

**City of Cave Springs  
City Council Meeting – American Legion Building  
September 13, 2016**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Lee officially called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

**Roll Call**

Mayor Travis Lee	Present
Mary Ann Winters	Present
Larry Fletcher	Present
Brett Moore	Present
Marc Williams	Present
Jay Finch	Present
Joan White	Present

**Others Present**

Kimberly Hutcheson, City Recorder / Treasurer  
Craig Southern, City Planning / Zoning Official  
Charlie Holyfield, Vice Mayor  
Tom Gheen - Accountant

**APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**

Larry Fletcher made a motion to amend the September 13, 2016 agenda, Alderwoman Winters seconded the motion. Amendment was made to add a special Council meeting, to be discussed later during this meeting. Passed 5-1.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Jay Finch	No
Joan White	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Alderman Winters made a motion to table the minutes from the August 9th, 2016 meeting. Stating that minutes were incomplete and she would like them to be finished. Alderwoman Fletcher seconded the motion. Passed 5-1.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Jay Finch	No
Joan White	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES

**CITY FINANCIALS- 2016 Financial Reports**

Alderman Winters made a motion to table the financial reports. Stating that the records presented were from July financials. That also was tabled at that time. Alderwoman Williams seconded the motion. Passed 5-1.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Jay Finch	No
Joan White	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES

**Department Reports:**

**Fire Report:**

Tony Wright verified that Council received a copy of his report. No questions were asked of the Council.

**Police Report:**

Rick Crisman verified that Council received a copy of his report. No questions were asked of the Council.

**Water & Sewer Committee:**

No one presented from the Water and Sewer Departments.

**Mayors Report:**

Mayor Lee thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and being concerned with what is going on in the city. Said that he doesn't think that everyone is hear for the task at hand.

Alderman Fletcher requests that the meeting skip ahead to New Business #8. Mayor Lee states that he will allow Alderman Fletcher to make the request. Alderwoman Winters seconded the motion. Passed 5-1.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Jay Finch	No
Joan White	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES

**New Business:**

**8.) Special Meeting.**

Alderman Fletcher requests to hold a public meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:30. Motion was seconded by Alderman Williams. Passed 5-1.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Jay Finch	No
Joan White	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES

Alderman Fletcher explained why he wanted to call a special meeting on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Explaining that regarding the audit that was talked about last meeting. Said that after talking to the compliance office, there is an audit scheduled for the City in November. Alderman Fletcher explained that he believes that the audit needs to be done.

The City is left without any legal representation. Stating that he believes that the City needs an attorney when dealing with the situation between the City Treasurer and the Mayor. After speaking with Attorney Mark Hayes, from the Arkansas Municipal League, he agreed to mediate said special public meeting. Alderman Winters stated that she agreed that the city needed this. Passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Jay Finch	YES
Joan White	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES

## Public Comments

Terri Rakes read a letter asking citizens to stand up for their community. Stated that Mr. Finch was a bully to Mrs. Kimberly Hutcheson the previous week. Shamed Mr. Finch, the Mayor and the other Council Members, other than Marc Williams for standing up for Mrs. Hutcheson. Stated that Mayor Lee was spending money from other departments and covering up additional spending, unapproved by Council.

Nathan Coy, Code Enforcement Officer. Stated that he wants to speak the truth for residents of Cave Springs. Stated that he worked hard to help the City Administration over the past 3 years. He named all of the community events that he has assisted with and that he wants to improve the community for the citizens of Cave Springs. Said that he has no ill will towards Joe Powell, former Police Chief for the City.

Bob Ryan, resident in Wellington Subdivision. Spoke about property taxes. Said that his property tax assessment increased tremendously in just a year. However, after checking with a relator the assessment was not accurate. Told the Council that there does not need to be a mileages increase anytime soon. Says that taxes are being raised without due cause.

Alfred Coy, Officer Nathan Coy's dad. Requested that the citizens stand up for what's right for the city. Reading from a paper, he gave examples of things that Mrs. Hutcheson has done to his son on the job. States that his son, and that other city employees and citizens have been failed by Mrs. Hutcheson.

Stephanni Wood, employee of Cave Springs. Said that she wanted to address the Council, The City needed to stand by the Mayor and that she wants to speak the truth when the time is right.

Sara Kirby. Employee of Cave Springs. Said that she does not feel that this City Council meeting is the place to be talking about another employee. That she is not being forced to say anything, and that she will, when asked give an account of her experiences within the city. She encouraged the city leaders to look into the performance and actions of city officials and take action where needed.

Jaci Hawkins, employee of City of Cave Springs. Said that she worked for Treasurer/Recorder for about 8 months as her personal assistant. Jaci said that she has heard confidential information. What she has endured from Mrs. Hutcheson, disrespect towards numerous city employees, council members, and employees. Unethical decisions made, guidelines not followed.

Josh Ferguson asked that everyone keep their back talk and harassment to a minimum, everyone is trying to hear, without being addressed by council.

Robbie Glenn, of Gentry, asked who put together his previous FOIA request of 15 disks. Said that they were blurry, shoty and could not be understood. Mayor Lee explained that he sent most of the information to Nicole and that he would get it taken care of.

Brenda Clone, of Pace Lane, claims that she has been waiting for 2 years for her road to be paved, yet there has been nothing done. She requests that the City take care of this matter immediately.

## Old Business:

Cassie Elliott, the Grant Writer from Beaumont Trail spoke about how the Grant is coming along. States that the funding element is the most important at this time. Mrs. Elliott has been approved of \$350,000 in two separate Grants. She is writing for an additional four more grants for \$1.05 million. Trying to reach a goal of \$2 million.

Kevin Beaumont, McClelland Construction, spoke about the progress of the trail system. States that no contracts as they are working with the city and property owners before moving forward. States that the trail should be around 2.2 miles thru Cave Springs city limits, costing \$1.8-\$1.9 million for the trail in this area. Wants to insure that all grants and funding are in place before moving forward.

## New Business:

**1.) AN ORDINANCE FOR REZONING; a rezoning of a tract containing .054 acres zoned a non-conforming A-1 general agriculture district, rezoned to a conforming R-3 single family residential district. 1011 W. Shores Ave. Cave Springs, AR 72718. 2016-26**

Craig Southern / Planning - Owner is requesting a rezoning. They rent the property to people who are operating a business on this land. Owner is trying to get property rezoned to meet proper business regulations, after obtaining a business license.

Alderwoman White made a motion to approve. Alderwoman Winters seconded the motion. All approved. Passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES
Jay Finch	YES
Joan White	YES

Alderman Finch made a motion to Suspend a read on final reading. Alderman Williams seconded the motion. All approved. Passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES
Jay Finch	YES
Joan White	YES

Alderman Fletcher made a motion to approve. Alderwoman White seconded the motion. All approved. Passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES
Jay Finch	YES
Joan White	YES

**2.) An Ordinance for rezoning, a rezoning of a platted lot containing 0.23 acres zoned a non-conforming R-1 single family residential district, rezoned to a conforming R-3 single family residential district. 2016-27**

Craig Southern / Planning - Relator Kirby Burks is requesting a rezoning. Lot 84 in subdivision. Relator was selling the property, with the FHA loan, this land was not zoned within the subdivision.

Alderman Fletcher made a motion to approve. Alderman Williams seconded the motion. All approved. Passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES
Jay Finch	YES
Joan White	YES

**3.) Request for audit- Larry Fletcher.**

Per Mayor Lee. The audit has been requested per Larry. Larry verified that the audit was to be put in order.

**4.) Discussion regarding fuel surcharge.**

Alderman Fletcher said that citizens were being charged an extra fuel surcharge on their monthly trash bills. Mr. Fletcher wants the City Council to help assist in getting the money back to the citizens, whether it be contacting an attorney or drafting a letting in the citizen's defense. Mayor Lee said that he will ask Mark Hayes what direction the city needs to take to resolve this.

Alderman Finch made a motion to approve asking a lawyer write a letter, spending no more than \$500. Alderman Fletcher seconded the motion. Passed 6-0.

Mary Ann Winters	YES
Larry Fletcher	YES
Brett Moore	YES
Marc Williams	YES
Jay Finch	YES
Joan White	YES

**5.) Discussion regarding franchise fees from Inland- Emailed to Larry.**

**6.) Discussion regarding downtown sewer line monthly rates.**

Larry said that he is comfortable with the outcome.

**7.) Discussion regarding Sands Road.**

Fletcher explained that he drove on Sands Road. Said that it was awful and that he spoke with a resident who was very dissatisfied and frustrated with the situation. Mayor Lee said that he would have the Street Dept. look into the issue. Mayor Lee explained the issues with the road and what steps have been taken to fix the road. Alderman discussed the issue and agreed that the road needed fixed.

**Alderman Fletcher made motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Alderman Williams seconded the motion. All approved 6-0.**

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Mayor Travis Lee

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Kimberly Hutcheson, City Recorder