

River Heights City Council
Minutes of the Meeting
December 9, 2014

Present were: Mayor James Brackner
Council members: Doug Clausen
Geoff Smith
Dixie Wilson
Blake Wright
Recorder Sheila Lind
Finance Director Clifford Grover
Excused Councilmember Richard Okelberry
Public Works Director Clayton Nelson
Others Present: Gayle Brackner

The following motions were made during the meeting:

Motion #1

Councilmember Wright moved to “adopt the minutes of the November 25, 2014 Council Meeting with changes, and the evening’s agenda.” Council member Clausen seconded the motion, which passed with Clausen, Smith, Wilson and Wright in favor. No one opposed. Okelberry was absent.

Motion #2

Councilmember Clausen moved to “pay the bills as listed.” Councilmember Wright seconded the motion, which passed with Clausen, Smith, Wilson and Wright in favor. No one opposed. Okelberry was absent.

Proceedings of the Meeting:

The River Heights City Council met at 6:00 p.m. in the Ervin R. Crosbie Council Chambers in the River Heights City Building on Tuesday, December 9, 2014.

Opening Remarks and Pledge of Allegiance: Councilmember Wright opened the meeting with a prayer. Mayor Brackner led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Previous Minutes and Agenda: Minutes of the November 25, 2014 Council Meeting, were reviewed. A few changes were discussed.

Councilmember Wright moved to “adopt the minutes of the November 25, 2014 Council Meeting with changes, and the evening’s agenda.” Council member Clausen seconded the motion, which passed with Clausen, Smith, Wilson and Wright in favor. No one opposed. Okelberry was absent.

47 Pay Bills: The bills were presented and discussed.

48 **Councilmember Clausen moved to “pay the bills as listed.” Councilmember Wright**
49 **seconded the motion, which passed with Clausen, Smith, Wilson and Wright in favor. No one**
50 **opposed. Okelberry was absent.**

51 Finance Director Report: FD Grover reported there are no concerns with cash flow. Mayor
52 Brackner asked when the council would like to meet for a workshop in January. They decided to meet
53 on January 27 for their regular council meeting, beginning at 6:00 p.m. After the meeting they will
54 stay for a workshop. There are a few budget items that need to be adjusted (since they weren't in the
55 original budget). He also wants to discuss upcoming expenses.

56 Purchase Requisition Requests: There were none.

57 Public Works Report and Discussion: PWD Nelson was not in attendance to give a report.
58 Councilmember Clausen asked if the GMC truck sold that was listed. He was informed that it did sell
59 for \$3,002. The starting bid price was \$2,500.

60 Administrative Report: Recorder Lind didn't have anything.

61 Public Comment: There was none.

62 Review Surplus Resolution: Mayor Brackner explained this resolution will be adopted each
63 time there is a list of surplus items. The Council reviewed the resolution language and decided they
64 will discuss where to advertise when there is an actual list.

65 Mayor and Council Reports: Councilmember Wright informed that the Planning Commission
66 held a public hearing on the proposed height change for non-residential buildings. There were a
67 number of neighbors who attended and expressed concerns. They seemed to have a lot of questions
68 about the set up and look of the Conservice building, as well as the height. The Commission plans to
69 discuss it amongst themselves and make a decision at their next meeting on the 16th.

70 Councilmember Wright informed that the Commission approved the Saddlerock Preliminary
71 Plat for phases 2-6. They have alluded to the fact that phases 2 and 3 will be submitted right away.

72 Mr. Wright would like to get more homework done on the land acquisition from Johnson's
73 Construction, north of the cemetery property. He and Commissioner Royle will try to meet with the
74 property owners so he can report something for the budget meeting.

75 Councilmember Smith thanked all those who helped with the Tree Lighting Ceremony. He has
76 heard a lot of positive comments about the beauty of the tree. He was grateful to PWD Nelson for
77 getting it all arranged.

78 Mayor Brackner asked if they would each stop by and check their boxes to sign off on the bills
79 during the holidays.

80 Mayor Brackner informed that the wastewater group has selected an attorney. They will meet
81 with him tomorrow to discuss what they would like the contract with Logan to say. The final proposal
82 will offer Logan roughly the same amount of money they are getting now. The current contract
83 between Logan and River Heights is good until 2025, however it can be terminated with a 12 month
84 notice by either side. He asked if the Council felt River Heights should stay with the present contract
85 or get on board with the other mayors now. Councilmember Clausen suggested that before the council
86 makes that determination, the council should meet with the city attorney to review some of the
87 background and past discussion regarding the city's current contract. Meanwhile, he feels the city can
88 keep moving forward with the other mayors. The Council gave permission for the city to pitch in on
89 the attorney that will represent the six cities. Mr. Brackner said PWD Nelson has encouraged River
90 Heights to consider their own separate agreement with Logan. Mr. Brackner brought up Logan's high
91 bill for fire protection. He understands that every time River Heights brings it up, Logan reminds of
92 the good deal they are giving us on sewer.

93 Mayor Brackner informed that the city is paying Attorney Jenkins almost \$1,000 to represent
94 the city in a trial against Michael Jenkins, who was cited for something in River Heights. During the
95 trial other infractions are coming up, which are costing the city extra money. He will get more details
96 about it from Attorney Jenkins. Councilmember Wilson wanted to reject the bill they just approved to
97 pay Attorney Jenkins. Discussion was had on why the city has to pay an attorney to represent the city
98 against those that commit crimes in River Heights and to what extent. Councilmember Wright says the
99 level of defense may determine who represents. He agreed they could hold the payment until Mayor
100 Brackner feels comfortable with paying it, after talking to Attorney Jenkins.

101 The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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Sheila Lind, Recorder

James Brackner, Mayor