

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MAUMELLE
JANUARY 3, 2023
6:00 PM
CITY HALL**

Mayor Norris called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm with seven Council Members present. Council Member Mosley was absent.

Mayor Norris gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL GUEST AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

District Judge Rita Bailey swore in Council Members Christine Grownwald, Chad Gardner, Michael Tierney, Jess Holt, City Attorney Andrew Thornton, City Clerk/Treasurer Tina Timmons and Mayor Caleb Norris.

Mayor Norris called for a 5 minute recess to allow elected officials the opportunity to take pictures with their family.

Mayor Norris reconvened the City Council meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- DECEMBER 19, 2022

Council Member Tierney motioned to adopt the minutes as submitted. Council Member Williams seconded the motion, the motion passed by all in attendance.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Council Member Mazzoni reported that the Planning Commission meeting was canceled due to weather.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Council Member Williams motioned to have all ordinances and resolutions read by title only. Council Member Mazzoni seconded the motion, the motion passed by all attendance.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

Mayor Norris relayed that council packet included the resumes of the two candidates and that they have been before the council multiple times.

Council Member Williams recused herself from discussion and vote due to her relationship with one of the candidates.

Council Member Holt voiced his objection on voting without one of the candidates being present to introduce herself to the new council member.

Mayor Norris stated that at the last two meetings the two candidates were not asked to speak and he told them both that their attendance was not required or held against them.

Council Member Holt made a motion to table the appointment until the next meeting. Motion failed for lack of second.

The City Council conducted two rounds of voting and were unable to appoint a candidate.

Council Member Holt asked if the City Council could go into an executive session.

Attorney Thornton read Arkansas State code on the allowance of an executive session. Attorney Thornton stated that he believes it is allowed for the purposes of considering an appointment.

Council Member Holt motioned for the City Council to go into an executive session. Council Member Mazzoni seconded the motion. The motion failed for lack of votes.

Council Member Holt stated that he hoped an executive session would allow the council to be honest with each other and to come to a decision in the benefit of the City.

Mayor Norris stated that earlier that day he had asked Attorney Thornton if there is a state statute on if a Mayor can cast a vote for an appointment.

Attorney Thornton referenced a 2002 Attorney General opinion addressing a Light and Water Commission appointment and a general statute to pass an appointment that is on the table. Thornton stated that in his opinion he believes to Mayor can vote in order to pass an appointment that is on the table.

Council Member Tierney stated that the conundrum is that there are two excellent candidates.

The council conducted a third round of votes. Mayor Norris elected to vote, and voted for Sam Williams.

The City Council appointed Sam Williams to the Civil Service Commission, term ending May 2023.

COUNCIL MEETING PROTOCOL

Mayor Norris stated that state laws requires that at the first meeting of every year, a city or town must assemble and organize the governing body. Mayor Norris stated that there are Ordinances on the books. Mayor Norris opened the floor for discussion. No discussion was needed.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY

Mayor Norris stated that he will not be in attendance at the January 17 council meeting and opened the floor for discussion on the election of a pro temp.

Council Member Shinn motioned to elect Council Member Gardner as the Mayor Pro Tempore at the January 17, 2023 council meeting. Council Member Tierney seconded the motion, the motion passed.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Norris wished everyone a Happy New Year, welcomed Attorney Thornton and Council Member Gronwald, and urged all elected officials to check out the city code on ethics and elected officials duties.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Council Member Holt read some uplifting advice for the year.

Council Member Williams briefly spoke about an email that was sent out in regards to her family and stated that if anyone has any questions to reach out to her.

CITY CLERK'S COMMENTS

Clerk Timmons reminded all that Statement of Financial Interests are due by January 31 and of the upcoming Arkansas Municipal League Winter Conference.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Williams motioned to adjourn the City Council meeting. Council Shinn seconded the motion, the motion passed by all in attendance.

Mayor Norris adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

MAYOR CALEB NORRIS

TINA TIMMONS CITY CLERK/TREASURER

APPROVED
January 17, 2023