

**CITY OF HOPE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007, 7 P.M.
CITY HALL BOARD ROOM**

- ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER
- ITEM 2: INVOCATION
- ITEM 3: REVIEW MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2007 BOARD MEETING
- ITEM 4: CONSIDER USE OF CAIRO-FULTON DEPOT: SWAAC
- ITEM 5: CONSIDER PROPOSED ORDINANCE:
2.2 MILL PROPERTY TAX (GENERAL FUND)
- ITEM 6: CONSIDER PROPOSED ORDINANCE:
1 MILL PROPERTY TAX (FIREMEN'S PENSIONS)
- ITEM 7: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
- ITEM 8: CITIZENS REQUESTS

**CITY OF HOPE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
7:00 P.M., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2007
BANCORPSOUTH FARM HOUSE**

The City Board of Directors met at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 16, 2007, 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
Willie Walker
Steve Montgomery
Don Still
Don Hall

Mayor Ramsey called the meeting to order. Director Don Hall opened the meeting with prayer.

Minutes of the October 2, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Don Hall, seconded by Doodle Franklin. All present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

At the goals session in October of 2006 many goals for 2007 were articulated by the Board. Most of those goals are completed or ongoing.

After some discussion the Board discussed and ranked ongoing and potential goals for 2008 as follows:

Long term, ongoing goals - Considered #1 in ranking.

1. Community Pride/Cleanup
2. Wastewater Rehabilitation
3. Airport Improvement
4. Economic Development
5. Recruitment of Minority/Female Police Officers

Short term, ongoing goals - Considered #1 in ranking.

1. Evidence storage building for Police
2. Phase II Greenwood Street
3. Affordable Housing

Potential Goals	Rank
1. Street Construction Standards Meeting	1
2. Park Master Plan	2
3. Annexation/Utility Extension Issues	2
4. Leadership Development Program	1
5. Traffic light at Shover and Bypass	1
6. Bypass Turning Lane at Greenwood	2
7. Recruitment of Physicians	1
8. Continued Coliseum refurbishing	2

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Dennis Ramsey, Mayor

Carol Almond, City Clerk

ITEM 4: CONSIDER USE OF CAIRO-FULTON DEPOT: SWAAC

As you are aware, the Cairo-Fulton Depot is currently vacant. The Parks Department is in the process of completing some maintenance work inside the building which should be finished within the next 2-3 weeks. When the use of the building was discussed earlier by the Board, there was interest in the building being occupied by the Southwest Arkansas Arts Council, who currently occupy the Railroad building at Fair Park.

I have spoken with the Arts Council Board about this topic and they are very interested and would like to pursue this opportunity. Ms. Repha Buckman will attend the Board meeting Tuesday evening to represent the Arts Council. Some information for the Board to think about prior to Tuesday evening's meeting.

1. SWAAC currently occupies the railroad building at no cost to their organization. They would need to have the same arrangement with the Cairo- Fulton Depot.
2. The City would be able (upon prior arrangement) to use the Conference Room at the Depot for training events or meetings as necessary. This would give us an additional area to host persons slightly larger than our current conference room.
3. The City would continue to occupy some of the storage space available in the building.
4. A written agreement between SWAAC and the City of Hope would be developed and submitted to the Board of Directors of the City and SWAAC for their approval governing terms of the agreement.
5. SWAAC would take care of day-to-day cleaning/upkeep of the building. The City would take care of any interior or exterior maintenance/equipment issues.

If any of you have any questions about this idea, please feel free to call me at any time.

ITEM 5: CONSIDER PROPOSED ORDINANCE:
 2.2 MILL PROPERTY TAX (GENERAL FUND)

The proposed ordinance sets the City's real and personal property tax rates at 2.2 mills. The City is required by State statute to re-establish the rates each year. The Hempstead County Quorum Court, upon receipt of the ordinance, will formally establish the rates for all taxing entities in the county at their November meeting.

The rate in the ordinance is unchanged from the last several years. Last year the City received approximately \$174,000 as a result of this millage.

The attached ordinance is presented for the Board's consideration.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY A TAX OF TWO POINT TWO (2.2) MILLS UPON THE ASSESSED VALUE OF THE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF HOPE, ARKANSAS, FOR THE YEAR 2007, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF HOPE, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That a tax of two point two (2.2) mills be, and the same is hereby levied upon, all taxable property, both real and personal, within the City of Hope, Arkansas, for the year 2007 to be collected in 2008.

SECTION 2: All monies collected and raised by said tax shall constitute a general fund to defray the general and ordinary expenses of the said City of Hope, Arkansas.

SECTION 3: The Clerk of the City of Hope, Arkansas, shall certify this levy to the Clerk of Hempstead County, Arkansas, to be placed upon the books and collected at the same time and in the same manner as State and County taxes are collected.

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed and this ordinance being necessary for the public health, safety, and general welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Hope, Arkansas, an emergency is hereby declared, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 6th day of November, 2007.

Mayor

City Clerk

AGENDA INFORMATION

FOR BOARD MEETING 11.6.2007

ITEM 6: CONSIDER PROPOSED ORDINANCE:
1 MILL PROPERTY TAX (FIREMEN'S PENSIONS)

The proposed ordinance sets the Firemen's Pension property tax rates at 1 mill for both real and personal property. These rates reflect the results of the November 5, 2002 election.

The rate in the ordinance is unchanged from last year. Last year the Firemen's Pension Fund received approximately \$79,000 as a result of this millage.

The attached ordinance is presented for the Board's consideration.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY A TAX OF ONE (1) MILL UPON THE ASSESSED VALUE OF THE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF HOPE, ARKANSAS, FOR THE YEAR 2007, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING PENSIONS TO THE RETIRED FIREMEN AND PENSIONS TO THE WIDOWS AND MINOR CHILDREN OF DECEASED AND RETIRED FIREMEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF HOPE, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That a tax of one (1) mill be, and same is hereby levied upon, all taxable property, both real and personal, within the City of Hope, Arkansas, for the year 2007 to be collected in 2008.

SECTION 2: All monies collected and raised by said tax shall be used only for the purpose of helping to pay pensions to retired firemen, to widows and minor children of deceased firemen, and to widows and minor children of deceased retired firemen, as now provided by the law.

SECTION 3: The Clerk of the City of Hope, Arkansas, shall certify this levy to the Clerk of Hempstead County, Arkansas, to be placed upon the books and collected at the same time and in the same manner as State and County taxes are collected.

SECTION 4: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed, and this ordinance being necessary for the public, health, safety, and general welfare of the inhabitants of the City of Hope, Arkansas, an emergency is hereby declared, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 6th day of November, 2007.

Mayor

City Clerk

ITEM 7: CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

I want to bring you up-to-date on various City projects, including

1. Animal Control Facility
2. Drainage Projects for the Year
3. Citywide Cleanup—October 27, 2007