**An ordinance of the City of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ creating the city’s Youth Council.**

**ARTICLE \_\_\_ BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**CITY YOUTH COUNCIL**

**Sec. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Creation.**

There is created a board to be known as the City Youth Council which shall consist of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ members from each high school in the City. The members will be City residents who are actively enrolled in a public or private high school in grades 9 through 12. The members shall be appointed by the City Council and each member appointed shall serve a term of two years, unless grade 12 is completed during the term, at which time the position shall be declared vacant. Of the initial members appointed to the first board, \_\_\_\_ shall serve for a term of two years and \_\_\_\_\_ shall serve for a term of one year. Unlike other boards, the term of the members of the City Youth Council will expire and be appointed in the month of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ each year. The commissioners will attend board meetings and, along with City staff, coordinate activities.

**Sec. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Elections of officers.**

The City Youth Council shall elect a chairperson to conduct meetings and a vice-chairperson to conduct meetings in the absence of the chairman. The City Youth Council will also elect a secretary to take minutes and a treasurer to report on finances. Elections shall be held at the first regular meeting after annual appointments are made by the City Commission.

**Sec. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Vacancies.**

Irregular vacancies on the City Youth Council shall be filled as they occur and regular vacancies shall be filled by appointment in the month of \_\_\_\_\_\_ each year.

**Sec. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Meetings; records.**

The City Youth Council shall hold at least one regular meeting per month during the school year, with the option to meet more often as needed or desired. Public records of such meetings shall be kept by the office of the City Clerk. All meetings shall be public under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

**Sec. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Absences from meetings.**

Absences from three consecutive regular meetings of the City Youth Council shall cause a member to be automatically removed from their seat, unless such absence is excused by a majority vote of the Council, with such excuse duly entered upon its minutes.

**Sec.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Duties and responsibilities.**

The City Youth Council shall have the duty and responsibilities to:

1. Evaluate and review problems facing youth in the City.
2. Facilitate neighborhood meetings with youth to discuss problems, needs, and suggested improvements for our community.
3. Meet regularly with the Mayor and City Council to share ideas and discuss issues, concerns and needed improvements.
4. Attend City Council meetings and participate in vision and goal sessions.
5. Present recommended improvements to the City Council and Mayor of public projects and programs.
6. Assist in planning youth/recreation activities.
7. Evaluate and advise the City Council and Mayor on issues forwarded to the City Youth Council for advice.