

ASH FLAT CITY COUNCIL

“SPECIAL” MEETING

September 25, 2023

Present:

Larry Fowler, Mayor

Charlotte Goodwin, Recorder

Council Members Present: Fred Goodwin, Kevin Grissom, Sean Himschoot, Mike Nix, Danny Traw, and Annette Wolverton

Guests Present: Graycen Bigger, w/FNBC and Elaine Brown, w/Cherry Road Publishing

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Ash Flat City Council met in *Special Session* in the council chambers at Ash Flat City Hall Monday, 6:00 p.m., September 25th. The Honorable Mayor Larry Fowler, the presiding officer, declared a quorum present, and called the meeting to order.

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Mayor Fowler stated the purpose of the meeting is to consider financing options for a fire truck and sewer improvements.

FINANCING OPTIONS

Mayor Fowler and Graycen Biggers stated they'd spoken with Keith Husky with Rural Development. The conversation was regarding the Emerson pump station. If the city qualifies for a loan with USDA, the interest rate is 2.78%, and they'll finance up to 40 years. Also, there's a grant opportunity for up to 45% of the project cost. Graycen Bigger stated Arkansas Natural Resource Commission (ANRC) has a revolving loan fund for water and wastewater, and community block grant funds are available. The city may not qualify for the full 45% grant. Graycen then explained they'll look at the physical health of the city, the annual budget, the debt to income ratio, and what the citizens can afford to pay. When they have all those numbers, they'll come up with a grant rate based on that information.

Mayor Fowler stated he and Graycen have been discussing the need for more water storage for the city, since more water storage will be needed

in the future. Graycen stated water storage is a totally separate issue. USDA is about furnishing water to the residents. Graycen stated Ash Flat is one of the few small towns that's seeing both residential and commercial growth.

FIRE TRUCK LOAN

Mayor Fowler presented correspondence from FNBC regarding financing the fire truck. The amount of the loan is \$326,000.00 at 5.25% for 60 months with an estimated payment of \$6,189.43. Mayor Fowler stated the city has \$109,000 in savings to pay on the loan. R/T Goodwin stated if the city put in an additional \$100,000.00 it would lower the payments even more. Graycen refigured the loan amount, and estimated the monthly payment at \$4,298.83. To be discussed at the October 2nd regular council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to come before the council, Mayor Fowler called for a motion to adjourn. ***Council member Kevin Grissom made motion to adjourn, seconded by Council member Fred Goodwin, and by consent of all members present, the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.***

CERTIFICATE

We, the undersigned Mayor and Recorder/Treasurer for the City of Ash Flat, do hereby certify the forgoing to be a true and correct record for the proceedings of the Ash Flat City Council meeting held in *Special Session* at 6:00 p. m., Monday, September 25, 2023.

PASSED and APPROVED this 2nd day of October, 2023.



LARRY FOWLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:



CHARLOTTE GOODWIN, RECORDER





September 22, 2023

City of Ash Flat

Thank you for your decision to pursue conventional financing with FNBC Bank. Your loan request has been pre-approved for the applied for amount of \$326,000.00.

This loan would be proposed at \$326,000.00 for 60 months at 5.25% with an estimated monthly payment of \$6,189.43.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Marty Sellars

President

Chief Executive Officer

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