



City of Piggott Council Meeting Minutes

City Hall
194 West Court St.
Piggott, AR 72454

Thursday, April 27, 2023 6:00 PM

Piggott City Council met in regular session on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Piggott City Hall Community Room with Mayor Bradley Scheffler presiding.

Mayor Scheffler called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation led by Councilmember Kevin Jones

Roll Call

Those present were:

Councilmember Jeff Benbrook

Councilmember Tracy Cole

Councilmember Jamey Parks

Councilmember Kevin Jones

Mayor Bradley Scheffler

City Clerk Nikki Blue

Attorney Kimberly Dale

Others in attendance: Utility Manager-Brian Haley, Treasurer-Jamie Cluck

Financials:

Councilmember Tracy Cole stated that it looked as if a great deal of work went into the reports and she appreciated that, but asked if we were not able to generate the same system reports that they used to get that compare current month, year to date and to prior year. She went on to say how difficult and time consuming this was to break down and compare it to the current budget. Brian Haley explained that Tiffany (Bosworth) pulled this from Power Manager and exported it to excel with all amounts being "as of the 31st". He stated that these were very close but not 100% accurate. He explained that they wanted to provide what they could to the council and have them as accurate as possible with what they were dealing with. Councilmember Tracy Cole then addressed the city portion of the financials and asked if we could run those like they used to get that were system generated. Treasurer Jamie Cluck stated that they were system generated and everything that she has given them has been system generated. Councilmember Tracy Cole said that they had been broken down by department and prior year and it may be just the report that's being ran now is different than what they used to get. Treasurer Jamie Cluck asked why the prior year was needed. Councilmember Jeff Benbrook responded that they like to look backwards and compare. Councilmember Tracy Cole continued with they not only look at how it is budgeted, but how it compares to previous years and any big variances. Treasurer Jamie Cluck stated that she knew what report they were requesting that shows comparisons and variances, but since the city was no longer in Power Manager, they wouldn't receive the comparisons this year. She stated that the city side has transitioned back to Cougar Mountain System. She stated that they should still have everything they received last year for comparisons. Councilmember Tracy Cole then said that it would probably take a full day to look at everything that she would normally do in an hour or so and that she had already spent time today dividing out the budget so she could go over this. Treasurer Jamie Cluck stated that we only budget per year and not per month or per quarter. Councilmember Tracy Cole said that she understood that, but asked if they could get % used or a per month breakdown. Treasurer Jamie Cluck said that she ran this report for January through March so they could have the first full quarter but next month they would have just April and year to date.

Mayor Bradley Scheffler added that the state auditor has contacted him, and they will be here in the next month or two and they were getting MLWS audited. Brian Haley said they should be here the 9th and 10th of May.



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Mayor Scheffler said we were going to work with the auditors to help us out on some stuff with the utility department.

Treasurer Jamie Cluck stated that Cougar Mountain does the same thing as Power Manager. The difference was primarily in the way things are input. Councilmember Tracy Cole stated that they may not have had an accountant on the board before that likes to look at all the financials and went on to say she tends to want to look at the minutiae of it.

Mayor Bradley Scheffler asked for a motion to approve the finances. Councilmember Tracy Cole stated they were not complete. No other councilmember spoke. Treasurer Jamie Cluck stated that it needed to be in the minutes that the city financials were complete.

City Clerk Nikki Blue asked if we could approve one portion of the financials without approving both. Attorney Kimberly Dale answered by saying yes, we could because we have various departments and various financial statements, and it was up y'all.

Minutes:

Councilmember Jeff Benbrook made a motion to approve minutes from the March 23, 2023, meeting. Councilmember Jamey Parks seconded. With all councilmembers in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Financials: (continued)

Attorney Kimberly Dale told City Clerk Nikki Blue she might need to clarify what she was trying to say. City Clerk Nikki Blue spoke again asking if we could approve the city financials without approving the utility financials. Attorney Kimberly Dale stated again that it was completely up to the council. No councilmember spoke up, so none of the financials were approved.

Old Business:

Property Lien Resolution 529-23

Attorney Kimberly Dale explained the process needed to place liens on property. Councilmember Tracy Cole stated that she had a question prior to Kimberly reading the resolution. Her question was regarding the discrepancy in the dollar amount listed for Arthur Lloyd (451 S. Houston). The dollar amount listed previously was \$315.16, but now shows \$1418.61. City Clerk Nikki Blue stated that she had asked the same question prior to handing out the packets and was told that it was a clerical error, but that the updated amount was the correct dollar amount.

Mayor Bradley Scheffler asked for a motion to read the resolution. Councilmember Jeff Benbrook made a motion that the resolution be placed on its reading. Councilmember Jamey Parks Seconded. With all councilmembers in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Attorney Kimberly Dale read the resolution in full along with the name of property owners, addresses and amount owed for each.

Councilmember Jeff Benbrook made a motion to approve Resolution 529-23. Councilmember Jamey Parks seconded. With all councilmembers in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Attorney Kimberly Dale spoke to the council about what sometimes goes on behind the scenes. She stated that she often gets emails that a property owner has paid their lien and that when that happens, she must do a lien release. She goes on to say that sometimes the city does recoup those costs. Councilmember Jeff Benbrook asked if the city charged interest on the fees. Attorney Kimberly Dale replied that we get to charge for all the fees incurred but do not get to charge interest. She stated that the collector's office charges a collection fee that they get.



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New Business:

Library Board Members

Mayor Bradley Scheffler had a meeting with the library board committee, and they requested he appoint three new members. The mayor stated that he had three members but would be appointing them at a later date.

Parks & Rec updates

Brian Haley read through the details of the updates that were attached.

Councilmember Tracy Cole asked if we knew the cost of the pool. Brian Haley stated that we would be selling our own concessions this year so that would help but stated that we never make money with the pool. He said that if we break even, we're doing good.

Councilmember Tracy Cole pointed out that they received minutes from Planning and Zoning meeting and the Parks and Rec, but not the Airport. Brian Haley stated that they met Tuesday, but we don't currently have a liaison. Brian Haley said that he could get minutes from Jeff Puckett. He stated that they were looking at adding a hanger in 2024. Councilmember Kevin Jones asked if all the current hangers (8) were full. Brian Haley said that they were. He went on to say that the minimum requirement was 12 aircraft (airplanes, helicopters). He stated that Jeff Puckett had said for the other hangers, they were going to try to make them wider, wide enough for crop dusters. The question was asked of how we could have 12 aircraft and only 8 hangers. Brian Haley stated that he knew that Randy Bolen had a plane and a helicopter in one.

Planning and Zoning

Brian Haley spoke of the special meeting that was held for a lot split for the Piggott General Nursing Home. He explained that the Cole family was selling the property and the buyers were getting an FHA home loan. A portion of the lot was in the flood zone and asked for the parcel to be split so that the property could be purchased separately. He stated that there was enough property to justify the split and that it was complete, and the property had already changed hands.

City updates from Utility Manager, Brian Haley

Sidewalk

Brian Haley stated that we are at 90% complete with the engineering for the sidewalks. We had to be at 90% to request a right of way with the 1st Christian Church. The engineer said that they already had a sidewalk so if they didn't want it, they would just skip it. There was further discussion with the council as to why they had to request a right of way and it was mentioned that the 1st Christian Church did have their parking in the area.

Brian Haley stated that they were going to bid in May.

-Roundabouts

Brian Haley said that the contractors have finished in Marmaduke and are committed to staying in Piggott until completion. He stated that it looked like they were focusing much of their efforts on the stoplight currently. Councilmember Jeff Benbrook spoke of the feedback he had been receiving about Scurlock/North. He stated that if you were coming from Scurlock to North, the roundabout sign was up, but if you were coming from North to Scurlock, it was not. There was further discussion as to whether the signs were covered. Brian Haley said he would speak with them tomorrow to address this.



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Mayor Scheffler said that the highway department couldn't do any drainage work until the roundabouts were complete. He said that they had contacted them about possibly dipping out some ditches and was told they weren't able to do anything until they were done with the roundabouts.

Brian Haley said we are still waiting for Baldwin Construction Company to come dress up the driveways on Scurlock. He said that we also have a water leak where they tied in between Dollar General and the band room, so hopefully they would be back pretty quickly to take care of that and get the driveways done.

Asphalt work

Brian Haley said that as soon as it was warm enough and the asphalt companies started producing, they (Sugg Construction) would try to come this way.

Other Business

Councilmember Tracy Cole asked if everything was resolved concerning an ordinance for disbursements for court. Mayor Scheffler stated that he and the state auditor discussed this and the auditor said that would be resolved once he got here in June. Nothing needs to be done until the auditor gives further instructions.

Utility: from Utility Manager, Brian Haley

Electric

Plum Point went down April 1st for spring maintenance and came back up on the 24th of April. We bought energy off the market for those 24 days. We came out with approximately \$28 a MW in comparison to the \$40+ a MW with the insurance policies. April is typically a low usage month, and our peak was about 3 MW during the day and 2 MW on average.

Water and Wastewater

Brian Haley said the water department has been working. We've had a few leaks and they have also been assisting the electric department. We purchased a skid steer this year with a mulching head and the guys have been doing some amazing work. This week they were on big slough ditch. They've been doing some tree trimming and taking the mulching head and cleaning out the ditches and right of ways. Brian Haley bragged on not only the good work the guys were doing but also on how well they were working together and helping the other departments.

Brian Haley said that Kajacs has not been back. He said he's uncertain on if it's been because of weather or what, but we are just waiting for them to come back.

Councilmember Tracy Cole mentioned the "trash can" complaint that Councilmember Kevin Jones had received before; she has now also received. She said she spoke with Officer Sam Poole about possibly visiting with the "offenders" and giving them a copy of the ordinance since there were supposed be fines. Brian Haley said he spoke with Officer Sam Poole this morning about the issue. Officer Poole told Brian Haley that he checked the day after the trash ran on Houston and there was only 1 trash can still out. Councilmember Tracy Cole read through the ordinance, and it stated that trash cans can be put out 12 hours prior and only 12 hours after, so 24 hours in total.



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Mayor Bradley Scheffler asked for a motion to amend the agenda to appoint a new member to the airport board.

Councilmember Jamey Parks made a motion to amend the agenda to include a new appointment of a new Airport board member. Councilmember Jeff Benbrook seconded. With all in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Mayor Scheffler stated Rodney Bounds was unanimously approved for appointment to the Piggott Airport Board at the monthly meeting on April 24th, 2023.

Councilmember Tracy Cole made a motion to approve the appointment of Rodney Bounds. Councilmember Jamey Parks Seconded. With all in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Public Questions and/or Comments:

No public comments or questions

Adjournment

With no other business on the agenda, Mayor Scheffler asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Jeff Benbrook made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Tracy Cole seconded. With all in favor and none opposed, motion carried.

Mayor, Bradley Scheffler

City Clerk, Nikki Blue