

City of Pocahontas
Special Called Meeting 1-10-19

Mayor Keith Sutton called the Special Called meeting to order. City Clerk/Treasurer Suzanne Hawkins conducted roll call. Councilmen present were: Wayne Broadway, Ben Pond, Rob Olvey, Keith Futrell, & Nathan Camp. Rainer DeClerk came in later during the meeting. City Attorney Alex Bigger was present. The media was represented by KPOC and Pocahontas Star Herald. Sutton asked for public comments. There was no response.

Ordinance for Hospital Funding – Bigger addressed the council stating that a new service agreement had to be approved by council to allow for the interim funding to Five Rivers Medical Center due to the Federal Government in furlow. The service agreement is similar to past years which will allow the hospital to operate.

Hospital CEO Luther Lewis addressed the council to ask for the funds for the hospital to be the same amount budgeted for St Bernards. The amount on the service agreement is \$99,624 which includes the monthly payment of \$32,624. The support to hospital check would be \$67,000. Olvey noted this amount was accounted for in the 2019 budget. Broadway motioned read the Ordinance. Pond seconded. All voted yes. Bigger read the Ordinance. Olvey motioned to read the ordinance by title for the 2nd & 3rd reading. Pond seconded. All voted yes. Bigger read the title. Pond motioned to adopt the ordinance. Olvey seconded. Roll call vote: All voted yes. Futrell motioned to adopt the Emergency Clause. Olvey seconded. All voted yes. This is Ordinance 2019-03.

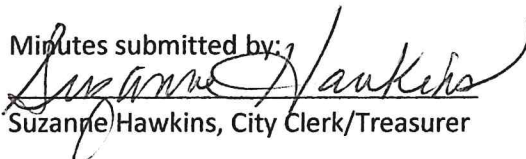
Bigger presented a proposed ordinance and Westlaw legal statutes regarding the On-Premises consumption of alcohol at restaurants for council review. Sutton stated this could wait to the next meeting. There was some discussion. Bigger stated restaurants have to abide by state law. Bigger said the city may create an ordinance but doesn't have to. Olvey & Camp stated they felt they needed to wait until the February meeting to review the Ordinance.


Futrell asked about a news story he had heard concerning the police chief resigning. Sutton shared with the council that first thing Wednesday morning, Cecil Tackett had given him a letter stating he was retiring. Sutton told Tackett that he would accept his resignation if that is what he wants. Olvey asked if he had appointed an interim police chief. Sutton stated that Jesse Luffman had stepped up and was going to take on some additional rolls. Sutton asked if they could go into executive session. Broadway motioned to go into executive session to discuss hiring/firing of police chief. Camp seconded. DeClerk came in to the meeting at this time. Olvey brought DeClerk up to date on the meeting so far. Roll call vote: Futrell – No, Broadway – Yes, Pond – Yes, Olvey – Yes, Camp – Yes, and DeClerk – Yes. Futrell stated he felt the subject could be discussed in the open.

Council went into executive session.

Council came back to the meeting. Pond motioned to adjourn. Olvey seconded. All voted yes.

Minutes submitted by:


Suzanne Hawkins, City Clerk/Treasurer


Keith Sutton, Mayor