

Garfield City Council Meeting March 11, 2025

Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order: 6:01PM

Roll Call- Roll called by Recorder-Treasurer Christal Allen

Council Member Smead-Present

Council Member Rambo-Present

Council Member Teeselink-Present

Council Member Kitterman-Absent

Guests and Visitors

Jerry Kopke

Minutes City Council Meeting February 11, 2025

Council Member Smead moved to approve February 11, 2025, minutes as presented.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission-February 27, 2025, meeting minutes were presented

Mayor Blackburn reported that Eric Goldthorpe was sworn in at the February meeting.

Water Department- February unaccounted for water loss 29.36%. Water Distribution operator Duncan Artt confirmed repairing leaks on two lines. He addressed the council confirming his resignation effective March 31, 2025.

Mayor Blackburn advised of a monthly rate increase with Fenix from \$1.10 to \$1.25 per unit. He also confirmed that he spoke with the contractor regarding the tank project. The final drawings are expected next week with the metal arriving on site in two weeks.

The Benton County Road department notified Mayor Blackburn of charges incurred for dumpster services that have not been rendered from February 2020 to January 2025. After sales tax, the reimbursement amount is calculated to be \$10,711.35. He advised the check will be provided to Benton County next week and he is in communication with Cards regarding reimbursement to the city for the incurred charges.

Garland & Greenwood is expected to be providing a letter of engagement to perform the 2024 Agreed Upon Procedure.

2025 Water System Rate Study & Recommendations-Jerry Kopke with Kopke and Associates addressed the council regarding the 2025 rate study.

Mayor Blackburn read proposed Resolution 213 adopting the 2025 rate study.

Council Member Smead moved to approve Resolution 213 adopting the 2025 Rate Study as presented.

Seconded by Council Member Teeselink.

Council Member Smead-Yes, Council Member Rambo-Yes, Council Member Teeselink-Yes

All in favor, motion carried.

Code Enforcement- Mayor Blackburn advised that Village Market owner Zane Sharif is in the process of obtaining service with Cox Communications with service potentially available to Access Medical and Rosete Farms.

Mayor Blackburn reported that he reached out to DFA regarding the liquor tax payment due from White Oak Station.

Two property owners along Hwy 62 and along Hwy 127 have been contacted via certified mail regarding unsafe/unsightly conditions.

Fence and building permits were received in February.

Council Member Teeselink moved to accept the committee reports as presented.

Seconded by Council Member Rambo.

All in favor, motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Property Insurance Quote

After discussion, Council Member Smead moved to obtain property insurance with the Arkansas Municipal League.

Seconded by Council Member Rambo

Council Member Smead-Yes, Council Member Rambo-Yes, Council Member Teeselink-Yes

All in favor, motion carried.

Brownfield Project GES Report-Mayor Blackburn reported the deadline for phase 2 has passed but will still be in the queue for six months. He has received no communication from the Rogers Public Schools since the February council meeting.

New Business

Resignation, Ashley Young- Letter of resignation was received. His last day of employment has changed to March 20, 2025. Mayor Blackburn requested to hire Eddie Hickman to replace Ashley Young.

Council Member Teeselink moved to hire Eddie Hickman to replace Ashley Young.

Seconded by Council Member Rambo.

Council Member Smead-Yes, Council Member Rambo-Yes, Council Member Teeselink-Yes

All in favor, motion carried.

Filling Personnel Vacancies- Mayor Blackburn advised that he has received two resumes thus far for the Water Distribution Operator vacancy and provided them to council members. Interviews will be held March 21, 2025, starting at 8:00 AM.

February 2025 Financials

Council Member Smead moved to accept the February 2025 financial reports as presented.
Seconded by Council Member Teeselink.
All in favor, motion carried.

2025 Spring Tree Giveaway scheduled for 8:00 AM- April 12, 2025, at Flying RF 16601 Hwy 62.

2025 City Spring Clean-Up scheduled for 8:00 AM April 26, 2025, at the City Shop 18446 Marshall St.

Adjourn

Council Member Smead moved to adjourn.
Seconded by Council Member Rambo.
All in favor, motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 6:53PM.

Passed and approved this 8th day of April 2025.

Gary Blackburn

Approved, Mayor Gary Blackburn

Gary Blackburn

Christal Allen

Attested, Recorder-Treasurer Christal Allen

Christal Allen

