City of Eudora

239 S Main Street

Eudora, Chicot County, Arkansas 71640

STEPHEN TISDALE, MAYOR **BOARD OF ALDERMAN**

JOSEPH MAZZANTI, ATTORNEY HOWARD BROWN DEBORAH SCOTT

JUANITA BURTON, CLERK TRAVI S COLLINS CHARLENE TAYLOR

 FRANK FARRIS ROBERT THOMAS, JR.

 BEULAH MAIDEN MARCO TONEY

MINUTES OF THE EUDORA CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Stephen Tisdale at 6:05 p.m. There were 7 aldermen present at roll call. Absent was Alderman Charlene Taylor (due to medical reasons).

Minutes of City Council Regular Meeting March 10, 2015 and Special Called Meeting March 24, 2015 were approved as printed.

Financial/Treasurer’s Report, Clark Terrell, CPA

Mr. Terrell read prepared statement. Mr. Terrell announced payroll change end date would be April 22, 2015 and pay date would be the following Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

Alderman Collins asked about Appeal to IRS for forgiveness of penalties on payroll taxes owed. Mr. Terrell stated Appeal was denied. Mayor Tisdale advised than an appeal to a congressman had been made for intervention. However, nothing had been heard back as of yet.

City Attorney Mazzanti was not present.

Under Department Reports, Chief Johnson stated that the Police Department had received a JAG grant. In response to a question from Alderman Collins, Chief Johnson stated that policy was that officers were to have body cameras on at all times and it would be checked periodically.

Mayor Tisdale stated he had received a log from the City Mechanic Shop detailing what was worked on and what it cost so that a comparison could be made to cost if it had been farmed out.

Chief Bunn requested permission from Council to use part of the Fire Department’s 833 funds to purchase $4500 of equipment. He was advised to complete and submit a Purchase Requisition at City Hall.

Alderman Beulah Maiden moved, Alderman Robert Thomas, Jr. seconded that Mayor Tisdale is authorized to approve requisition up to $5000 of 833 funds expenditure to purchase equipment for Fire Department. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Bunn was encouraged to explore costs for new truck and equipment and research grants to help offset costs. Chief Bunn reported that a used truck at a cost of $85,000 had been located and he would be talking with different individuals about helping in the grant process i.e. Sammy Angel. Alderman Collins advised that Rural Services Grant of &75,000 available.

In response to questions about the Alert/Disaster Warning System, Chief Bunn stated he would schedule a practice drill in the near future when weather clears up.

David Jones, Code Enforcer, stated the 2 swimming pools discussed in the last meeting did have water in them and he is attempting to find out who the owners are. He also stated he had received citizens’ complaints of loud noise and music and wanted to know if notice could be sent to newspaper advising individuals of Ordinance 384 and $500 fine for violating the ordinance. Mr. Jones stated he had pictures of some properties that needed notifications to owners of process that would be initiated if maintenance and clean-up was not completed.

Mayor Tisdale directed the Council to copies of ordinances in their packet. He was concerned that Nuisance was not clearly defined in the Eudora ordinances but was in the Lake Village ordinances. It was agreed that Mayor Tisdale would get with City Attorney and revise the ordinance and bring back to the Council for approval and or amendment.

Mayor Tisdale, in response to statement by Alderman Maiden, stated he was strongly encouraging Street Dept. employees not to mow private property unless it was corner property and might be a danger to the public.

Alderman Maiden moved, Alderman Frank Farris seconded that the Council go into Executive Session. Motion carried. Council went into Executive Session from 6:36 p.m. to 7:04 p.m. Mayor Tisdale announced that there was no action taken in Executive Session.

Alderman Collins moved, Alderman Brown seconded that Water Treatment Contractor’s Pay be amended to $350 a week to offset salary for 2 supervisors. Motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Collins moved, Alderman Frank Farris seconded that Vincent Gooley become Street Supervisor with a raise of $250 per mth and Robert Bunn become Water Supervisor with a raise of $250 per mth. Motion passed.

Mayor Tisdale stated he had been asked by an individual to be allowed to dump their waste into the city’s sewage. Discussion resulted that City would charge whatever the going rate is in the area.

Alderman Frank Farris moved and Alderman Travis Collins seconded that ordinance designating District Court Clerk as Collection Agent for court related fees and fines for the City of Eudora be adopted. Motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Robert Thomas, Jr. seconded that Mayor Tisdale is authorized to sign Get Rid of It contract. Motion passed unanimously.

The following Citizens addressed the Council:

Mr. Caldwell asked City Council to reimburse him for Police Officer having his car towed because of lack of insurance. Chief Johnson stated it was a state law that cars without insurance can be towed. No further action by Council. Mayor Tisdale did note during the discussion that a Police Officer could use his or her discretion as to whether or not they would allow an individual to call someone to get his or her vehicle. Chief Johnson stated that in case of an accident, an individual could request who they wanted to tow their vehicle but otherwise an Officer as part of his or her duty just called whatever Towing Service available. Currently, City Of Eudora is utilizing a rotational basis for towing services of Wayne Edwards and Travis Dixon.

Kentirus Drew asked if Chicot All Stars could use Gym April 11, 2015 for fundraiser to offset players cost for game in Louisiana. Alderman Beulah Maiden moved, Alderman Frank Farris seconded that All Stars be allowed use of Gym. Motion passed. Mayor Tisdale and Alderman Marco Toney will draft Gym Use Policy.

Alderman Travis Collins moved, seconded by Alderman Frank Farris that Mayor Tisdale is authorized to attend Rural Services Meeting. Motion Passed.

Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Frank Farris seconded that David Jones and Alderman Beulah Maiden attend Zoning Committee Meeting. Motion passed.

Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Marco Toney seconded that $1095 software bill for Water Dept. authorized to be paid. Motion passed.

Alderman Travis Collins moved, Alderman Marco Toney seconded that $1984 Consolidated Electrical of McGhee, Arkansas bill already incurred for sewage pump stopping up be paid. Motion passed.

Discussion of Replacing Bulbs resulted in Mayor agreeing to do a comparison cost of contracting it out or renting a bucket truck.

Alderman Travis Collins asked for update on finding another ambulance service. Mayor stated he was waiting until a safe place could be found to house ambulance service.

April is Clean Up Month. It was proposed that dumpster be placed by City Plant instead of Railroad.

Tina Turner addressed City Council reference incident involving police department. Mr. Dexter Neal also addressed City Council reference same incident. Individuals were advised that Chain of Command/Due Process needed to be followed before the Council could address it.

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Travis Collins, seconded by Alderman Marco Toney. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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Stephen Tisdale, Mayor Juanita Burton, Clerk