

## TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 2019

6:00 PM at Ashland City Municipal Building  
101 Court Street, Ashland City, Tennessee

**CALL TO ORDER** at 6:02 p.m. by Mayor Steve Allen

### ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Steve Allen, Vice Mayor Daniel Anderson, Tim Adkins, Alwilda Binkley, Lisa Walker and Chris Kerrigan.

Absent: Roger Jackson.

### CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Adkins, seconded by Walker to approve the November 20, 2018 minutes as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

### OLD BUSINESS

**A. City Hall Discussion.** Mayor Allen stated the council agreed not to pursue the Tucker Empson building. Ms. Binkley asked which properties have been recommended. Mr. Josh Wright with the architect company stated we have looked at the old farmer's market property, Lee Braxton property and Caldwell park property. He suggested the old farmer's market property would be best suited for accessibility for city hall and the fire station. Also, suggested purchasing one or two parcels to ensure enough space, unless the board decides to build a second floor. Furthermore, it was brought to my attention there might be underground fuel tanks under the old farmer market property. If the board decided to pursue this property, he would need to contact the State of Tennessee to ensure there are not tanks at this location. Ms. Walker stated wouldn't we want to know if there is fuel tanks underground since it the city's property anyway. Mr. Wright stated he will call in the morning. Ms. Binkley questioned about the additional parcels the city would need to purchase. Mr. Wright replied the parcels on Vine Street. Ms. Binkley stated the brick house on the corner is for sell on Washington Street. Ms. Sandy Cannon stated the asking price for that property is \$200,000. Mayor Allen stated I think we can work with property the city already owns. Ms. Walker stated the owner of the property across the street, the former Murff property, is willing to sell. Mayor Allen asked if the board would like Mr. Wright to look at the Murff property. After some discussion the board agreed they would like Mr. Wright to look at this property.

### NEW BUSINESS

**A. Triathlon Proposal.** Ms. Cannon stated the triathlon has been in Ashland City for 6 years and Mr. Joe Fleenor has been running the triathlon for the last 3 years. She further stated she thinks it should be a city event. Mr. Fleenor stated Riverbluff triathlon attendance has increased every year since he took it over: the first year 230, second year 340 and third year 470. He stated he believes this triathlon can get up to 700-800 in attendance which would benefit the city's local businesses and the city sales tax. Mr. Fleenor requested to make this a community event and to eliminate (\$3500.00) cost of police and permits. He also stated, USA triathlon has reached out to Above the Fold for informing them that they would like Riverbluff triathlon to start bidding on future Regional/National champion races. Mayor Allen questioned if he is requesting the city to advertise. Mr. Fleenor replied he is requesting to promote with in the community and all other marketing his company will handle. Mayor Allen stated Ms. Cannon said this will be Town of Ashland City event. Mr. Fleenor replied it would be a partnership. Mayor Allen questioned what would be the city loss revenue. Mr. Fleenor replied \$3,500.00 that would then go directly into the events marketing. Mr. Kerrigan questioned where are the people lodging for this event. Mr. Fleenor stated most people stay in Nashville due lack of rooms but with the Hampton Inn coming

in 2020 more people would stay in Ashland City. Mr. Kerrigan stated I want more impact for our city business. Mayor Allen stated it will be added to the agenda for council on February 12, 2019 and the council will be able to make a decision and vote then.

**B. Farmer Market Discussion.** Ms. Cannon requested council approval for where the farmers market will be held this year. She stated last year it was on the Court House Square instead of the Farmer's Market Pavilion. Furthermore, the farmers/vendors preferred the square because their sells increased. Ms. Cannon stated she contacted USDA to confirm that the market would still met regulation if it was held on the square. In addition, the USDA responded as long as the city holds one event per year at the pavilion the city will meet regulation of the grant. Ms. Binkley questioned if other events are held at the Farmer's Market Pavilion. Ms. Cannon replied reunions, senior center events, and it is used all the time for other things. Ms. Walker stated Blockers Farm informed her they did better at the square: however, she personally likes it at the park. Mr. Kerrigan questioned how would we be able to get more farmers. Ms. Cannon replied if the farmers are not making a profit they do not want to come. Mr. Adkins stated I would like to keep farmer market consistently in one place. Ms. Walker stated Springfield has a pop-up event which she would like to see events like that at the farmer's market pavilion. Ms. Cannon stated they are working on a charitable dinner event in the spring for the farmer's market. Ms. Walker stated she would like to see the Farmer's Market Pavilion pressure washed and cleaned.

**C. Summerfest Discussion/ Fourth of July Discussion.** Mr. Scott Sampson stated the Summerfest dates are June 4<sup>th</sup> - June 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the cost of the wristband will be \$15. Furthermore, with the wristband being reduced in price that will be less revenue for the city. Mr. Sampson stated he was going to put the Summerfest event on the website, but he needs to know which direction the council is going with fireworks. Ms. Walker stated she wants to leave the fireworks this year and if we decide to change them for a the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event then plan for it next year. Mr. Adkins stated Pegram has had a 4<sup>th</sup> of July event for the last 40 years and he would not want to step on their toes. Ms. Binkley stated she wants to keep the fireworks at Summerfest. Mr. Adkins stated I think it would affect the attendance if we get rid of the fireworks. Mayor Allen stated we will keep the fireworks at Summerfest this year. Ms. Walker stated if we decided to change the fireworks next year we will have time to plan.

**D. Sewer Plant.** Mr. Clint Biggers stated the county owns 11 acres that cost around \$75,000, which I would like the city to purchase for the sewer plant to be built. Furthermore, would need archeologist study done before purchasing. Mayor Allen stated we would need a little more information. Mr. Biggers stated someone at the county is going to discuss it at Monday night commissioner meeting.

#### **MAYOR'S UPDATE**

None.

#### **OTHER**

Ms. Walker questioned Preacher Poole Walking Track and if there are any signs for cleaning up after dogs and no bike/motorized vehicle signs. Ms. Sampson stated we can get some signs and get a cleanup station for the dogs.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Ms. Binkley, seconded by Ms. Walker to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

  
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Mayor Steve Allen