

CITY OF LONOKE
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 29, 2024

The Lonoke City Council held a special city council meeting in the administration room of City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 29, 2024. Mayor Wayne McGee called the meeting to order. Mayor McGee asked City Clerk, Jeribeth Edwards to call the roll. City Clerk Jeribeth Edwards called the roll and declared a quorum.

Mayor	Wayne McGee
City Clerk	Jeribeth Edwards
Treasurer	Vacant
Deputy Clerk	Regina Ibbotson
Council Members	Wendell Moore, Raymond Hatton, Stan Moran, Wendell Walker, Sean Simpson, Koy Butler (absent), and Steven Holt (Absent)
City Attorney	Ginger Stuart
Police Chief	Matt Edwards
W/S/S Supt.	Thomas Stivers
C.C. Director	Mike Brown (absent)
Fire Dept.	Justin Wittenberg
Parks Director	Evan Jacobs
News Media	none

Visitors- Karen James, Gene Eagle, and Cindy Reaves

A discussion regarding items in the 2024 Operating Budget took place.

-Jim Ed Ransom made a motion to freeze salaries for 60-90 days. Raymond Hatton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Jim Ed Ransom asked Chief Edwards “why did the department need vehicles?”, Chief Edwards responded, “He would like to replace two vehicles that are high in mileage, some are older and have mechanical issues. Chief Edwards advised the council, in the past he has purchased one or two new vehicles a year to retire the older cars. Jim Ed Ransom made a motion to not purchase the used police cars listed in the 2024 budget. He would like to see the funds be used within the police department for other things. Raymond Hatton seconded the motion. Motion carried. Furthermore, Wendell Moore asked what the funds would be used for. Jim Ed Ransom mentioned he would like to see the money used for maintaining the current vehicles and possibly opening the jail. Wendell Moore asked Chief Edwards, “What would it take to open the jail?” Chief Edwards answered, “Employment and Finances”.

- Wendell Walker asked Fire Chief Whittenburg questions about the allotment of \$50,000.00 for remodeling the kitchen in the fire department. Chief Whittenburg responded, “that amount is a blanket amount to proceed with remodeling the kitchen. He advised he hasn’t received any quotes, that amount was chosen to be placed aside so there was an amount budgeted in the 2024 budget.”

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A. Resolution 1-2-2024- “Resolution to adopt the 2024 operating budget”- Jim Ed Ransom made a motion to put Res. 1-2-2024 on the floor. Wendell Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ginger Stuart read Res. 1-2-2024 in its entirety. Sean Simpson made the motion to adopt Resolution 1-2-2024. Wendell Moore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. Announcements-

- A. Statement of Financial Interest Due 1/31/2024
- B. City Hall will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2024 in Observance of George Washington’s Birthday and Daisy Gaston Bates Day.

ADJOURN: Wendell Walker made a motion to adjourn. Sean Simpson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Wayne McGee

Attest:

City Clerk