



Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

9/26/2023

City Hall

- In the absence of Chairman Howell, Secretary Centola called the meeting to order at 9:00am
- Commissioners Chalenburg, House, Jones, and Patel were present
- Approval of Minutes: Patel motioned to approve, House seconded. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- Mr. Blansett presented the financial report for June. Total fund balance as of 7/31/23 was \$1,141,517.90. Restricted Fund Balance is \$385,777.97 and the Unrestricted Fund Balance is \$755,739.93. Collections for the month of June were for Lodging \$37,220.27, Prepared Foods \$101,330.17. Interest Income \$2,315.76. Expenditures were: White County Fair Assn-2022 \$896.24, Arkansas Robotics Creative Group \$6,336.31, Arkansas Special Olympics \$25,000, City of Searcy Skills Park \$10,000, Legal Services \$1575.00, Professional Services \$2,400, Bank Fees \$187.58, Merchant Fees 383.25. Net income for July 2023 \$94,087.82
- Discussion on RFQ for A&P Review/Audit. A motion was made by Jones to solicit RFQ's for the commission to consider. Patel seconded.
- Recap of Beats and Eats 4th of July event. Kyle Thompson. Mr Thompson presented a full update with complete finances.

- Chairman Howell arrived
- Request for Funds White County Historical Society \$800 Fall Cemetery Preservation Workshop Shelly Churchwell presented. Ms. Churchwell was asking for funds to include in a goodie bag for the volunteers working on the project. It was suggested that she get with local businesses for donations. No motion was filed.
- Ms Churchwell also requested that the previous granted funding remaining amount for Pioneer Village be extended an extra six months from the original ending date due to change in design of signage that will have to be movable in case of the village being relocated. Jones motioned to approve. Centola seconded. The motion to approve was unanimous.
- Request for Funding Searcy Chamber of Commerce \$2,100 Ad in Searcy's Visitor Guide Tara Cathey presented. After discussion, the motion was made by House to table the request until next month. Centola seconded. The motion to table was unanimous.
- Request for Funding Searcy Chamber of Commerce \$7,495 Ad in Arkansas Love Where You Live Guide Tara Cathey presented. Discussion was had on the type of ad and placement. A motion was made by Jones to fund 1/3 of the ad up to \$5,000, with the remaining funding to come from the City of Searcy and SREDC. Patel seconded. The motion to approve was unanimous.
- Request for Funding Searcy Chamber of Commerce \$1,460 Arkansas State Parks, Heritage and Tourism Familiarization Tour Tara Cathey presented. This request is to repurpose a remaining \$960 from a previous request and additional funds up to \$500. Jones motioned to approve, Centola seconded. The motion to approve was unanimous.
- KATV presented a spot on Good Morning Arkansas. A motion was made by Centola to secure a date, either 11/10/23 or 11/17/23, with the request for funding to be presented in September. Chalenburg seconded. The motion to approve was unanimous. Chairman Howell

asked for a liaison from the Commission to work with KATV on the content. Centola volunteered.

- Discussion of billboards located at Mainland Booth and Hwy 36. Due to the length of the meeting, these were tabled until next month.
- Chairman Howell and Chalenburg left the meeting.
- Richard Stafford presented an update on the plans for Berryhill Park.
- Secretary Centola adjourned the meeting at 10:56am.