

KEO CITY COUNCIL MEETING February 28, 2022

Mayor White called the February city council meeting to order @ 7:00 PM. Those present: Mayor Stephanie White, Recorder/treasure Clara J. Hughes, & council members: David Lanehart, Jerry Morton, Chris Collins, and Lynda Staton. There were 6 guests present.

Mayor White suspended the normal meeting procedure to allow the Weems to discuss problems with drainage issues on Orchard. Mrs. Weems stated they needed some help from the city, county, or the owners of the land to possibly consider helping to get the flooding under control during heavy rain seasons. Council member Lanehart spoke and suggested the city look into possibly cleaning the ditches along the road to see if that might would help. He stated that it would have to dry up some before anything could be done to keep from messing up anyone's property while doing so. Another citizen stood and asked the council to consider looking into doing something about dogs in the city that are possibly dangerous and the problem with stray cats. He also requested addressing the problem of people parking on the streets and blocking driveways late at night. The council discussed working on getting an updated ordinance concerning dangerous dogs and advised the citizen to call Lonoke County when someone is blocking his drive. They also made the decision due to several concerns of activity happening around town and other problems around the city, to schedule a separate time for a neighborhood meeting to work on getting some of these problems addressed and corrected and having the sheriff come to also advise options to help improve the safety of our town.

The November minutes were presented to the council after a discussion Lynda Staton made a motion to accept these minutes with a 2nd by Jerry Morton and the motion passed with all in agreement.

The council looked over the November, December & January city financials after looking these financials over Lanehart made a motion to accept all the financials with a 2nd by Staton and the motion passed unanimously.

The 2022 budget was presented to the council after looking over the budget and with the mayor's request to move the allotted \$ 1900 from the Keo Day's budget and move it to the Veteran's fund to help the expenses for 2022. Lanehart made a motion to approve the 2022 budget with the amending change of the \$1900.00

expense for Keo Day's. Since Keo Day's hasn't been done or the funding used in a few years, with a 2nd by Morton and the motion passed with all in agreement.

After the motion was made the mayor read the 2022-22 Resolution for the 2022 Budget after she read this Lanehart made a motion to pass Resolution # 2022-22 Budget with a 2nd by Collins with all the council in agreement.

The November, December & January water & sewer financials were presented to the council after a discussion on these financials Staton made a motion to accept these financials with a 2nd by Lanehart with all in agreement of these water financials.

The water report was given by Chris Collins stating that there had not been many problems since the last meeting. He informed the council that they had winterized the water plant. He also stated he is taking his final classes.

Generator report was given stating he was waiting on the battery.

Fire Chief Charles Martin gave his report stating since last meeting in November the department had 12 runs. He also stated the department was having problems with the yellow fire truck and it had to be towed to a repair shop. Fire Chief Charles also stated after the last fire in town the department purchased a thermal gun to detect fire location inside the homes. He also stated that the department had purchased 9 new SBA's, which will improve the safety of the volunteers when they are fighting fires.

Constable Tim Collins spoke to the council stating things had been fairly calm, but had a couple complaints of movement around town late at night and wanted to remind people to be respectful of others especially late at night. The decision to plan a community meeting for next Tuesday to discuss neighborhood crime watch and to discuss the options of improving the city internet.

Mayor White read the resignation letter for Ty Johnson to the council and informed them that next month anyone who would like to take her place as the new alderman to come to the meeting March 28, 2022.

Mayor White then brought to the council information about a grant to possibly expand the fire department and asked the council to consider allowing her to move forward with the paperwork and asked would they consider allowing the expansion to be built on the city property next to city hall. After a discussion on this Jerry Morton made a motion to move forward on the grant for expansion and

to allow the fire department to build on the city property next to city hall with a 2nd by Chris Collins and the motion passed unanimously. Mayor White said she will keep looking for grants that could possibly allow the fire department to purchase a new fire truck in the future.

Mayor White also wanted the community to know that the new website Keoar.com is now up and running and asked people to go and register so that they would receive notifications in the future.

Mayor White asked to table code enforcement ordinances for lots & cars for next month's meeting. She also wanted to remind the council that city wide cleanup is coming soon April 28,2022-May 9th, 2022 and she also told the council that First Electric was going to make a small donation to help go towards the dumpsters and asked the council if they would make a motion to use that donation for the dumpsters.

Mayor White thanked everyone for coming to the council meeting and asked the council to go into executive session at 8:46 PM and the council came back from executive session at 8:49. Jerry Morton stated the council had went into executive session to discuss past due water accounts and the council voted to shut those water accounts off and until the customer pays the past due balance.

Lanehart made a motion to adjourn the February meeting at 9:16 PM with a 2nd by Morton and the motion passed with all in agreement.