

CITY OF HOPE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 2008 7 P.M.
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM

- ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER
- ITEM 2: INVOCATION
- ITEM 3: REVIEW MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2008 BOARD MEETING
- ITEM 4: PRESENTATION TO RETIRING POLICE OFFICER LINDA LEE
- ITEM 5: CONSIDER RESIGNATION: HOPE ADVERTISING & TOURISM
PROMOTION COMMISSION: DR. CHUCK WELCH
- ITEM 6: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
- ITEM 7: CITIZENS REQUEST
- ITEM 8: ADJOURN

**CITY OF HOPE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
12:00 P.M., FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2008
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

The City Board of Directors met at 12:00 p.m., Friday, June 6, 2008, with the following present:

Catherine Cook, City Manager
Joe Short, City Attorney, absent
Carol Almond, City Clerk

Directors: Dennis Ramsey, Mayor
David Johnson, Vice-Mayor
Doodle Franklin, absent
Willie Walker
Steve Montgomery
Don Still, absent
Don Hall

Mayor Ramsey called the meeting to order. Director David Johnson opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the May 20, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Don Hall, seconded by Steve Montgomery. All present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

The current ambulance franchise agreement with Pafford Ambulance expired on May 31, 2008. In response to the City's advertisement for proposals, one proposal was received:

Pafford Ambulance

The current provider is Pafford Ambulance Service located here in Hope. Pafford has held the franchise for the past 10 years.

A complete copy of their proposal as well as any supporting material that has been received was attached for the Boards review.

One change was made to the RFP this year. The previous RFP said that the franchise would be awarded for two years with an option to renew for an additional two years. That was changed to three years, with an option to renew for three years. We have not received any complaints this year. Any concerns we have relayed to Pafford have been promptly addressed.

Steve Montgomery made a motion to award Pafford Ambulance the franchise, seconded by David Johnson. All present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

The Laurel and Greening Street sewer job is finished except for resolving one problem that has arisen with crossing the Union Pacific Railroad. The line under the railroad is old, but operational and has a sag in it. The initial determination was that a new bore under the railroad would need to be made and the line replaced. Our engineer Glen Spears and our contractor, Bobo & Bain worked to get prices together for boring the 100' railroad right-of-way in the same location. Prices were in the \$360/foot range or a total of \$36,000 just for the bore. An additional problem is that we cannot tell if there is casing around the already existing line.

The following are the various alternatives:

- 1) If the contractor tries to bore in the current location, then hits an old casing, we are shut down. The line will not carry sewage and we are in trouble. We would have to pump sewage from one manhole to another, until a solution could be found. We would still owe the contractor for at least part of the boring cost and we would be in crisis mode.

- 2) If we move the line location east slightly, bore under the railroad and replace the line, the cost is at least \$36,000 for the bore, and we have a line with a zig zag in it, on a very flat grade, that may easily cause future problems.

- 3) Explore the options for rerouting this sewer line and abandon this railroad sewer crossing completely. Glen Spears thinks this may be possible and we could choose to complete this option now or in next year's sewer line work contract. If the Board chooses to wait until next year, there is the possibility the line crossing could cause problems in the interim, but if we go ahead and check out this possibility, we would at least be one step ahead. The cost for rerouting the line is going to be similar to the bore under the railroad options.

After some discussion about these alternatives Willie Walker made a motion to go with option #3, seconded by Steve Montgomery. All present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

Most of the major work has been completed on the Northside Park Community Center. Two staffers have been hired and the program will kick off on Monday, June 9, 2008. Approximately sixteen children have registered.

At the next Board meeting a plaque will be given to retiring Warrant Officer Linda Lee. The City of Hope has had a Cobb employed since 1941. Ms. Lee will be missed.

The Greenwood Street project is scheduled to be bid out on July 30, 2008.

The next City-wide cleanup is scheduled for July 26, 2008.

The Police Department is applying for the next cycle of the STEP grant.

The new Animal Control facility is almost complete. Fencing is expected to cost approximately \$3900. The Street Department is completing some work there this week. The grand opening will be scheduled soon.

Mrs. Cook will be on vacation on June 9 - 11, 2008.

The Municipal League Convention is being held on June 18 - 20, 2008. Mrs. Cook told the Board if they were interested in attending to please let staff know.

David Johnson broached the subject of the theft of parts from central heating and air units around town. A unit at one of his rental properties was damaged. The thieves are stealing the copper out of the units rendering them unusable. They Board asked that the press issue a public service announcement to let citizens know about the problem.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Dennis Ramsey, Mayor

Carol Almond, City Clerk

ITEM 4: PRESENTATION TO RETIRING POLICE OFFICER LINDA LEE

Linda Lee, who has been employed by the Hope Police Department for more than 35 years, is retiring at the end of this month. The City of Hope is hosting a reception for her at City Hall on Friday, June 27, 2008 from 2-4 p.m. We also asked her to attend the Board meeting this evening to receive a plaque presented to her from the Board of Directors.

Linda started her career as a parking meter officer. She soon began to offer crime prevention education and activities and continued those activities after the parking meters were removed from the downtown area. She later attended the Law Enforcement Academy and graduated as a certified police officer. She continued those duties and was assigned the position of warrant officer in 1996. I hope you will all join everyone at the City in wishing her the utmost appreciation for her years of service.

AGENDA INFORMATION

FOR BOARD MEETING 6/17/2008

ITEM 5: CONSIDER RESIGNATION: HOPE ADVERTISING & TOURISM
 PROMOTION COMMISSION: DR. CHUCK WELCH

I have attached for your information the formal resignation of Dr. Chuck Welch from the Hope Advertising and Tourism Promotion Commission.

Dr. Charles L. Welch
411 East 18th Street
Hope, Arkansas 71801

April 16, 2008

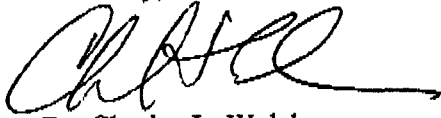
Mr. Steve Montgomery, Chair
Hope Travel and Tourism Commission
P.O. Box 586
Hope, AR 71801

Dear Steve:

Please accept this letter as formal notice of my resignation from the Hope Travel and Tourism Commission, effective June 30, 2008, or upon selection of my replacement. As you know, I have accepted the presidency of Henderson State University and will be relocating to Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

It has been my honor to serve on this Commission and represent the City of Hope. I believe that the future of the city is very bright, and I thank you again for the opportunity to be a part of this commission.

Sincerely,



Dr. Charles L. Welch

ITEM 6: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- 1) Greenwood Street
- 2) Pool
- 3) Northside Park
- 4) Animal Control Building