

**City of Pocahontas**  
**Special Called Meeting of City Council – February 23, 2017**

Mayor Kary Story called the meeting to order. City Clerk/Treasurer Suzanne Hawkins conducted roll call. Councilperson present were: Rainer DeClerk, Wayne Broadway, Verna Dudley, Ben Pond, Rob Olvey and Keith Futrell. City Attorney Alex Bigger was present. The media was represented by the Star Herald.

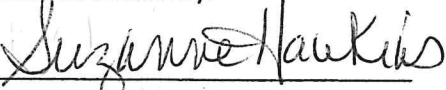
Story asked for public comment. There was none.

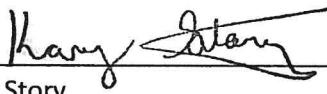
Story stated that BRAD Headstart was hoping to apply for a grant. He turned the meeting over to Rhonda Ahrent of BRAD. She stated they hoped to obtain a grant from AEDC General Assistant funds to be able to expand their facilities to service 32 additional infants and toddlers. They currently employ 46 people and have 55 infant/toddlers on a waiting list. Emily Hathcock, East Arkansas Planning & Development stated the agency she works for would administer the grant for BRAD. Hawkins stated BRAD had attempted to obtain this grant in 2014 but was not awarded in that year. Ahrent stated BRAD has had the federally funded Headstart program going for over 50 years. Hathcock stated they were getting updated estimates but the ones from 2014 were approximately \$500,000. Hathcock stated they would apply for \$250,000 in AEDC funds, and also would be applying for a USDA grant of \$50,000 and the remaining balance would be paid through a USDA loan. Olvey motioned to read the resolution to authorize the application of AEDC grant funds by BRAD. Broadway seconded. All voted to approve. Bigger read the resolution. Broadway motioned to adopt. Olvey seconded. All voted to approve. This is **Resolution 02-2017**. Futrell motioned to read the resolution to approve EAPDD as the administrator of the grant. Dudley seconded. All voted to approve. Bigger read the resolution. Pond motioned to adopt the resolution. Olvey seconded. All voted to approve. This is **Resolution 03-2017**.

Story stated the police department has \$9394 left in the 2017 Major equipment budget. Chief Tackett has sold one vehicle on ebay and another was totaled after a wreck with a deer for a total of \$3050. The claim for the tower falling and roof repair less the deductible would allow the police department to purchase a new vehicle. Story stated the communication requirements for the Police Dept have already been set up as needed with today's technology. Olvey motioned to approve the purchase of a new Ford Explorer Interceptor for the Police dept at the state contract rate. Pond seconded. All voted to approve.

Pond motioned to adjourn. DeClerk seconded. All voted to adjourn.

Minutes submitted by:

  
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Suzanne Hawkins  
City Clerk/Treasurer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kary Story  
Mayor