

**MINUTES**  
**Goshen City Council**  
**November 12, 2024 at 6:30PM**  
**Goshen Community Building, 244 Clark Street**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Stroud called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

**Roll Call:** Paula Anderson, Colton Martin, Max Poye, John Vaillancourt, Birch Wright were present. Shawn Mayfield was absent. City Attorney and Recorder/Treasurer Marjorie Vaillancourt were present.

**Approval of Agenda:** Birch Wright motion to approve agenda with additions of October 21, 2024 Special Session minutes added by Recorder/Treasurer. Brian Hogue added under New Business Item C. Resolution for Mayor increase in salary for 2024. Item D. Resolution for Recorder/Treasurer salary increase for 2024. Seconded by Colton Martin. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried.

**Public Input:** Linda Moore, I just wanted to give a friendly reminder about our annual tree lighting ceremony. It's December 1st here at the community building from 5 to 8 p.m. And the police department will be here. They'll be doing crafts with the children. And then we're going to have sliders, and we're asking the public if they'd like to bring cookies. And then we'll be doing our tree lighting outside. We have these flyers on the back table there, so please grab one. We'll be getting banners. And I've got 10-yard signs to put around the communities to let everybody know about that event.

**Approval of Minutes:** October 8, 2024 minutes. John Vaillancourt motioned to approve minutes as written. Seconded by Birch Wright. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried. October 21, 2024 Special Session minutes. Colton Martin motioned to approve with edit. Seconded by John Vaillancourt. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report:** Mayor Stroud presented. Balances as October 31, 2024 are General Fund \$740,209.12. Street Fund \$209,838.52. 988 Act \$9,615.18. Certificates of Deposit \$1,041,438.08. Colton Martin motioned to approve the financial report for October 2024. Seconded by John Vaillancourt. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried.

**Reports for October 2024:**

**A. Police Department Report:** Report is in Council's packet. Chief Travis presented. Colton, we have 3 animal complaints. Have we started implementing, where we are removing animals? Are we prepared to pick up now? Mayor: Yes, we have 2 crates. Birch: Chief, have you any follow up on the ordinance? What we talked about last time, the unsightly conditions of property, the trash, have you all had any assistance with that? No, we haven't had any assistance with any of that yet. But now Lacie is certified, so she can do a lot of that on her own.

**B. Street Report:** Report is in Council's packet. Mayor Stroud presented. Birch asked what we do with all the debris. Mayor: We burn it in the old pond. Birch, have we had any complaints of water leaks? Mayor: No, no one has been called into city hall.

- C. **Goshen Fire District:** Report is in Council’s packet. Mayor Stroud presented.
- D. **Planning Commission:** Mayor presented. Birch: Tom resigning as of December. Mayor Liz or Loren has agreed to step in as Chair. Birch: So, we don’t have a vacancy? Mayor: no, not currently.
- E. **Building Inspection Report:** J.D. DeMotte presented. Report is in Council’s packet.
- F. **Parks and Recreation Report:** Mike Nimmo presented. Report is in Council’s packet. We were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the forestry. We wanted to let everyone know that due to some travel by the park’s commissioners in November and December, we voted at our last meeting to postpone those meetings until January, because it did look like we were going to have a quorum. We will set up a working meeting if needed.
- G. **Arbor Board Report:** Mary Smith presented. We’ll do our board reports twice a year. We’ve had seven people resign from the Arbor Board. Karen Boyd, Mary Loftis, Perianne Sparks, Tom Chappell, Steve Schneider, Betty Nichols, and Barbara Lupton are all resigning. The name of the committee will remain the Goshen Arbor Board. I won’t go through all the things about Ordinance 127. The only thing I need to mention is that we’re supposed to report in December after, but our meeting time is annually put after the City Council meets. So, we may need to change that in 2025. Mayor: In 2025, you guys can report in January and again in June. I’ve ordered a whole bunch of new tree tags for the trees up near the southern entrance. Since we’re going to have more people coming in from that area, that’ll be opening. So, I’ll be putting those up during this week. Paula: I have one question about your tree tags. I’ve not been out there to see them lately. Are they tags that are going on the tree or on the ground? Mary: Some of the things we do around the community building, we put them on the ground. Putting them on the ground is not practical at the park with all the mowers. And so, we use arboretum-based things that have a spring in them so they can flex as the tree grows. Paula: So, I’m just wondering because one of the resolutions, what have you here, said that we would not put anything on any of the trees ever, period. So, we need to put an exception on that for tags. Mayor: That’s part of the arbor ordinance. Paula: So, we’d be in conflict. I think the tree tags are wonderful. Mary: I never read that, so that could be something that Andrew will take care of.

**Old City Business:**

- A. **Annexation Update:** Mayor Stroud presented. The unofficial results that came in. There were a total 1,763 votes. It was voted down by 73.4 percent.
- B. **Police Presents: Riverside Estates Ordinance:** Brian Hogue presented. Colton Martin motioned to suspend the rules & waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> readings. Seconded by Birch Wright.
 

<b><u>Roll Call Vote Yay</u></b>	<b><u>Roll Call Vote Nay</u></b>
Birch Wright Yes	John Vaillancourt No
Paula Anderson Yes	
Max Poye Yes	
Colton Martin Yes	

**Absent**

Shawn Mayfield

Hogue read: "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIING TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT WITHIN RIVERSIDE ESTATES SUBDIVISON."

Colton Martin motioned to adopt. Seconded by Paula Anderson

**Roll Call Vote Yay**

Birch Wright Yes  
Paula Anderson Yes  
Max Poye Yes  
Colton Martin Yes  
The motion carried.

**Roll Call Vote Nay**

John Vaillancourt No

**Absent**

Shawn Mayfield

Colton Martin motioned to adopt the emergency clause. Seconded by Birch Wright.

**Roll Call Vote Yay**

Birch Wright Yes  
Paula Anderson Yes  
Max Poye Yes  
Colton Martin Yes

**Roll Call Vote Nay**

John Vaillancourt No

**Absent**

Shawn Mayfield

The motion carried.

- C. **Arbor Board Ordinance:** Mayor Stroud presented. In section 3, it says, shall be a violation to attach or replace any rope, wire, sign, poster, handbill, or any other object to any such tree. Will add except for Arboretum tag signage. Paula Anderson expressed concern for conservation easements. Conservation easements will be taken out. Changes will be made and brought back in December.
  
- D. **Ordinance Regarding Parks Master Plan:** Brian Hogue presented. Paula Anderson motioned to table the Ordinance regarding Parks Master Plan. Seconded by John Vaillancourt. No Vote. Max: I think we can go ahead and adopt it. Brian: Yes, you can. Paula Anderson motioned to read in title only for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading. The ordinance to ensure adherence to the Master Plan. Second, by Colton Martin.

**Roll Call Vote Yay**

Birch Wright Yes  
John Vaillancourt Yes  
Paula Anderson Yes  
Max Poye Yes  
Colton Martin Yes

**Roll Call Vote Nay**

**Absent**

Shawn Mayfield

Hogue read: "AN ORDINANCE TO ENSURE ADHERANCE TO THE MASTER PLAN FOR PARKS IN THE CITY OF GOSHEN."

Paula Anderson motioned to approve the reading. Seconded by John Vaillancourt.

**Roll Call Vote Yay**

**Roll Call Vote Nay**

Birch Wright Yes

John Vaillancourt Yes

Paula Anderson Yes

Max Poye Yes

Colton Martin Yes

**Absent**

Shawn Mayfield

The motion carried.

- E. 2025 Budget Proposal: Finance Committee presented. Paula: I saw a couple of things. The general budget. General fund. The one that is going to put us \$5,000 in the hole is that we have Act 988 showing as revenue coming in, but that should also have an expenditure going out because those are funds that can be spent out of the general fund. I don't see a line item for those Act 988 funds going out anywhere to go to the 988 funds. Mayor: It's here under transfer. Act 988 fund transfer. Paula: But that is under revenue. You show the money coming in, but we also need to show it going back to the 988 funds, which is an issue that I think we've had in the past. So, under expenditure, you should have the same \$5,000. Birch: It's a pass through. Paula: Yes, because it's passed through. Paula emailed KaSeana for more clarification on no expenses on 988 funds. Birch: A couple questions on the street fund. The workers' comp, the pay freeze, as I said, the retirement or the lopfi fee retirement. That's all increasing that much. It's just the cost of doing business. And then the only other thing that stuck out to me was Chief Travis's or your budget's down almost \$15,000. Are you good with that? Chief: Yes, I think we can make it work. Because we have some items this year that we're higher, and we're not going to be meeting those numbers. I don't think they're going to change for the year. Paula: I'm questioning is that we have a line item for doing paint on the fire station. And I would love to provide some funds to the fire stations. Mayor: We own that building. So, it's a city-owned building. So, for maintenance of it, that's just capital expenditure for improvements to our infrastructure. Because we own the building, they use it. Paula: My question is, does it physically need the paint, or is that just something to match the city? Mayor: It needs more than paint. So, part of the painting is they're going to seal some of the areas where birds will fly around. So, part of the painting is that they're going to seal. Birch: So that's just maintenance you've got to do to make it work. Mayor: If there's things like that you find between now and December because I'd like to get this approved for December, for the beginning of the year, please let us know so that we can get those adjusted. Birch: I think it's a good budget. The liability of Cutris construction \$10, 000.? Jerry: We put it in just in case.

- F. Highway 45 Goshen/Tuttle Contract: Brian Hogue presented. No update.

## New City Business:

- A. Resolution Establishing Legal Entity Name:** Mayor Stroud presented. So, this Resolution is for the legal business name information, this is required for our HUD grant. It's SAM.gov, this is how we log in and do all our reporting of all the government grants that we're administering. Colton Martin motioned to read in title only. Seconded by Birch Wright. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried.  
Hogue read: "AN RESOLUTON AFFIRMING THE LEGAL BUSINESS NAME AND INFORMATION OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN, ARKANSAS."  
Colton Martin motioned to adopt. Seconded by Birch Wright. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried.
- B. Project and Grant Updates:** Mayor Stroud presented. We did get the \$10,000 award from the forestry grant. We'll be able to utilize that. Starting in January, we'll start working with Design Scapes to get that done. We are waiting to hear back, we should hear back next week or the week after, on the Arkansas State Park Grant. Birch: How many others? Mayor: Yes, there were 13 total. Colton: What's the value if we get it? Mayor: \$207,000, and that will be already matched, because we purchased the property. Birch: Is it all or none? Mayor: Yes. Yep. So, and then the other thing that we need to discuss is that we have an ARDOT grant that was awarded last January that we've been continuing to work with, and we've had Crafton and Tull on this project, and it has been delayed all year. And those delays are coming at the expense of us getting started on the project. And I say this because we've had these other issues that have been ongoing with the projects with Crafton and Tull, and I think that it's time for us to schedule a meeting and sit down and discuss our contract with them and whether we're going to continue in that contract if we're not able to expedite some of these things. These are things that should have been done long ago. There is no reason we don't have bridge design plans when we've known we were going to have a bridge at the beginning of the year. And that's what we're waiting on at this point. There have been many delays John: Bridge design plans for? Mayor: For the crossing of the creek. Birch: What's the request Mayor, for you and your staff to meet with them, have them come to city council? Mayor: I want to meet with them first, with Luke who is the project supervisor and ask his supervisor to be there. John: I think that Brian should be there. Brian are we at risk of losing the grant? Mayor: No.
- C. Resolution for 2024 Recorder/Treasurer Increase:** Brian Hogue presented.  
John Vaillancourt motioned to read in title only. Second by Birch Wight. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0).  
Hogue read: "RESOLUTON CONFIRMING SALARY FOR RECORDER/TREASURER."  
Birch Wright motioned to approve. Second, by Colton Martin. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried.
- D. Resolution for 2024 Mayor Salary Increase:** Brian Hogue presented.  
John Vaillancourt motioned to read in title only. Second by Birch Wight. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0).  
Hogue read: "RESOLUTON CONFIRMING SALARY FOR MAYOR."  
Birch Wright motioned to approve. Second, by Colton Martin. All in favor? Yay (5). Opposed? (0). The motion carried.

**Public Input:** Birch: I would like to thank all the veterans. Citizens concerned about excessive air brake noise.

**Adjournment:** Colton Martin motioned to adjourn at 8:08 pm. Seconded by Birch Wright. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

  
Marjorie Vaillancourt  
Recorder/Treasurer



Declined to  
Sign  
Russell Stroud  
Mayor