

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING

THURSDAY ~ AUGUST 23, 2011 ~ 12:00 NOON

FORT SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

The special meeting was called by Directors Steve Tyler, Andre' Good, Don Hutchings and George Catsavis (to immediately precede the noon study session) for the purpose of considering the following:

- Ordinance declaring an exceptional situation waiving the requirements of competitive bidding, authorizing a contract with Crawford Construction Company, Inc. for emergency repairs and stabilization of the building facade at 800 North 9th Street, and appropriating funds

The special meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Sanders, presiding. On roll call the following members of the Board were present: Directors Steve Tyler, Andre' Good, Don Hutchings, George Catsavis, Pam Weber, Kevin Settle and Philip Merry. The Mayor declared a quorum present.

Regarding the proposed ordinance, City Administrator Ray Gosack briefed the Board on the item advising the purpose of such is to authorize a contract to stabilize the facade at the former Mallalieu Church building, as requested at the August 16, 2011 regular meeting. During the process of demolition, if the facade cannot be saved, the bricks will be salvaged and used for any new construction to commemorate the history of the former church building.

Director of Development Services Wally Bailey clarified the facade to be stabilized is located on North "H" Street. The demolition is anticipated to take approximately ninety(90) days; therefore, if something occurs during said demolition that would indicate

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the facade cannot be saved, he recommended the proposed contract be reevaluated to determine its necessity.

The following individuals were present to address the Board:

- **Scott Hathaway**
Fort Smith, AR

Re: Although he opposes the total demolition of the structure, he spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance citing the importance of saving the facade if at all possible.

The Board offered multiple questions regarding certain aspects of the stabilization, concern for future change orders and when actual demolition will begin.

Mr. Hathaway clarified the proposed stabilization will be permanent and no change order is anticipated; however, the proposed contract includes a small contingency to address minor unforeseen issues.

Mr. Bailey noted that demolition is anticipated to begin Thursday morning, August 25th.

- **Monte Wilson**
Fort Smith, AR

Re: Expressed much appreciation for the City's interest in the academic facility proposed for the site. He alleged such will be a substantial investment for youth in the area, will stimulate future growth, and preserve the history of the structure. Due to such, he urged approval of the proposed ordinance.

Director Tyler noted much appreciation for the passion to save the structure and facade; however, he conveyed his intent to vote "no" on the matter based on budgetary issues citing City employees have received no pay increases in several years and funding for other projects will be necessary in the near future.

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Director Merry conveyed his intent to vote in favor of the item citing such will be a major and valued investment in the area. Upon approval and since the cost will come from the General Fund, he urged City departments to run as efficiently as possible to sustain the additional cost to the General Fund.

Rather than utilizing the proposed \$135,000 to save the facade, Director Catsavis questioned if said funds could be donated to assist with the proposed development. He further inquired of the probability of saving the facade.

Administrator Gosack advised such funds cannot be donated; however, he feels the funds can be utilized in others ways to provide assistance.

With regard to saving the facade, Mr. Hathaway noted that if the facade remains in tact throughout demolition of the structure, he conveyed "100%" assurance that the facade can be stabilized and utilized for the proposed development.

Mr. Bailey further noted the probability of saving the facade can be determined early during the demolition.

Director Weber conveyed her intent to vote in favor of the ordinance citing historic places promote tourism and \$135,000 is worthwhile investment to save a piece of history.

Director Settle advised of multiple calls he's received from citizens stating they simply "want the opportunity" to save the structure (facade); therefore, he too conveyed his intent to vote in favor of the item.

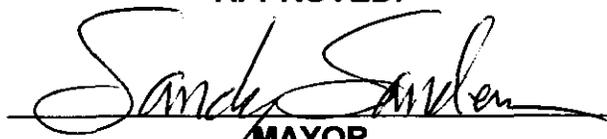
Hutchings, seconded by Merry, moved adoption of the ordinance. The members voted as follows: ayes - Good, Hutchings, Catsavis, Weber, Settle and Merry; nays - Tyler.

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The Mayor declared the motion carried and the ordinance was adopted and given No. 67-11.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Hutchings moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Settle, and the members all voting aye, the Mayor declared the motion carried, and the special meeting stood adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

APPROVED:


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK