

**ASH FLAT CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING**

**February 21, 2017**

**Present:**

**Larry Fowler, Mayor**

**Charlotte Goodwin, Recorder**

**Council Members Present:** Fred Goodwin, Rodney Hallmark, Sean Himschoot, Mike Nix, Danny Traw, and Annette Wolverton

**Officials Present:** Fire Chief Stacy Horton, Police Chief Anthony Wiles, W/S Supt. Tracy Breckenridge, Code Enforcement Officer William Myers, Parks Supt. Regan Nicholson

**Officials Absent:** Street Supt. Jimmy Shaffer, and City Attorney Larry Kissee

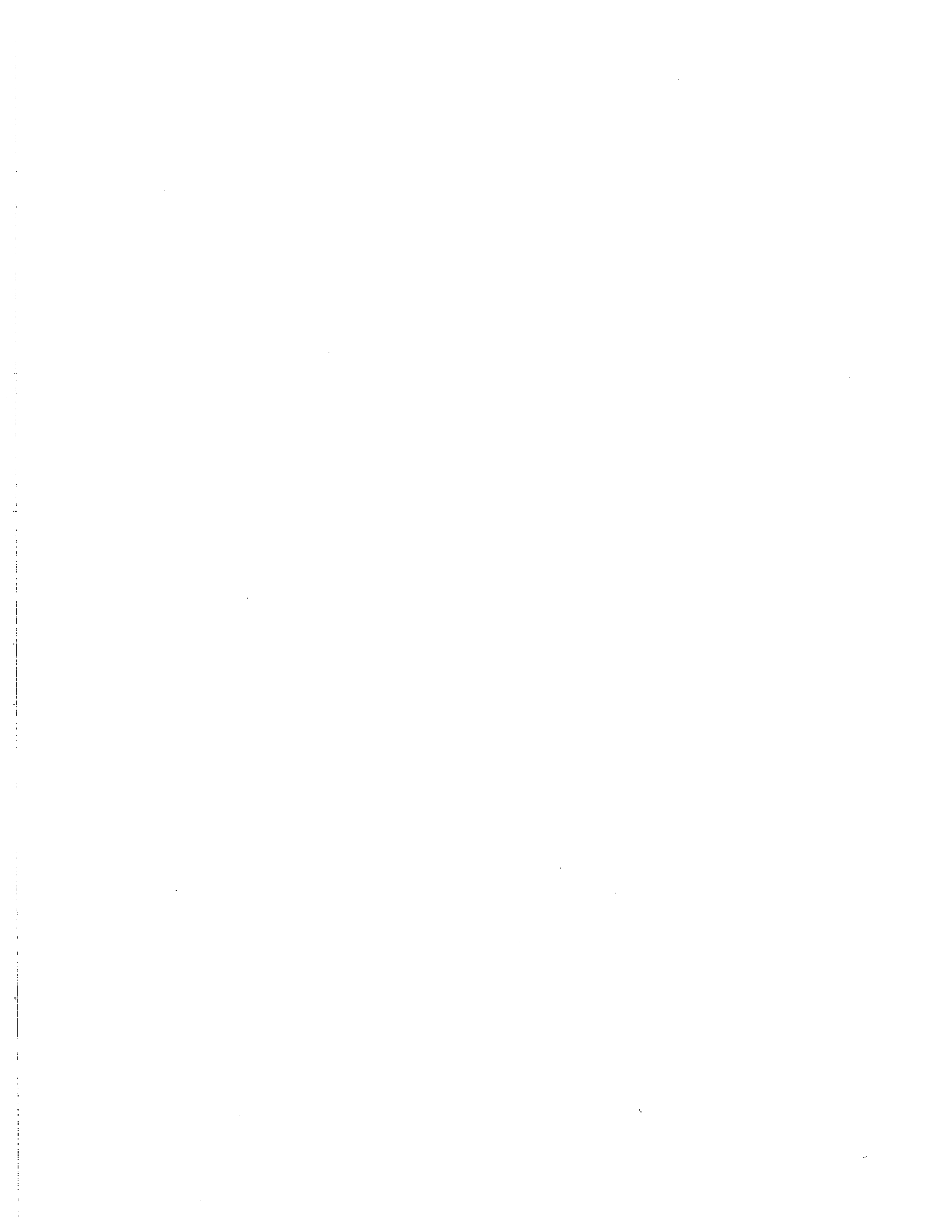
**Guests Present:** Terry Hill, Joseph Price, Kelly McCord, Tonya Traw, S. A. Bates, Freddy Gann, and James M. Street

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Ash Flat City Council met in regular session in the council chambers at Ash Flat City Hall Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The Honorable Mayor Larry Fowler, the presiding officer, declared a quorum present, and called the meeting to order. Recorder Charlotte Goodwin called the roll by wards. Council members answering the call by their respective wards were Ward 1-Fred Goodwin, Mike Nix; Ward 2-Sean Himschoot; Danny Traw; Ward 3-Rodney Hallmark, Annette Wolverton. (6/0) Mayor Fowler led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country, and a moment of silence was observed.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mayor Fowler called for a motion to approve the February 21, 2017 meeting agenda. *Council member Sean Himschoot made the motion, seconded by Council member Danny Traw, the roll having been called, and by consent of the members present, approved the meeting agenda as presented.* A roll call vote was taken. The following



voice votes were recorded: *Goodwin-Yea, Hallmark-Yea, Himschoot-Yea, Traw-Yea, Nix-Yea, and Wolverton*. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nays.

### MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 17, 2017

Mayor Fowler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular council meeting held January 17, 2017, provided there were no corrections or changes. *Council member Annette Wolverton made the motion, seconded by council member Rodney Hallmark, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to approve the minutes of the council meeting held January 17, 2017, as transcribed*. A roll call vote was taken, and the following voice votes were recorded: *Hallmark-Yea, Himschoot-Yea, Nix-Yea, Traw-Yea, Wolverton, and Goodwin-Yea*. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nays.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**-Fire Chief Stacy Horton stated the department responded to 40 calls during the period of 1-12-17 thru 2-15-17. Medical calls-14, Vehicle Accident-2, Brush Fire-5, False Alarms-5, Hazmat (propane leak)-0, Vehicle Fire-2, Structure fire-0, and Public Assist-12. On February 24<sup>th</sup> the department volunteers will have a chili supper fund raiser from 4:30 to 6 pm at the station. Jerry Holfert is assisting with the project. Holfert received a grant to help purchase the food items for the event.

Chief Horton told the council plans have changed on getting a loan from the Forestry to purchase a new pump and skid unit. Horton stated the department would like to apply for a loan from FNBC to purchase a skid unit from Northern Tool Company and pay for the truck from Forestry which combined is \$6,000.00. The fire department has already purchased one skid unit with Act 833 funds. This is a savings of \$8,115.00 from the original plan. Following further discussion, *Council member Danny Traw made the motion, seconded by Council member Sean Himschoot, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to approve the City of Ash Flat enter into a 3*



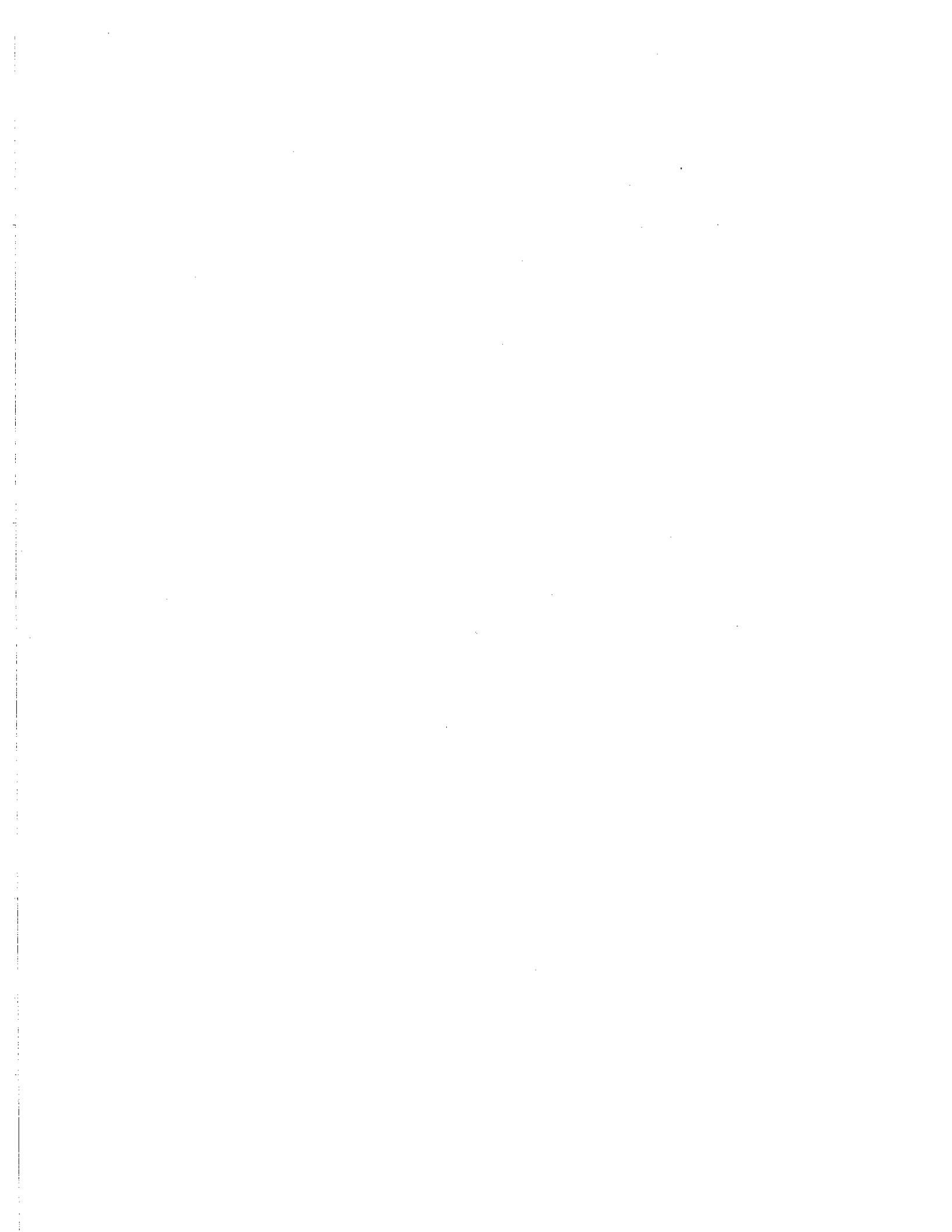
*year loan agreement with FNBC for the purchase of equipment, for \$6,000.00, and pay the note with Act 833 funds. The following voice votes were recorded: Nix-Yea, Traw-Yea, Wolverton-Yea, Goodwin-Yea, Hallmark-Yea, and Himschoot-Yea.* The motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nays. The department plans to ask FNBC for

Chief Horton told the council the Camp Volunteer Fire Department donated a 100k generator to the Ash Flat Fire department. The 30k generator the department is currently using will be moved to another area. Mayor Fowler stated he'd like to see if it's large enough to run city hall and the police department.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**-Chief Anthony Wiles reported the department responded to 82 calls for service, conducted 58 traffic stops, made 5 arrests, issued 38 citations, issued 15 warnings, responded to 5 calls assisting outside agencies, worked 8 accidents, responded to 2 alarms, conducted 3 motorist assists, investigated 3 thefts, 2 domestic calls, investigated 3 animal complaints, & investigated 0 prowler calls. Officers' unlocked 28 vehicles, served 5 warrants, & conducted 3 welfare checks. All the officers that attended to ACIC training in Jonesboro on February 3<sup>rd</sup> have successfully completed testing and have received certification as Level 1 ACIC operators. The in-car computer project is nearing completion, and some components for the printers, and scanners should arrive this week. Along with the arrival of three (3) in car computer mounts. As soon as these components are received they will enable the police department to have the computers in their cars and will be in use within a couple of weeks.

The department has been notified they're eligible for a \$3,500.00 grant thru the Justice Assistance Program. The grant will be used to purchase equipment for the police department.

**PARKS DEPARTMENT**-Supt. Regan Nicholson reported moving the gazebo and installing a new gate and fence at the ballpark. He worked with Bob Gotte installing an electric line for the pitching machine, picked up limbs at the ballpark, repaired the roof on the ballpark concession

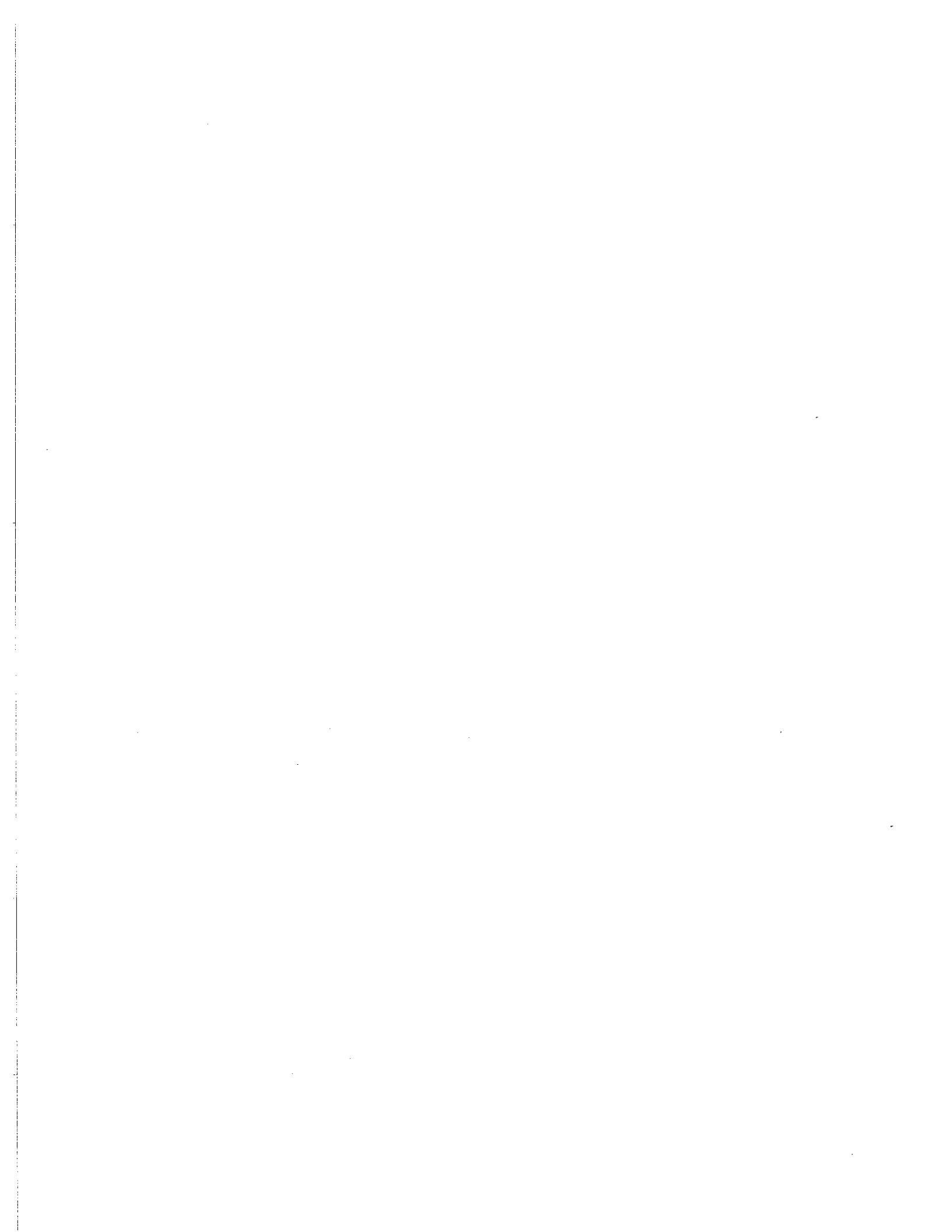


stand where some shingles had been blown off, repaired the men's restroom, and worked on the John Deere tractor with Jimmy & Tracy. He is still working on the ditch lines at the ball field, worked on the brush truck, took a CPR class, and recycled.

Mayor Fowler stated Grant Hyslip has completed the lighting on the smaller ballfields on the upper fields. Hyslip had got the lights up, and 21 of the bulbs were not working, so the company they'd been ordered from replaced the bulbs free of charge.

**STREET DEPARTMENT**- Supt. Jimmy Shaffer was absent. The report indicated holes on Evans Road were patched with cold mix, cold mix was put on Peace Valley Road, worked on the diffuser and rebuilt one set, pulled a second diffuser, cleaned them, worked on the water meter at Walmart and cleaned out the pit, moved the dozer to the city dump to clean up brush, pushed more dirt at the city dump, cleaned and re-floored the equipment trailer.

**WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT**-Supt. Tracy Breckenridge reported reading water meters, tagging doors with late, and shut off notices. Monthly water samples were taken and sent to the health department. He repaired the brakes on Engine 1 fire truck, worked on removing the diffusers at the aeration basin. Diffusers were lifted, and checked for required parts. Parts were ordered which take from 3-5 days to arrive. The diffuser was cleaned and prepped for new install. It takes a week and a half for turn around on the unit. Two of the four units have been repaired and installed, and work is beginning on the third. He serviced work truck 7, cleaned out the pole barn in preparation for a cement floor, changed 3" water meter at Walmart with no interruption of services for roughly 2.5 hours. Walmart now has a new 3" digital meter. Cleaned out the chlorine contact chamber, shoveled, and refilled the drying bed with sludge, repaired the gate at the 62-412 water tank, installed a new 2" digital meter at Eagle Crest Nursing Home. He replaced attic fan motor in the treatment plant blower room, completed the lead and copper site plan and resubmitted to AR Department of Health, service install for a new commercial location next to Yow's Chiropractic, and installed a new exterior door at the treatment plant office. Tracy stated he'd spoke with





Blake Culbreath regarding the Badger meter swap out, and the AMR heads are temporarily out of stock and when they come in Blake will be here to get our trial period going on those.

**CITY HALL MONTHLY LOG** –The report indicated during the last half of January, and the first half of February there were 497 visitors.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT**-Bill Myers reported commercial appraisers from Paragould, Jonesboro, and Mountain Home have been inquiring about zoning codes in various parts of the city. He inspected the plumbing at 62 Arnhart for a 60' X 40' storage building, spoke with a representative from Jones Sign Company about obtaining a sign permit for a proposed Dollar Tree, and requested the home owner at #13 Diane Ave to clean up their property.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**- No report available.

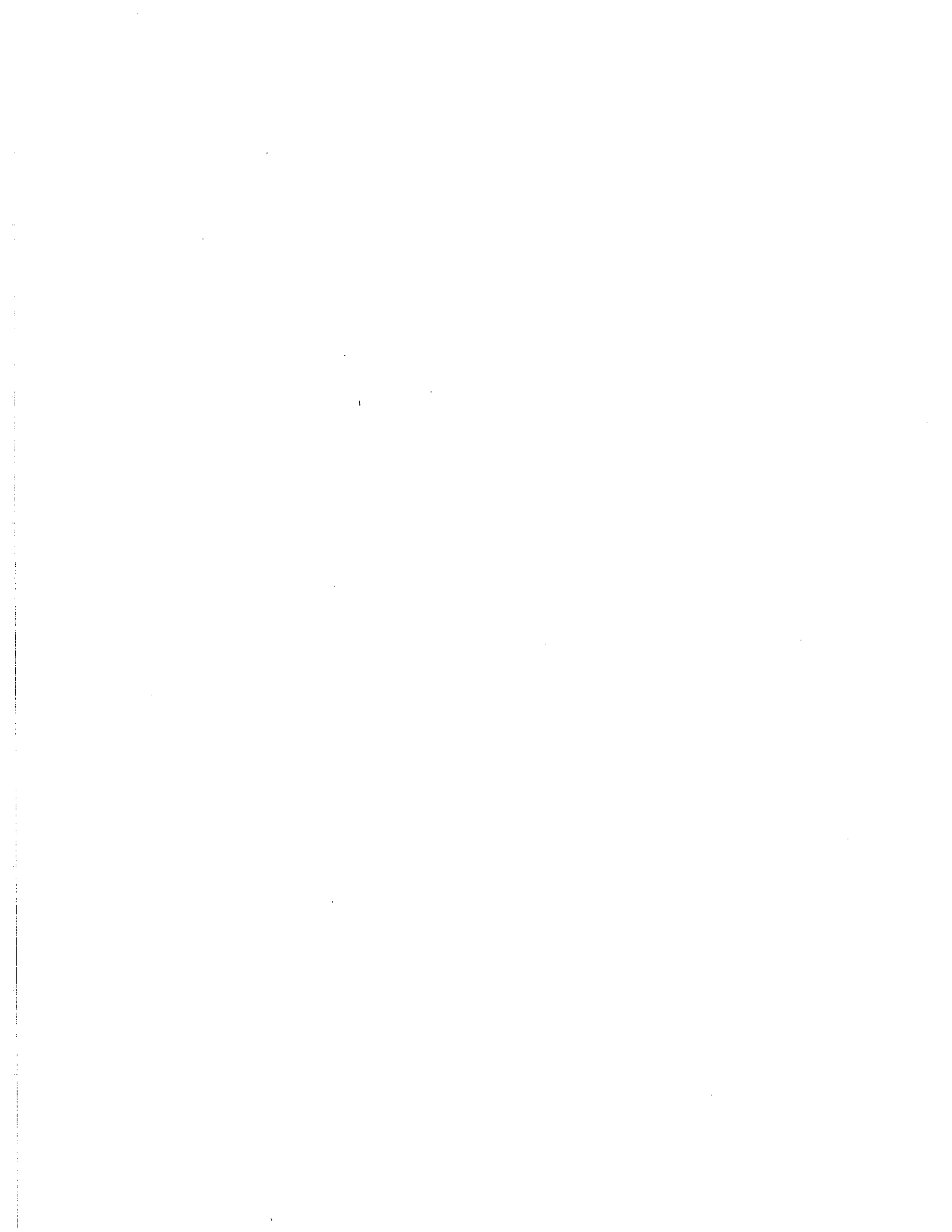
**LIBRARY REPORT**- The library report for January 11, 2017, thru February 13, 2017 indicated 16,661 books were available, 1 computer file, 1 map, 116 mixed materials, 37 music files, 5 reference files, and 1,283 visual materials available. 1,243 patron's visited the library, and 2,331 books, and other materials checked out.

**SCRAA & TCSWA**-Minutes of Sharp County Regional Airport Authority and Tri-County Solid Waste meetings were in the council packets.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **TERRY HILL –LIBRARY EMPLOYEE (A)**

Mayor Fowler stated he and Council member Sean Himschoot attended the last library board meeting. Fowler stated what the library is requesting a library manager to work part time 20 to 25 hours a week. Terry Hill stated we need someone to be in charge of employees. We need someone to make decisions, to say this is how we're going to operate. The employee will receive an hourly wage, retirement benefits, and workers comp. Following further discussion, ***Council member Danny Traw made the motion, seconded by Council member Annette Wolverton, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members***



*present, to hire a part-time employee to work 20 to 25 hours per week, and set the salary at \$8.50 per hour. The following voice votes were recorded: Traw-Yea, Goodwin-Yea, Hallmark-Yea, Himschoot-Yea, Wolverton-Yea, and Nix-Yea. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nays.*

Following further discussion, the council agreed to advertise the position. The ad will run for one month, and applications are to be submitted to city hall no later than April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The library board will interview applicants, and submit their top 3 choices to the council, with recommendations, in time for the April 18<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

### **NEW LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS**

Terry Hill submitted the following list of possible library board members: Renee Heusinger, Janice Rabon, Paula Fulgham, Hugh Buie, and Christy Himschoot. Following further discussion, *Council member Rodney Hallmark made the motion, seconded by Council member Annette Wolverton, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to approve the appointment of the five people to the advisory board of the library whose names were submitted. The following voice votes were recorded: Goodwin-Yea, Hallmark-Yea Himschoot-Yea, Nix-Yea, and Wolverton-Yea. Council member Traw voted Nay.* The motion carried with a roll call vote of 5-Yeas/1-Nay.

### **HYBRID ENERGY CONSULTANT-P. RICHARDSON (B)**

Jessica Fox, with Hybrid Energy, & Peter Richardson's assistant, addressed the council regarding the installation of LED lighting in the city buildings. Jessica stated by switching the cities lighting to LED would save the city approximately \$4,000.00 annually, and \$2,000.00 annually in maintenance. The rebate will be \$1,500.00 to \$3,000.00 depending on Entergy. The lighting will be discussed further during the March meeting.



## NEW BUSINESS

### RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2016 BUDGET (E)

Mayor Fowler introduced a resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF AN AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE TWELVE (12) MONTHS BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2016, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016, APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR EACH ITEM OF EXPENDITURE THEREIN PROVIDED FOR; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Recorder Charlotte Goodwin read the resolution in full. Following further discussion, *Council member Danny Traw made the motion, seconded by Council member Sean Himschoot, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to approve Resolution 2-A-2017 as read. The following voice votes were recorded: Hallmark-Yea, Himschoot-Yea, Nix-Yea, Traw-Yea, Wolverton-Yea, and Goodwin-Yea.* The motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nays. The Resolution was given the number 2-A-2017.

### RESOLUTION AR FORESTRY COMMISSION LEASE AGREEMENT (F)

Mayor Fowler introduced a resolution entitled: A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ASH FLAT, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE DIVISION OF BUILDING AUTHORITY-AGENT FOR THE ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION. Recorder Charlotte Goodwin read the resolution in full. Following further discussion, *Council member Danny Traw made the motion, seconded by Council member Rodney Hallmark, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to approve Resolution 2-B-2017 as read. A roll call vote was taken. The following voice votes were recorded: Himschoot-Yea, Nix-Yea, Traw-Yea, Wolverton-Yea, Goodwin-Yea, and Hallmark-Yea.* The motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nays. The Resolution was given the number 2-B-2017.

### WILES ANIMAL SHELTER AGREEMENT (G)

Mayor Fowler presented the Wiles Animal Rescue Shelter agreement. The 2017 city budget amount for the shelter was \$1,200.00, and the new contract/agreement is for \$1,500.00. Following a discussion, Mayor Fowler called for a motion to approve or deny the agreement. *Council member Rodney Hallmark made the motion, seconded by Council*



*member Danny Traw, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to approve the contract with Wiles Animal Rescue Shelter in the amount of \$1,500.00. A roll call vote was taken. The following voice votes were recorded: Nix-Yea, Traw-Yea, Wolverton-Yea, Goodwin-Yea, Hallmark-Yea, and Himschoot-Yea. The motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nay.*

#### **NEW SC REGIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSIONER (H)**

Mayor Fowler told the council the Sharp County Regional Airport Authority (SCRAA) needed commissioners. The four cities and the county have 2 members each that serve as commissioners. Mayor Fowler stated Cleatus Wiles had resigned, and Fire Chief Horton had agreed to fill the vacancy for Ash Flat.

#### **PAY BILLS**

Mayor Fowler called for a motion to pay bills. *Council member Rodney Hallmark made the motion, seconded by Council member Annette Wolverton, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to approve paying the bills.* A roll call vote was taken. The following voice votes were recorded: *Traw-Yea, Wolverton-Yea, Nix-Yea, Goodwin-Yea, Hallmark-Yea, and Himschoot-Yea.* The motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nays.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Following further discussion, *Council member Danny Traw made the motion, seconded by Council member Rodney Hallmark, the roll having been called, and by consent of all the members present, to allow Fire Chief Horton to enter into a loan agreement for \$15,000.00 with the Forestry Department for a 3 year pay off utilizing ACT 833 funds, at \$5,000.00 per year. A roll call vote was taken. The following voice votes were recorded: Goodwin-Yea, Hallmark-Yea, Himschoot-Yea, Traw-Yea, Nix-Yea, and Wolverton-Yea.* The motion carried with a roll call vote of 6-Yeas/0-Nay.





**ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

- Council member Goodwin stated he'd observed citizens walking along the streets picking up trash. Police Chief Wiles suggested the community workers could help with that. Wiles stated he'd look into it.
- James Mack Street, the WRMC Facility Administrator, stated there've been 717 patients thru the ER in January. Internal Medicine Residency starting July 1<sup>st</sup>. There were 351 applicants to apply in the first 24 hours the residency program was on the national database. Over 750 medical doctors have applied for 10 openings in Batesville. In July 2018, WRMC will be have 6 openings for family practice.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business to come before the council, ***Council member Rodney Hallmark made motion to adjourn, seconded by Council member Fred Goodwin, and by consent of all members present.*** The meeting adjourned at 8:10 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 regular session at 7:00 p. m., Tuesday, February 21, 2017.

PASSED and APPROVED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017.



LARRY FOWLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:



CHARLOTTE GOODWIN, RECORDER



