

**CITY OF EUREKA SPRINGS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, March 24th, 1998**

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Mayor Barbara O'Harris called the meeting to order at 9 a.m., on Tuesday, March 24, 1998, in the Council Room of the Western District Courthouse.

PRESENT:

Mayor O'Harris, Alderpersons Zeller, Seratt, Christman, Watson, Fredland, and Jeffrey.

ALSO PRESENT:

Nikki Salazar, Kirby Murray, Kurt Jordan, Alan Long, David Dempsey, Libby Fredland, Don Matt, Don Young, Jay Miner and Clerk Lee.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. Young led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor O'Harris mentioned that Kim Dickens was out of town due to the illness of her mother.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as it was printed. All were in favor, 6/0/0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The clerk said that the minutes of the City Council Meeting for March 10, 1998 were not finished.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance #1778, amending Chapter 4.16.05 pertaining to occupation license procedure, Ms. Dickens, (second reading).

The motion was made and seconded to place Ordinance #1778 on its second reading by title only. All were in favor, 6/0/0.

Mr. Young read the ordinance by title only.

The motion was made and seconded to approve. The seconded reading was approved unanimously, 6/0/0.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Ordinance #1779, Providing a pay back plan for others to utilize a

water or sewer line that was initially paid by a private person, Ms. Dickens, (first reading):

Alderman Seratt made the motion to postpone the first reading until the April 14th Council meeting because the ordinance has not been written, and Alderman Jeffrey seconded the motion. Mr. Miner has been checking into how other cities handle this situation, and all of the information is not in yet. All were in favor, 6/0/0.

2. Ordinance #1782, amending the sign ordinance to allow the display of banners, (first reading):

Mr. Miner has been researching that ordinance also. He said the problem he could foresee is giving the Parks and Recreation commission permission to do something that nobody else can do, within the city limits.

The motion was made and seconded to postpone the first reading because it hadn't been written. The vote was unanimous, 6/0/0.

3. Ordinance #1783, increase water/waste water rates, (second reading):

There was considerable discussion about this ordinance. Alderman Seratt said that the bottom line was that the time is here to do something about this problem and it can't be postponed any longer.

Alderman Zeller said also, that people in business have more room to manipulate expenses to recover rate increases than private individuals. The vote to approve the first reading was 5/1/0, with Alderman Fredland voting no. Ordinance #1783, was passed on its first reading.

The bids were in for the renovation of the old police building, and some of the city offices. Two bidders were Stout construction and Frost & Frost. Both bids were well over the amount of money set aside for the project and Council unanimously voted to reject the bids, 6/0/0.

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MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor O'Harris announced the retirement of Kurt Jordan, Fire Chief. She commended him on his years of dedicated service to the City of Eureka Springs.

The City will advertise for a new Fire Chief, who will serve as a paramedic, plus a fireman.

The Mayor has appointed Libby Freeland to the position of Operations Manager/ Interim Director for the Auditorium Department. Her salary will be \$18,000 annually. The mayor complimented Ms. Freeland on the good job she has done since the director left.

She asked Nikki Salazar to remind everyone of the March for Parks on April 18th. Nikki said that the march begins at Harmon Park and ends at Basin Park, with a rest stop on the way, and refreshments and fun things to do at Basin Park.

Mayor O'Harris announced that Earl Hyatt is a new grandfather to a bouncing baby boy.

Chief Hyatt presented information on the bids for a generator for the 911 program. One bid was from Indiana, and it didn't quite come up to the specifications that were needed. It was for a little over \$14,000. The other bid was from E. A. Martin, which is a company Fire Chief Jordan has done business with. He is pleased with the performance of their equipment.

Chief Hyatt said that the bid was \$17,478. He said the generator has all of the qualifications that his office needs.

Alderman Seratt made the motion and Alderman Jeffrey seconded to accept the recommended bid. The vote in favor was 6/0/0.

Chief Hyatt strongly suggested that the City use propane to run this generator. He said there would be no emissions from the generator. If the department uses propane, it would be in two above ground tanks—one tank is not enough to hold the 96 hour supply that Federal Law requires. Chief Hyatt said he would like to see us buy our own tanks, rather than leasing them. He said it would benefit the City in the long run. The cost for two brand new tanks would be \$2780 plus tax.

Alderman Seratt made the motion to authorize Chief Hyatt to use propane. Alderman Zeller seconded. The unanimous vote was 6/0/0. Alderman Seratt made the motion to approve the buying of the two propane tanks and Alderman Zeller seconded. The unanimous vote was 6/0/0.

The motion was made and seconded to adjourn. All were in favor, 6/0/0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

APPROVED:

Mayor Barbara A. O'Harris