



TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2019

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

CALL TO ORDER at 6:02 PM by Mayor Allen.

ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT

None

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

A motion made by Mr. Roger Jackson, seconded by Ms. Lisa Walker to approve the June agenda as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A motion made by Mr. Tim Adkins, seconded by Vice Mayor Daniel Anderson to approve the May minutes as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS

A. Department Heads.

- a. **Fire, Codes and Life Safety Department.** Chief Walker stated fire participated in a drill with the hospital today. He informed this was good practice as they ran into some problems and plan to participate again tomorrow. He stated fire has several new part-time applications and a booth at Summerfest this week. He stated on codes side of things, Hampton Inn has been approved, and Ashland Farm Apartments will submit a drawing for a strip mall, some commercial, and move forward with plans. He stated there will be a final on Popeye's tomorrow and Taco Bell has started.
- b. **Police Department.** Chief Ray stated while participating in the highway safety campaign they made three DUI arrest and issued several tickets. He informed of a new hire, Alexis Duncan, former fire fighter from Pleasant View who has a criminal justice degree. Vice-Mayor Anderson questioned the remaining number of open positions. Chief Ray responded there are two open positions.
- c. **Court Department.** Ms. Anita Justice stated everything is business as usual.
- d. **Senior.** Ms. Melissa Womack stated they had a good trip and center is very busy with every square inch used up today. Ms. Binkley questioned if we charge a fee to members who live outside of the county. Ms. Womack stated under GNRC we can only charge for certain things. She also informed charging would cause the issue of how to divide the charges, when to charge and who would be responsible for the record keeping. Ms. Walker questioned if we had went back to the county for money to support the Senior Center. Ms. Womack stated county chose not to give money because they would have to give money to other cities. She also stated the center had 807 active members in the last month, compared to 45 active members same month in 2005. She stated the center has 1463 members with an average of eight new members per week for the last 3 months. She stated it would be great if we could build a second floor above the current center to have one big room with lockers, a bathroom and a few classes. Mr. Jackson suggested a grant for a new building, or if police received the grant for a tornado shelter building, it could be a senior center also. Ms. Womack stated building grants are not offered for a senior center.
- e. **Water and Streets Department.** Mr. Clint Biggers stated crews have been mowing a lot, paving is complete and they are almost caught up on taps.
- f. **Recorder.** Ms. Kellie Reed stated working with auditors on a preliminary list for this fiscal year's audit.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Dan Reigle suggested we post a sign for the Cheatham County High School girls who won the state championship this year. They have been the only ones to do it and he is willing to pay for it if he needs too. He suggested a sign on Highway 49 and 12 in both directions. Mr. Tim Adkins stated the county is supposed to be working on that. Mayor Allen asked Mr. Adkins to check with the county and if they are not doing it then the city

will. Vice-Mayor Anderson stated Dixie Youth sign is up. Mr. Reigle stated he would like to see the city do a sign for Caleb Plant also. Mayor stated the city will check with the county and see what can be done.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution: Pay Table Adjustment.** Mayor Allen stated one salary went outside of the table when adding a 3% pay increase for the new fiscal year; the table changed to incorporate that salary increase. Ms. Reed stated the only change was to the highest salary column and each pay grade figure was increased by 3%.
- B. **Ordinance: Water Rate Increase.** Mayor Allen stated this is the annual 3% increase. Ms. Binkley questioned if there is a time limit to this yearly increase. Ms. Reed stated they have been advised by TDEC and two engineering firms a 3% increase every year is good to keep rates current.
- C. **Ordinance: Budget and Tax Rate 2019-2020 Fiscal Year –** Mayor Allen stated this will be for second and final reading. Mr. Jackson questioned the amount remaining in the bank. Ms. Reed displayed the budget and explained the figures.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Voting Schedule Discussion.** Mayor stated the election will be December 7th from 10 am to 6 pm, early voting November 18th through December 6th with no voting on November 28th or November 29th.
- B. **TDOT Title VI No Change Agreement.** Ms. Reed stated this is from Ms. Sandy Cannon; it is a TDOT requirement we sent to Ms. Noe to review. Chief Walker stated we must comply before TDOT would fund anything.
- C. **BCBS Health Plan Agreement.** Mayor stated positive feedback from employees, no complaints and they have realized the cost savings. Mr. Jackson questioned if the employees were able to ask questions during the meeting. Ms. Reed stated employees would have the opportunity to sit one on one with a benefits person tomorrow.
- D. **TDEC Land Use Restrictions Agreement.** Chief Walker requested this be deferred to next month.
- E. **Resolution: Write-Off Delinquent Water Accounts.** Mayor stated this will be one reading approval and is for water write-offs in the amount of \$18,182.22. Ms. Reed stated front office staff works hard to decrease the amount to write off; this amount included three leaks that were brought before council and were denied for adjustment. Mr. Jackson questioned if we use a collection company, and if we could double the connection fee and give back after a year or two. Ms. Reed stated landlords get upset when they have to pay a \$50 fee each time, but we can make changes to the code. Mr. Anderson questioned if we could do that. Ms. Reed stated she could do a comparison to other cities.
- F. **Resolution: STBG Block Grant Program and Associated Agreements.** Ms. Reed stated the resolution has not been prepared but agreements are in the packet, certificate of compliance and purchase agreement for census money to pave roads.

SURPLUS PROPERTY NOMINATIONS

None.

EXPENDITURE REQUESTS:

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion made by Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Anderson to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.


MAYOR STEVE ALLEN


KELLIE REED, CITY RECORDER