

Bull Shoals City Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

May 25, 2017

I. Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, & Roll Call

Mayor David Hotchkiss called to order the regular meeting with prayer of the Bull Shoals City Council at 6:30 pm on May 25, 2017 at 704 CS Woods Dr. Bull Shoals, AR 72619

Kimberly Williams conducted roll call. The following persons were present: Mayor David Hotchkiss, Mr. Graley, Mr. Traylor, Mr. Nickles, Mr. Lindman, Mrs. Rhodes, and Mr. Gianini. The Recorder/Treasurer said we have a quorum.

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Mayor Hotchkiss asked for the April minutes. Mr. Nickles asked the Mayor if he could publicly apologize to Dr. Nixon for unintentionally leaving Dr. Nixon's name off of the flyer for the Special Elections. Mayor Hotchkiss said he had the previous minutes for April and March. Mr. Graley said that at the April 27th meeting they discussed the Fire and LOPFI funds and he did not see this in the minutes. He also requested the copies of the recordings of the past 3 council meetings. Mr. Graley said that he cannot agree to the minutes as written. Ms. Williams said that she did not hear him request a copy of the recordings. Mayor Hotchkiss called for a motion to table the minutes. Someone (not clear on audio) made the motion to table the minutes and Mr. Nickles seconded. There was a Roll Call vote and everyone said yes.

III. Treasurer report

Mayor Hotchkiss asked Ms. Williams to read the treasurer's report. Ms. Williams read the treasurer's report. Ms. Williams said the council needed to decide where the annual launch fees are to be reported; either in the campgrounds or parks? Mr. Nickles made the comment of 345. Mr. Nickles asked, about the Point Return grant taking almost a year? Mr. Graley asked about the income turn backs and Entergy franchise tax and how is it divided? Ms. Williams reported that we received 21,962.00 from Entergy. She said that she did not divide it. Mr. Graley asked about how much the county turn back is. He also asked about where the reports were kept. Ms. Williams replied that the reports were kept in her office. Mr. Graley expressed his concern of not having the numbers of the turn backs and how much they were above normal and that the Treasurer should have the reports. Mayor Hotchkiss asked for a motion to accept the report. Mr. Lindman made the motion to accept the report and Mr. Nickles seconded by cancellation. A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Graley said no, Mr. Traylor said yes,

Mr. Nickles said yes, Mr. Lindman said yes, Ms. Rhodes said she abstains only because she did not have a chance to look at report, Mr. Gianini said yes. The motion carried to accept.

Ms. Williams presented the financials to be published in next week's Mountain Echo. Ms. Williams gave everyone a stack of inquiries from previous treasurer and asked about resolutions that were passed while she was not employed between 2012 and 2014. Mr. Traylor asked the Mayor, why these were not brought up at workshop. Ms. Williams said these items were just an explanation of what happened and asked finish. The items totaled 708,983.85. Mr. Graley asked Ms. Williams if the reason for the shortfalls was because of past administration. Ms. Williams said that the Fireman's Relief Money was from the Fireman's Pension Fund. Mr. Traylor asked who is supposed to meet with the fire fighters and Ms. Williams responded that the Mayor is supposed to attend. Mr. Graley asked about the difference in the balance and Ms. Williams said that it was due to banking service fees. Mr. Nickles asked about transfers that were intermingled in city funds and donated funds.

IV. Department Reports

Mayor Hotchkiss asked if everyone had read the reports and asked for a motion to accept them. A Roll Call Vote was taken and the reports were accepted unanimously.

V. Program Reports

- a) **Parks-** Mrs. Lynn Nickels reported that the Tin Can Rally was a success and have booked next year. She showed the Council what was included in the Chamber of Commerce goody bags for the Dam Site Park. The next meeting is June 5th. Mr. Nickles commented that the Chamber of Commerce has been very active with the parks.

VI. Citizens comments

- a) Phil Frieze – Commented about the previous month's mayor comments of raising an officer's wages. He said that in the January meeting after the DRA grant that the salary be raised by \$5500 a year. The officer would exchange the health care coverage from the city. Mr. Frieze also stated that in February he read a statement that the employees' health care is paid by the city. He stated that in the February meeting the Council voted to retro the officer's pay back to January. He mentioned that in the February meeting after the voting of increase in pay the council recommended that the employees' pay for part of their health care coverage. He stated that the Council misinformed the citizens and called the council liars. Mayor Hotchkiss responded that his raise saved the taxpayers \$8000. Mr. Frieze stated that the Council was still lying

and the Mayor asked that Mr. Frieze have a seat or be removed. Mr. Frieze was removed.

Officer Rhodes stated for the record became a Sargent in October and did not take a dime for his promotion until January. He worked as Sargent for free and used the city's insurance. He then decided to save the city money that he would use his insurance and save the city \$8,000.

Ms. Rhodes wanted to have on record that the attack on her husband by Mr. Frieze was nothing more than a temper tantrum and sour grapes from losing the election. She requested that if Mr. Frieze wanted to keep bringing accusations about her was fine but to leave Officer Rhodes alone because he is a good officer.

- b) Ed Martin wanted the Council to be aware of all that he does. He is actually the City Mechanic and works on vehicles and equipment. He is also being called on to work on electrical problems. He wanted the Council to consider what it would cost to bring in extra help?

VII. Old business

- a) Mr. Nickels read the Ordinance Regulating Excessive Unnecessary or Unusually Loud Noise of the City of Bull Shoals. An emergency vote is requested for the health and welfare of the citizens of Bull Shoals. Mayor asked for a motion to approve the ordinance. A few citizens wanted clarification of the ordinance. Mr. Nickles stated that the ordinance was because of the citizens calling City Hall about noise. Mr. Graley asked to table the ordinance. Mayor asked for a motion to accept the ordinance. You cannot hear who made the motion but Mr. Nickels seconded. During discussion Mr. Graley expressed the concern of the citizen's reactions. Mayor asked for a roll call vote: Mr. Graley said Yes, Mr. Traylor said Yes, Mr. Nickels said Yes, Mr. Lindman said No, Mrs. Rhoades said No, and Mr. Gianini said Yes. The motion carried 4 to 2.
- b) Mayor Hotchkiss presented the ordinance to establish the parks and planning committee members and to replace ordinance 2016-01. This ordinance is appointed by the Mayor and have 5-7 members. Mr. Nickels made the motion to accept the ordinance and Mrs. Rhoades seconded. A roll call vote was taken and all said yes. Mayor asked for a motion of the ordinance to be read by title only 2 more times. Someone made the motion and Ms. Rhoades seconded. A roll call vote was taken and all said yes.

- c) Mayor read a letter that was received by Travis Doshier that all of the payroll bank accounts were accurate and have been reconciled.
- d) Ordinance to acquire a short term loan in the assistance to the Wastewater/Sewer improvement project. This is the \$400,000 bridge loan for the USDA grant. Mrs. Rhoades asked why we need an ordinance for the loan. Mrs. Williams said that the bank required it. A roll call vote was taken and motion carried unanimously. Mayor ask Roger Morgan (City Attorney) that this is a time sensitive matter and could we make a motion to read the title 2 more times to pass it. Mr. Morgan responded that if you get 3/4ths of the council to agree then yes. A motion was made and accepted to read the ordinance by title two more times by a roll call vote that passed unanimously. The title was read 2 more times and approved unanimously. This ordinance is 2017-4.
- e) Mr. Nixon reported that the planning and zoning primary order of business was a lot split for Mr. Fuller and will follow up next month.
- f) Mr. Nixon said that the budget does balance but is going to have serious impacts on city personnel, services, and the citizens of the community. We have gotten external assistance in developing this budget. There are some questions of the internal movements of the money does not look kosher. Mr. Nixon asked that we wait to vote to approve the budget in order for everyone have time to look at the report. Mr. Nixon requested another hour to work on the document because the middle does not match. The council requested that the budget committee meeting meet tomorrow at 9 am. There was discussion as to when to hold the emergency council meeting. Mr. Traylor made the motion to have the special meeting on Tuesday, May 30, 2017 at 6:30 pm. Mr. Graley seconded. A roll call vote was taken and everyone except Mrs. Rhoades said Yes.
- g) A citizen asked Mr. McConnell about damage to the bridge on Rivercliff drive. Mr. McConnell referred to the budget and the lack of funds to fix it. Mr. McConnell suggested to gravel it for now until further notice.
- h) Mr. Graley asked about Insurance and a check that was from the IRS and Ms. Williams and Mr. Nixon are investigating what the check is for.

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Lindman made the motion to adjourn and Mr. Gianini seconded.

Mayor David Hotchkiss adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Tina Bailey on October 16, 2017 - I would like to invite anyone and all to listen to the recording for any clarification that I may have missed. There is a lot of mumbling, coughing, and rustling of papers. Thank you.

Minutes approved by: [Name]