

TOWN OF ASHLAND WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2017

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

CALL TO ORDER at 6:33 PM by Mayor Johnson.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Richard Johnson, Vice Mayor Steve Allen, Ms. Lisa Walker, Mr. Jimmy Gill, and Mr. Roger Jackson.

Absent: Ms. Alwilda Binkley and Mr. Gary Norwood.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion made by Mr. Gill, seconded by Mrs. Walker, to approve the September minutes as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Ordinance 474: Amending Title 16.** Chief Walker presenting some photos of examples of driveways with steep slopes and gravel washing out onto the road versus a driveway on Annette Drive which has a 15-foot apron to help keep the washout. Chief Walker stated they can take out section 16-501.03. Mr. Jackson stated if that section is taken out he would be in agreement of the ordinance. Chief Walker further stated this will only affect new construction in the city and the houses that are already built will not be required to pour a hard surface.
- B. **Ordinance 476: Budget Amendment.** Ms. Reed stated this is the budget amendment for 2nd reading on the salary changes, Wal-Mart grant, Downtowns grant, Clean Energy grant, Capital Outlay addition for Police Department, and Triathlon Expenses.
- C. **Ordinance 479, 480, 481, 482, and 483: Amending Ord 437, 454, 456, 466, and 471:** Ms. Noe explained this is the 2nd reading for these ordinances and they are all to correct typographical errors on previously passed ordinances.
- D. **Ordinance 484: Amending Title 18 Chapter 7:** Ms. Reed stated this will be for 2nd reading on the amendments to the fats, oils and grease section of the code.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Sierra Knaus- Request to Update Title 15 Chapter 6- Parking.** Ms. Knaus stepped forward and stated she has issues with the street on Nimitz Circle where 6 vehicles park in the road. Further, Mr. Nicholson had been to her house on an unrelated issue and stated there was a safety issue with the parking for emergency vehicles to be able to get through and turn around. Mr. Gill asked if she called the police. Ms. Knaus responded stating she has but nothing has been done to help the issue. Mr. Allen stated he had been up the road twice and there were 4 cars, 3 trucks and a wrecker. Ms. Noe advised the code states they cannot park on the streets between one and five a.m. Ms. Knaus stated she felt the code was vaguely written. Chief Coulon stated he felt the parking issues needed to be revised. He further stated the police department is happy to enforce the parking code but there are several problem areas throughout the city.
- B. **Cole Calligan- Request to resubmit Ordinance 478: Rezone Hwy 12 at Graham Road.** Mr. Jake Brooks stepped forward and stated he is helping to represent Mr. Calligan. Further, he requested this be compatible with the surrounding parcels and would respectfully request this to be rezoned from R-1 to I-2. Mayor stated this Ordinance had failed last month for a lack of a motion and further asked if the plan is to make this a storage container storage site. Mr. Brooks stated the container is there now simply for clean-up purposes. Mr. Jackson asked what would be built there if rezoned. Mr. Brooks stated Mr. Calligan is in the audience and would be better suited to respond to that question. Mr. Calligan stated it would depend on the potential buyer but he has spoken to a couple and one of the ideas is an Exxon or strip mall. Mayor stated he felt the neighbors who had so much opposition would find rezoning to commercial more attractive. In addition, if it is for a convenience store it would need to be commercial. Mr. Allen stated the neighborhood would gladly welcome a store; however, were opposed to storing shipping containers.
- C. **Christmas Parade Theme.** Ms. Reed stated this is on the agenda so the council is aware there will be a presentation of a basket to the parade theme winner at next week's council meeting.
- D. **Republic Services Contract.** Ms. Reed stated this contract was forwarded to her from Mr. Billy Harris and is for the disposal of sludge. In addition, she stated Mr. Harris informed her the cost of the sludge removal will be less as we are utilizing their services at a higher rate currently.

- E. **Annual Library Maintenance of Effort Agreement.** Ms. Reed stated this is the annual agreement with the library. Mr. Jackson stated it is the same amount as last year of \$12,500.
- F. **Resolution 2017-24: Requesting Exemption for Privilege Hotel Occupancy Tax.** Ms. Reed stated this is to request the general assembly to allow a tax levy of 5% of which all money received will be earmarked for tourism.
- G. **Resolution 2017-25: Authorizing Mayor to THSO Grant Contract.** Ms. Reed stated this resolution is to approve a grant contract with no match in the amount of \$4,800 for the Police Department.
- H. **Resolution 2017-26.** Chief Coulon stated Joseph Cantrell asked to keep his gun after his recent retirement. Ms. Reed stated several municipalities allow this, but have guidelines and this resolution would allow for Mr. Cantrell to have the gun as an honorarium.
- I. **Resolution 2017-27- Updating Vacation Policy.** Ms. Noe stated vacation benefits are given January 1; however, we currently take back any unearned leave and this creates a problem with FSLA standards. She further suggested changing the policy.
- J. **Resolution 2017-28: Authorizing Mayor to Sign a Proposal with Tennessee Department of Transportation for State Project Number 11005-4229-04.** Ms. Reed stated this is for the proposal to replace the bridge at McDonalds. Mr. Jackson asked what the state would like us to do. Mayor stated they just want the city's approval.
- K. **Resolution 2017-29: Updating Incentive Pay.** Ms. Reed explained this is to keep some of the incentive compensation as certain certifications are not necessarily permanent; SWAT for example.
- L. **Resolution 2017-30: Authorizing Mayor to sign THSO Agreement.** Ms. Reed stated this is a resolution to approve a grant contract with no match in the amount of \$9,000 for the Fire Department.
- M. **Ordinance 485: Budget Amendment.** Ms. Reed stated this is the budget amendment for additional police personnel, the TAMCAR scholarship, A.O. Smith donation, and the traffic light.
- N. **Ordinance 476: Rezone 100 & 102 Duke Street from C-1 to R-3.** Chief Walker stated the developer wants to put in a small house on the lot. He further stated originally they wanted to tear it out and develop the property, but were unable to do so.
- O. **A.O. Smith Traffic Light Contract.** Ms. Noe stated Chief Walker has been working with A.O. Smith in conjunction with the berm project. She further stated this would be paid as a pass through for the traffic light at the end of Tennessee Waltz Parkway from Highway 12. Ms. Walker asked if A.O. Smith has held a meeting for the public. Mr. Gary Binkley responded A.O. Smith is waiting for the approval from the Corp of Engineers.
- P. **Resolution 2017-31: Longevity Policy.** Ms. Reed stated with the salary study the recommended rate for full time employees is \$75 per year of service and part-time employees to receive half of that amount. She further stated she figured the budget amendment based on this figure, but currently the policy states it is a tiered amount being \$100 per year for 3-8 years of service, \$125 for 9-14 years of service, \$150 for 15-20 years of service, and \$175 for 21 and up. Mr. Jackson stated he would like to see it be \$100 per year of service for full-time and \$50 per year of service for part-time employees. Ms. Reed stated she can prepare the paperwork and have that ready for next week's meeting. Ms. Noe asked if the money is in the budget. Ms. Reed stated she will add it to the budget amendment and council is aware the budget is already going into fund balance.
- Q. **Purchasing Property for TDOT Highway 49 Project and Possible City Hall Site.** Mayor presented a copy of the old Renaissance Ashland City Plan and showed city hall as being behind Dan Cook's office. Ms. Reed stated when looking at TDOT's figures if you take two of the properties out that makes the figure somewhere between \$850,000 to \$1,100,000. Mr. Gill asked if we have spoken to the property owners regarding this project. Mayor stated that is what he is asking council's permission to do and after much discussion stated if council would think on this and make a decision next week on how to proceed.
- R. **Sprinkler Regulations Discussion.** Chief Walker explained this is to add townhomes out of the sprinkler code and he went over the law explaining it has to be passed by 2/3 vote and must be at two special called meetings within two weeks of each other. After some discussion council decided to set the meetings prior to the workshop and council meetings in November.

OTHER BUSINESS

- A. **Dog Park.** Ms. Walker asked when the boy scouts are holding the meeting regarding the dog park. Mr. Young responded it is set for 10-16-17 and they are scheduled to bring something to workshop next month.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Gill, seconded by Walker to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.


RICHARD JOHNSON, MAYOR


KELLIE REED, CITY RECORDER