional Park was held on Friday, March 7th and conveyed much appreciation for all who attended the event.
3. Extended congratulations to Dr. Sam Landrum, who recently received the 2014 Gloria White Community Angel Award by Project Compassion, Inc.
4. Commended Mars Petcare, Inc. for its second consecutive year of being named one of Fortune 500 magazine's 100 best companies to work for.
5. Acknowledged the Fort Smith Convention & Visitors Bureau upon receiving the Community Tourism Development Award at the 40th Annual Governor's Conference on Tourism.
6. Recognized the City of Fayetteville for advancing the green initiative by being the first city to adopt more stringent building codes requiring home energy requirements for new structures.
7. Congratulated Northside High School girl's basketball team for a great season and again making it to the state championship.

➤ Director Settle

- Re:
1. Extended congratulations to the University of Arkansas Fort Smith men's basketball team for advancing to the Heartland Conference and making it to the NCAA Division II South Central Region Tournament.
 2. Recognized Jake Toupal upon being named First Team All-Conference and Player of the Year.
 3. Recognized Seth Youngblood, freshman, upon being named the Second Team-All Conference and Freshman of the Year.
 4. Recognized Coach Josh Newman upon being named Coach of the Year.

➤ Director Merry

- Re:
1. Announced the Noble Cause Award ceremony was recently held whereby Charlotte Tidwell with Antioch Youth & Family and Tom Jakobs with Be

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Extraordinary were honored. He also conveyed much appreciation to the Mayor and Administration for their attendance.

2. Announced that May is Western Heritage Month; therefore, he encourage encouraged citizens, Mayor and Board to get involved.

➤ Administrator Gosack

- Re:
1. Advised the March 5, 2014 edition of the Times Record included an article regarding a defamation lawsuit filed by two (2) Fort Smith Police Officers whereby he was quoted as saying "*In essence what she did is file a sexual-harassment complaint against her supervisors.*" He clarified the sexual-harassment complaint was made against only one (1) of the supervisors, not both. The purpose of this statement is merely to set the record straight and further clarify that any reference to multiple supervisors was inadvertent and unintentional.
 2. Expressed much gratitude to an estimated 150 citizens who participated in the Future Fort Smith open house held on Monday, March 17, 2014. Resident input is vital to the success of the project and encouraged citizens to participate in decision making that will help define the future of Fort Smith. Input can be submitted at www.futurefortsmith.com.
 3. Provided an update regarding the aquatic center at Ben Geren Regional Park, citing the groundbreaking was held on March 7, 2014. The architect and construction manager have been in the process of finalizing the plans for the project, which are expected to be complete the week ending March 21, 2014. Upon completion, the drawing of the final plans will be submitted to the City of Fort Smith Board of Directors and the Sebastian County Quorum Court. The bidding process for the construction contract will then be initiated, with approval of said contract anticipated by late April 2014. Construction is anticipated to begin in mid to late May, 2014.

The Board entered into executive session at approximately 6:15 p.m. and after reconvening, Mayor Sanders announced appointments to the Animal Services Advisory

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Board has been deferred to April 2014, and further announced the following appointment nominations:

ARKANSAS FAIR AND EXHIBITION FACILITIES BOARD

Mathew Pitsch

Term expires March 18, 2019

FORT SMITH HOUSING AUTHORITY

Barbara Meadows (*reappointment*)

Term expires March 3, 2019

HOUSING ASSISTANCE BOARD

Mike Jacimore

(*to fill the unexpired term of Pat Gooch, who resigned*)

Term expires April 30, 2015

OUTSIDE AGENCY REVIEW PANEL

Robert Morgan (Core Committee)

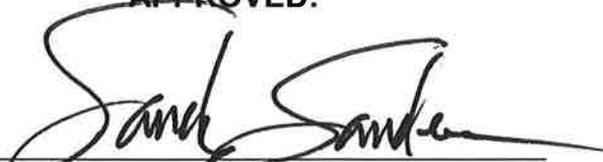
Term expires March 31, 2017

Lorenz, seconded by Good, moved acceptance of the appointment nominations.

The members all voting aye, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Merry moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Catsavis, and the members all voting aye, the Mayor declared the motion carried and the meeting stood adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk