

**TOWN OF ASHLAND WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 5, 2017**  
**6:00 PM at Ashland City Municipal Building**  
**101 Court Street, Ashland City, Tennessee**

**CALL TO ORDER** at 6:07 PM by Mayor Johnson.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Richard Johnson, Ms. Alwilda Binkley, Ms. Lisa Walker, Mr. Jimmy Gill, Mr. Gary Norwood, and Mr. Roger Jackson.

Absent: Vice Mayor Steve Allen

**REPORTS**

- A. Fire, Codes and Life Safety Department.** Chief Walker reported the recruit class has a water rescue training tomorrow night. He further stated codes are staying busy. Moreover, Monday night the regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting was held and the commission approved 2 developments and storage facility buildings.
- B. Police Department.** Chief Coulon stated he has an item on the agenda; however, he wanted the council to be aware of the new firearms laws that went into effect on July 1, 2017. Ms. Noe stated the new law states anyone who has a gun carry permit can bring a gun on government property; however, they cannot bring carry on government property which has a courtroom or a police department. Additionally, the Municipal Building and Police Department will be excluded; however, the Senior Center, Public Works and Park areas guns are permitted. Ms. Noe stated funds will need to be spent in order to purchase signage.
- C. Parks Department.** Mr. Young reported the state baseball and softball tournaments brought in hundreds of people. Also, a post on Facebook gave some incorrect information regarding the fireworks at Riverbluff Park; therefore, Mr. Young responded to several individuals expecting to see fireworks and directed them to other locations. Councilman Norwood asked when the tennis courts will get resurfaced. Mr. Young responded he has called, but they have not scheduled a date because they are backed up.
- D. Senior Center.** Ms. Womack reported the Senior Center held their annual picnic where they served over 400 seniors. Councilwoman Walker asked about an accident occurring at the picnic. Ms. Womack responded the accident was due to tripping over the concrete pillars despite their efforts to place picnic tables over them as much as possible. After some discussion, Mayor recommended roping them off during these events. Ms. Womack informed the council of event titled "Dark in the Park" for the upcoming eclipse. She stated the event committee will be giving away glasses for viewing the eclipse and moon pies.
- E. Mayor's Office.** Ms. Cannon reminded the council Monday, July 10 A.O. Smith will hold a public meeting with the county commissioners and have invited the council to attend. In addition, any questions can be emailed and she would ensure A.O. Smith receives the questions and addresses them during the meeting. She reported the city has received the notice to proceed for the Trail Connector Grant. She further stated open enrollment was successful.
- F. Recorder's Office.** Ms. Reed reported Yeary, Howell and Associates will be in the office at the end of the month to work on the annual audit.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Proclamation Chris LaCrosse.** Ms. Reed presented the council with the draft for the proclamation and further stated she changed the wording to reflect the Chris LaCrosse Pavilion instead of Farmer's Market after the department heads discussed the title. Ms. Walker stated Ward 3 needed to be corrected to reflect Ward 1. Mr. Young stated he is ordering a plaque from Southern Trophy in Nashville for the pavilion.
- B. Ordinance #473: Amend Title 13 Chapter 4-regulating abandoned, wrecked, dismantled or inoperative vehicles.** Chief Walker stated this will be for second reading and deals with boats in yards.
- C. Resolution 2017-12 Authorization to sign a proposal with TDOT.** Ms. Cannon stated the proposal from TDOT is a standard proposal for which they will raise 1,500 square feet of the road for the A.O. Smith berm project.
- D. Public Works/Public Utilities Director Position Discussion.** Mayor stated he added these job descriptions because it is difficult finding someone qualified in both areas of this position and felt it may be easier if the position is separated. He further stated this may be something that needs to be further discussed at budget. After some discussion council members agreed to further discuss this at the next

budget meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Surplus Furniture.** Ms. Reed stated she discussed this with a few of the department heads and everyone felt it would be a better idea to add this to the agenda next month as things are still being moved around with the construction. Council agreed to discuss at next month's meeting.
- B. **Cleaning Contract.** Mayor stated we are not pleased with the current cleaning contract with SMS. In addition, with John having left the Senior Center if we take the money allocated for that position, what we are currently spending for cleaning at city hall, and the money used at Public Works we may be able to hire the lady who is working there full time. Mr. Norwood recommending bring this to the budget meeting for discussion. Ms. Reed mentioned the current cleaning contract can be termed with 60 days' notice if council agrees. Mayor stated he would like to go ahead and terminate the contract if possible. Ms. Noe stated this would need to be on the agenda for next week for the council to vote.
- C. **GNRC Contract.** Chief Walker stated this went up a few hundred dollars and it is based on population; however, Mr. Gregory our current city planner is worth every penny.
- D. **SSR Engineering Contract Renewal for Water/Wastewater.** Ms. Reed stated Chris Cherry used SSR for the past two years and this is to update their rates. In addition, they are currently helping with the SRF loan project. Mr. Norwood asked if we only use SSR. Mayor stated for water and sewer we do; however, we have another company we are wanting to work with for pass through projects.
- E. **CSR Engineering Agreement for Codes.** Chief Walker stated this company is local would be used to do the reviews and will be pass through projects. He further stated this is to help lower the cost to the developers and give them an accurate cost for the projects up front.
- F. **Resolution 2017-16: Wal-Mart Community Grant.** Chief Coulon explained he is asking for approval of this grant of which \$2,500 is designated to the shop with a cop program.
- G. **Resolution 2017-17: ECD Grant.** Ms. Cannon stated this is the grant contract for the ECD grant of 1.2 million. She further stated the accountability agreement has already been signed and several things are listed in the outline to promote growth. Ms. Noe stated she has reviewed contract and the city is used as the pass through and the responsibility falls on A.O. Smith. Mr. Norwood asked about any repercussions. Ms. Noe stated the provision is A.O. Smith would be required to pay the money back and the city will not be responsible.
- H. **Resolution 2017-18: GNRC Senior Center Grant.** Ms. Womack stated this is the annual agreement with GNRC. Mr. Norwood asked if Ms. Noe had reviewed the contract and she stated she has and everything looks fine.
- I. **Ordinance #474: Updating Title 16 Code.** Chief Walker stated this probably needs to be reviewed and can be further discussed next week. Mr. Gill stated he will never be for the citizen paying for the culverts. Mayor stated this needs to be looked over for new developments.
- J. **Ordinance #475: Updating Title 10 Code.** Chief Walker stated this gives better rules and regulations for chickens to not be able to freely roam about town

## OTHER BUSINESS

- A. **Nick Simpson & Ronnie Waller-concerns with the A.O. Smith berm.** Mr. Waller and Mr. Simpson addressed the council with concerns for their properties and the berm. They both stated they will be at the meeting next week and wanted the council to be aware of their concerns with drainage problems on Elizabeth Street.
- B. **Ronnie Barnes-water problems.** Mr. Barnes addressed the council with a problem with his water. Mr. Nicholson stated Mr. Barnes has a filtration system in his home that could be causing this issue as these filtration systems change the water that is made at the plant. He further stated he did however take a sample of the water and the phosphorous was a little high. Mr. Nicholson further explained how the filtration can affect the water. Mayor stated Ms. Binkley lives across the street and she doesn't have these issues, but it may be a good idea for Mr. Barnes to flush the line.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Norwood, seconded by Gill to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

  
RICHARD JOHNSON, MAYOR

  
KELLIE REED, CITY RECORDER