

**Little Rock Board of Directors Meeting
December 5, 2023
6:00 PM**

The Board of Directors of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, met in a regular meeting with Mayor Frank Scott, Jr., presiding. City Clerk Susan Langley called the roll with the following Directors present: Miller; Richardson; Peck; Hines; Lewis; Wyrick; Kumpuris; Phillips; Adcock; Vice-Mayor Webb; and Mayor Scott. Director Antwan Phillips delivered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

Downtown Master Plan Presentation

ADDITIONS:

M-1 RESOLUTION: To require that the 2023 Audit to be performed in accordance with the guidelines and format prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the United States Government Accountability Office; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval*

Synopsis: The resolution requires that the 2023 Audit be performed in accordance with guidelines and formats prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the United States Government Accountability Office.

M-2 RESOLUTION: To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Elopak, Inc., and/or its assignee, to sell approximately twenty-five (25) acres of land located in the City of Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas, by the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, for the benefit of the Little Rock Port Authority; and for other purpose. *Staff recommends approval*

M-3 RESOLUTION: To express the intent to issues Industrial Development Revenue Bonds for the purpose of securing and developing industry within or near the Little Rock Port Authority Industrial Park; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval*

M-4 ORDINANCE: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. _____ (December 5, 2023), to establish the 2024 Budget for the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, to add an additional provision to increase the salary for members of the Little Rock City Board of Directors; to direct that any necessary changes to fund balances or line items be made in the 2024 Budget to accomplish this purpose; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes.

Director Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, to add Items M-1, M-2 and M-3 to the Consent Agenda and to add Item M-4 to the Separate Items. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **Items M-1, M-2 and M-3 were added to the Consent Agenda and Item M-4 was added to the Separate Items.**

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 1 – 5 and Items M-1, M-2 & M-3)

1. RESOLUTION NO. 16,168: To authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Teeco Safety, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$275,000.00, plus applicable taxes and fees, for the purchase of Uniforms and Uniform Accessories for the Little Rock Police Department; and for other purposes *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Teeco Safety, Inc., for the purchase of Police Uniforms and Uniform Accessories for the Little Rock Police Department.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 16,169: To transfer the title of the property located at 2500 West 18th Street, from the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, to MW Enterprises, LLC, to be used for Neighborhood Revitalization Programs; and for other purposes. (*Land Bank Commission: 7 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent; 1 abstention; and 2 open positions*) *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: In an effort by the Land Bank to maximize the City's revitalization efforts, staff would like to transfer the 7,050 square-foot lot, with no structure, located at 2500 West 18th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, MW Enterprises, LLC (Mel Wyatt), for the construction of a duplex to create more affordable housing units. (Located in Ward 1)

3. RESOLUTION NO. 16,170: To approve two (2) Operator Permits and sixty (60) Taxi Cab Permits for WHC Little Rock, LLC, d/b/a zTrip and d/b/a Yellow Cab for the period of January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024; and for other purposes *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: Approval of a resolution authorizing two (2) Operator Permits and sixty (60) Taxi Cab Permits for WHC Little Rock, LLC, d/b/a zTrip and d/b/a Yellow Cab for the period of January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 16,171: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Little Rock Repair Shop, in an amount not to exceed \$106,975.00, for the restoration of the historic Over the Jumps Carousel at the Little Rock Zoo; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Little Rock Repair Shop for the restoration of carousel horses, carriages, and miscellaneous ancillary pieces of the Zoo's historic Over the Jumps Carousel.

5. RESOLUTION NO. 16,172: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Crum & Forster, in an amount not to exceed \$126,466.08, to provide Cyber Liability Insurance for a term of December 10, 2023, to December 10, 2024; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: A resolution to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Crum & Forster to provide Cyber Liability Insurance for the term of December 10, 2023, to December 10, 2024.

M-1 RESOLUTION NO. 16,175: To require that the 2023 Audit to be performed in accordance with the guidelines and format prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the United States Government Accountability Office; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: The resolution requires that the 2023 Audit be performed in accordance with guidelines and formats prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the United States Government Accountability Office.

M-2 RESOLUTION NO. 16,176: To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Elopak, Inc., and/or its assignee, to sell approximately twenty-five (25) acres of land located in the City of Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas, by the City of

Little Rock, Arkansas, for the benefit of the Little Rock Port Authority; and for other purpose. *Staff recommends approval.*

M-3 RESOLUTION NO. 16,177: To express the intent to issues Industrial Development Revenue Bonds for the purpose of securing and developing industry within or near the Little Rock Port Authority Industrial Park; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Hines, to approve the Consent Agenda. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the Consent Agenda was approved.**

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION

William Girard: Leash Law.

Norma Huffman: Housing Inspections.

Matonic Berry: Housing.

Victoria Batson: Loose Dogs.

Gabriella Garcia: Small Business Administration Low Interest Loans.

GROUPED ITEMS (Items 6 - 8)

6. ORDINANCE NO. 22,339; Z-9830: To approve a Planned Zoning Development and to establish a Planned Development – Commercial titled Jo Investments STR-2 PD-C, located at 1323 Cumberland Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, to amend the Official Zoning Map of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. (*Deferred from November 21, 2023*) (*Planning Commission: 7 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent; and 2 open positions*) *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: The applicant is requesting that the 0.16-acre property, located at 1323 Cumberland Street, be rezoned from R-4A. Low Density Residential District, to PD-C, Planned Development – Commercial, to allow for the use of the property as Short-Term Rental (STR-2). (Located in Ward 1)

7. ORDINANCE NO. 22,340; Z-9832: To approve a Planned Zoning Development and to establish a Planned Development – Commercial titled Hold Fast Homes STR-2 PD-C, located at 2608 West 6th Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, to amend the Official Zoning Map of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. (*Deferred from November 21, 2023*) (*Planning Commission: 7 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent; and 2 open positions*) *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: The applicant is requesting that the 0.15-acre property, located at 2608 West 6th Street, be rezoned from R-3, Single-Family District, to PD-C, Planned Development – Commercial, to allow for the use of the property as a Short-Term Rental (STR-2). (Located in Ward 3)

8. ORDINANCE NO. 22,341: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 22,205 (December 6, 2022); to declare it impractical and unfeasible to bid; to authorize the City Manager to amend the contract with the Arkansas Municipal League Municipal Vehicle Program, at a total revised cost of \$1,060,000.00, to administer a Self-Insurance Program for the City of Little Rock's Motor Vehicle Liability insurance; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: Approval of an amendment to Ordinance No. 22,205 (December 6, 2022), to increase Liability, Compensation and Collision Insurance coverage with Arkansas Municipal League for Full Insurance Coverage for the remainder of 2023.

The ordinances were read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Hines, to suspend the rules and place the ordinances on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinances were read a second time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Hines, to suspend the rules and place the ordinances on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinances were read a third time. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the ordinances were approved.**

SEPARATE ITEMS (Items 9 – 11 and Item M-4)

9. RESOLUTION NO. 16,173: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Browne Bortz & Coddington Inc., d/b/a BBC Research & Consulting, in an amount not to exceed \$430,026.00, to conduct a Disparity Study for the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: To authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Browne Bortz & Coddington Inc., d/b/a BBC Research & Consulting, to conduct a Disparity Study for the City of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Hines, to approve the resolution. By voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Hines voting in opposition, **the resolution was approved.**

10. ORDINANCE NO. 22,345; Z-9839: To approve a Planned Zoning Development and to establish a Planned Commercial Development titled Allen Mixed-Use located at 2219 Wilson Road, Little Rock, Arkansas, to amend the Official Zoning Map of the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. (*Planning Commission: 7 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent; and 2 open positions*)(*1st Reading held on November 21, 2023*) *Staff recommends denial.*

Synopsis: The applicant is requesting that the 0.32-acre property, located at 2219 Wilson Road, be rezoned from R-2, Single-Family District, to PCD, Planned Commercial Development, to allow for the use of the property as a pottery studio, music studio and urban garden site for disadvantaged youth. (Located in Ward 6)

The ordinance read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Hines, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a second time. Director Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance read a third time. By voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Adcock voting in opposition, **the ordinance was approved.**

11. ORDINANCE NO. 22,343: To provide for and to adopt the 2024 Budget for the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, for the period beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024; to appropriate resources and uses for every expenditure item and operating fund; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

The ordinance read the first time. Director Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a second time. Director Hines made the motion, seconded by

Director Richardson, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance read a third time. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the ordinance was approved.** By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the emergency clause was approved.**

M-4 ORDINANCE NO. 22,344: To amend Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 22,343 (December 5, 2023), to establish the 2024 Budget for the City of Little Rock, Arkansas, to add an additional provision to increase the salary for members of the Little Rock City Board of Directors; to direct that any necessary changes to fund balances or line items be made in the 2024 Budget to accomplish this purpose; **to declare an emergency;** and for other purposes.

The ordinance read the first time. Director Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a second time. Director Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Richardson, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance read a third time.

Director Hines reiterated his opposition to the Board giving themselves raises.

By Roll Call, the vote was as follows: Ayes: Miller; Richardson; Peck; Lewis; Phillips; and Vice-Mayor Webb. Nays: Hines; Wyrick; Kumpuris; and Adcock. By a vote of six (6) ayes and four (4) nays, **the ordinance was approved.**

City Attorney Tom Carpenter stated that the emergency clause for Item M-4 was written differently due to the fact that an ordinance authorizing a salary increase for the Board cannot be approved with an emergency clause. City Attorney Carpenter stated that the emergency clause as written allows the Finance Department to process the necessary steps to put the ordinance into effect. City Attorney Carpenter stated that the actual salary increase will not occur until January 4, 2024.

By voice vote of the Board Members present, with Director Adcock voting in opposition, **the emergency clause was approved.**

Mayor Scott recognized Acting Finance Director Scott Massanelli, Senior Accountant Sandra Blade and Special Operations Manager Amanda Watson for their hard work during the 2024 Budget process.

PUBLIC HEARING (Item 12)

12. ORDINANCE NO. 22,342; G-23-489: To abandon the sixty (60)-foot wide excess Cooper Orbit Road Right-of-Way, located between Panther Branch Drive and Kanis Road, in the City of Little Rock, Arkansas; and for other purposes. *Staff recommends approval.*

Synopsis: The adjacent property owner requests to abandon the sixty (60)-foot wide excess Cooper Orbit Road right-of-way, located between Panther Branch Drive and Kanis Road. The abandonment is requested as Cooper Orbit Road has been re-aligned with Panther Branch Drive and the old

section of Cooper Orbit Road (between Panther Branch Drive and Kanis Road) is no longer needed. (Located in Ward 7)

Mayor Scott opened the Public Hearing.

The ordinance read the first time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Wyrick, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on second reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance was read a second time. Director Adcock made the motion, seconded by Director Hines, to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on third reading. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, the rules were suspended and the ordinance read a third time.

Mayor Scott asked if there was anyone present that wanted to speak for or against the item; there being none, Mayor Scott closed the Public Hearing.

By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the ordinance was approved.**

Mayor Scott stated that several Board Members had expressed their desire for a Holiday Recess should the 2024 Budget be passed at the first meeting in December. Mayor Scott stated that staff had started working on the agenda for the second meeting in December and there was the potential that the meeting would be held on December 12, 2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Item 13)

Director Hines made the motion, seconded by Director Peck, for the Board to go into Executive Session for the purpose of appointments and reappointments to various City of Little Rock Boards and Commissions. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the Board went into Executive Session for the purpose of appointments and reappointments.**

13. RESOLUTION NO. 16,174: To make appointment to City of Little Rock Boards & Commissions.

Synopsis: Age-Friendly Commission (4 positions); Americans with Disabilities Act Citizen Grievance Committee (2 positions); Animal Services Advisory Board (4 Positions); Arts & Culture Commission (3 positions); Housing Board of Adjustment & Appeals (3 positions); Little Rock Citizen's Review Board (1 position); Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission (1 position); Little Rock Planning Commission (4 positions); Little Rock Sustainability Commission (1 position); MacArthur Military History Museum Commission (1 position); Racial and Cultural Diversity Commission (1 position)

Age-Friendly Little Rock Commission: Appointment of William Gold to fill the unexpired At-Large Representative term of Angela Green Moore, said term to expire on May 21, 2025. Appointment of Jeremy Martin to fill the unexpired At-Large Representative term of Debra Redding, said term to expire on May 21, 2025. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Americans with Disabilities Act Citizen Grievance Committee: Appointment of Zella Davis to serve her first four (4)-year Service Provider Representative term, said term to

expire on July 6, 2027. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Animal Services Advisory Board: Appointment of Suzanne Rogers to serve her first three (3)-year Ward 5 Representative term, said term to expire November 28, 2026. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Arts & Culture Commission: Appointment of Clarence Harris to serve his first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire April 2, 2026. Appointment of Hana Mariah Hatta to serve her first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire April 2, 2026. Appointment of Glenn B. Sergeant, Jr. to fill the unexpired Cultural Institution Term of Lillie Peterson, said term to expire April 2, 2024. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

City Beautiful Commission: Appointment of Dax Chance to fill the unexpired At-Large Representative term of Kenny Stephens, Jr., said term to expire October 19, 2024. Appointment of Rudy Neree to serve his first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire October 19, 2026. Appointment of Adam Wierciak to serve his first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire October 19, 2026. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Housing Board of Adjustments and Appeals: Appointment of Ronald Harrington to serve his first four (4)-year term, said term to expire August 1, 2027. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Little Rock Citizens Review Board: Appointment of Connor Thompson to serve his first three (3)-year At-Large Representative term, said term to expire December 17, 2026. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Little Rock Planning Commission: Appointment of Joshua Baxter to serve his first three (3)-year term, said term to expire November 1, 2026. Appointment of Norman Hodges to fill the unexpired term of Paul Latture, said term to expire November 1, 2024. Appointment of Charlotte Lunday to serve her first three (3)-year term, said term to expire November 1, 2026. Appointment of Jeremiah Russell to serve his first three (3)-year term, said term to expire November 1, 2026. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Little Rock Sustainability Commission: Appointment of Lauren Cozart to fill the unexpired term of Andrew Jester, said term to expire February 5, 2024. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

MacArthur Military History Museum Commission: Appointment of Garry Roger to fill the unexpired term of Joseph McKay, said term to expire February 21, 2025. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

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Racial and Cultural Diversity Commission: Appointment of Paul Henry to fill the unexpired term of Ross Owyong, said term to expire March 31, 2024. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the appointments were approved.**

Director Kumpuris made the motion, seconded by Director Webb, to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous voice vote of the Board Members present, **the meeting was adjourned.**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Susan Langley, City Clerk

Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor