

## LOCKESBURG CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024

Lockesburg City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 4, 2024 in the Council Room at City Hall. The media was notified of the meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 followed with prayer by Mayor Ruth and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance were Mayor Danny Ruth, Recorder Treasurer Becky Jegstrup, Council members Chuck Martin, Joe Stephens, Claudine Tompkins, and William Roberts. Mark Schroer arrived at 7:07 and Levi Browning was absent. Also in attendance were City Clerk JoAnna Giusti, Asst City Clerk Sydney Hill, Park Commissioner Shelia Ruth, Utilities Supervisor Justin Ruth and Fire Chief Brandon Janes.

Asst City Clerk Hill addressed the Council concerning the security system. She has spoken to Michael at Steelcrest and he will have a quote in time for next weeks meeting. She also addressed the Council concerning the condition of the basketball goals at the IMCS Park and the skatepark. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Stephens and seconded by Martin to remove the skate park rather than try to fix it and replace with more basketball goals. Motion passed 4/0/0. A motion was made by Martin and seconded by Roberts to haul the old ballfield lights that had been stored in the old Senior Building to the scrap yard with the skate park. Motion passed 4/0/0. Sydney is to get quotes from a couple of companies on the ball goals and have ready for the next meeting. It was also discussed to get solar lighting for the area around the basketball court. The Council asked for quotes on this also for the next meeting.

Fire Chief Janes addressed the Council with quotes they had gotten on the AED and Pulse Ox equipment requested at the last meeting. There were 3 quotes as follows: AED Superstore \$2051, American AED \$1551, and AED Market \$1651. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Martin and seconded by Stephens to purchase the AED and pads from American AED at \$1551. Motion passed 4/0/0. A motion was made by Martin and seconded by Stephens to pay for the AED out of General Fund. Motion passed 4/0/0. The Council briefly discussed the Pulse Ox but the quote that was gotten on it was approximately \$5000. A motion was made by Roberts and seconded by Stephens to decline the purchase of the Pulse Ox machine. Motion passed 4/0/0. Janes also informed the Council the Provo truck with the leaking tank was welded and fixed and the fish for the April 27<sup>th</sup> fish fry fund raiser had been purchased.

The Council discussed the proposed street work to be done on E Magnolia, which is already approved, but it was requested to talk to the County in regards to a portion of Shady Lane, W Magnolia, Spruce St and S Spring. Cost of the mix is \$116 a ton and each truckload is 24 tons. The Council asked Utilities Supervisor Ruth to talk to the County again and try to get a quote on the project.

Asst City Clerk Hill also addressed the Council concerning the ATV waiver and decals for the City employees to use on personal ATVs during the Eclipse event. A motion was made by Roberts and seconded by Tompkins to approve the purchase of the decals at app \$100 and to pay from Community Relations account. Motion passed 5/0/0.

The Council had a special called meeting January 22, 2024 to discuss changes to Personnel policies. Changes discussed were raises: office employees would be evaluated annually based on performance and training and field employees would receive 3% annually and \$.50 for each license obtained. The field employees would start at \$12.50 with a 90-day probation and a \$.50 raise when completed. Licensed new hires would start at \$12.50 plus \$.50 for each license they have with a 90-day \$.50 raise. Stephens informed the Council he had spoken to the Arkansas Rural Water and Sewer 1 classes and Water classes can begin as soon as a person is hired with no

wait. The Council elected to have this effective for City employees after their 90-day probation and will have a year to complete classes.

Employees will receive holiday and sick pay after completing the 90-day probation. Part-time and seasonal employees would not receive holiday, vacation or sick pay.

City bonuses will be awarded each December 15. First year employees would receive \$50 and each year would be an additional \$50 to cap after 10 years at \$500. At 15 years an employee would receive \$750.

A motion was then made by Stephens and seconded by Tompkins to give the City employees a 3% raise for this year. Motion passed 4/1/0 with Martin opposing stating was not enough.

A motion was made by Tompkins and seconded by Schroer to adjourn. Motion passed 5/0/0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:02

Mayor Danny Ruth \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder Treasurer Becky Jegstrup \_\_\_\_\_