



**ACTS OF HINTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**Emergency Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 26, 2009**  
**5:00 p.m. Hinton Technology Center**

**I. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Mathews called the emergency meeting of the Hinton City Council to order at 5:00 p.m. Council President Larry Meador, Councilman Tommy Oxley, Councilman Bob Basham, Councilman Pat Jordan; City Manager Cris Meadows were present.

**II. Police Hiring – action item**

Councilman Meador moved to hire Derek Snavelly as a policeman effective 12:00 midnight tonight. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of all ayes. Councilman Oxley stated he was voting yes but that he was worried about the process. Councilman Meador moved to hire Justin Romanello as a policeman effective 12:00 midnight tomorrow. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of all ayes.

**III. Special Attorney Hiring- Action Item**

Council stated they would discuss this at the end of the meeting as they would like to give the public a chance to talk.

**IV. Arson Discussion- Action Item**

Councilman Meador stated he would like to offer a reward in addition to the \$2,500 already offered by the Fire Marshall. Councilman Oxley stated he thinks \$10,000 would be good incentive and would like to offer that for information relating to the arrest and conviction of the arsonist. Councilman Meador moved to offer the reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of whoever started the fire in the last two weeks. Councilman Oxley Seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of all aye.

Dwight Emrich stated he is concerned for the house on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave that burned as he owns several more in the area. Fred Long said this isn't the first time for a string of arsons and wants the town to be monitored by cameras. Steve Pack said he feels the black community is taking a hit and wants to get the FBI to come and help us out. Swanson Carter stated he contacted the federal government and they are looking into it. Councilman Basham stated he asked Mr. Carter to contact them. Jay Vogel stated black churches have been burned down in other areas and the ATF is being sent in on several cases already. Councilman Meador moved for Mayor Mathews to officially contact the FBI and ATF and ask for their assistance in these cases. Councilman Oxley seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of all ayes. Mayor Mathews stated she was trying to mitigate risk but is worried about the Lincoln School. David Williams thinks cameras are best way to catch them. Robin Crawford appreciates concern and thinks we need an audible alarm system to help make people aware that there is a fire. Tim Cyrus asked if there is any better time to be vigilant. Joe Blankenship stated that we all need to work together to come to a solution to solve this problem. Councilman Meador told Sergeant Brewer to order a set of Night Vision goggles. Councilman Oxley stated on the suggestion of Sergeant Brewer that we make a connection with the anonymous tip line 255-STOP in Raleigh County. Councilman Oxley moved to give Steve Pack permission to reinstitute the audible alarm system and get it working. Councilman Meador seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of all ayes.

Councilman Meador moved to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation involving two items. Councilman Jordan seconded the motion and the motion passed on a vote of all ayes.

Council returned from executive session and adjourned by unanimous consent.

**X. Date of the next meeting is set for June 23, 2009**

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Mayor

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City Manager/Cris Meadows