

**TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**November 14, 2017**

**6:00 PM at Ashland City Municipal Building**

**101 Court Street, Ashland City, Tennessee**

**CALL TO ORDER** at 6:01 PM by Mayor Johnson.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Richard Johnson, Vice-Mayor Steve Allen, Gary Norwood, Lisa Walker, Alwilda Binkley Jimmy Gill, and Roger Jackson.

Absent: None.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER** – Led by Paul Gupton

**CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**

Mayor Johnson stated the Fire Department has requested to add to the agenda to bid for the training facility. A motion was made by Norwood, seconded by Gill to approve the agenda.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Norwood to approve the October meeting minutes as typed. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Mayor presented a certificate of appreciation to Gary Norwood for his years of service to the Town of Ashland City.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

- A. Matt Byrd- Vantage Pointe Apartment Resident.** Mr. Byrd stepped forward and stated he had emailed photos to council, although some did not send correctly. He also stated some council members have different email addresses and he would like to see uniform email addresses for council members. He voiced concerns about the developers not completing the scope of projects and asked if there is anything that can be done to make developers finish projects. He also stated he felt check cashing companies should be limited as these company's target and prey off of low income individuals. He also questioned the property across from Vantage Pointe apartments and if any hydraulic studies have been done on this property as he is concerned the Marrowbone may back up and flood the area. Mayor recommended Mr. Byrd discuss these issues with Chief Walker and the Codes Department as they may be able to better answer some of those questions. Mr. Gill stated he felt it is unconstitutional to limit any business'.
- B. Stacy Stuart Water Adjustment.** Ms. Stuart came forward and stated she had a leaky toilet in her elderly mother's restroom which caused a high water bill and has been fixed. She also stated she would like to see the check cashing companies to be limited as well. Mayor stated Ms. Stuart's water bill was \$166.14. In addition, her normal bill averages \$77.07. A motion was made by Norwood, seconded by Gill to adjust Ms. Stuart's bills down to an average. Vote on motion: Norwood-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- C. Mary Webber- Ashland City resident, voicing concerns.** Ms. Weber stepped forward and stated she had some concerns and wanted to voice them with the council. She stated she felt the project to straighten Highway 49 would encourage semi-truck traffic and would not be helpful in our goals for development and destination tourism. Ms. Weber also voiced concerns of passing the floodplain ordinance and felt it would encourage more industries to move to Ashland City. Ms. Weber thanked the council for listening to her concerns and taking them into consideration.
- D. Jacqueline Owens Water Adjustment.** Joe Castaneda stepped forward and stated he was there to request a water adjustment for the Jacqueline Owens, who is out of town, and is requesting an adjustment due to a toilet leak. Mayor asked if the leak has been repaired. Mr. Castaneda responded yes. Mayor stated this leak effected two water bills; the first being \$119.60 and the

second being \$151.60. Mr. Jackson informed Mr. Castaneda customers are only allowed one leak adjustment per year. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Ms. Walker to adjust Ms. Owens bills down to an average. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, Norwood-yes, Binkley-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

- E. **Lindsey Legg Water Adjustment.** Ms. Legg came forward and stated in August the meter readers informed her of her meter spinning fast, which indicates a leak. She further stated the maintenance man came and did the repair then shortly after she discovered another leak in her apartment that has been repaired. Mayor stated these leaks effected two bills, one being \$198.34 and the second being \$181.33. Further Ms. Legg's bill normally averages \$72.77. A motion was made by Norwood, seconded by Allen to adjust her bills to an average. Vote on motion: Norwood-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- F. **Dorothy Cobb Water Adjustment and Driveway Repair.** Ms. Erica Dillehay came forward and stated her mother-in-law lives in the residence and had a leak in the wall that has been repaired. Mayor stated Ms. Cobbs' bills were \$174.26 and \$646.06 but normally averages \$40.56. A motion was made by Norwood, seconded by Gill to adjust Ms. Cobb's bills to an average. Vote on motion: Norwood-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes. Ms. Dillehay stated thanked the council and stated they live on Marrowbone Road and the driveway at the residence has washed away and wondered if there is anything the city can do to help repair it. Mayor stated this residence is not in the city limits and they could contact the County Highway Department to see if they could assist with the repairs.
- G. **Allen Holloway- business owner, voicing concerns.** Mr. Holloway stated he is a business owner in town and was concerned about some of the developments in Ashland City and the watershed. He also voiced concerns regarding sidewalks, drainage, and parks. He stated this is a lot of growth and development and wanted to make sure someone was planning for these items.

#### REPORTS

- A. **City Attorney.** Ms. Noe requested an attorney/client privilege meeting. Council stepped out for the meeting at 6:39 pm and reconvened at 6:46 pm.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Eagle Scouts Dog Park Discussion.** No one was present to represent the Eagle Scouts therefore this item was deferred.
- B. **Ordinance 474: Amending Title 16.** AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE TO AMEND TITLE 16 CHAPTER 5 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE REGULATING DRIVEWAY REGULATIONS. Mr. Norwood stated this is a step in the right direction to upgrade the codes for new construction. A motion was made by Norwood, seconded by Walker to approve Ordinance 474. Vote on motion: Norwood-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-no, Jackson-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-no, and Mayor-yes. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**
- C. **Ordinance 485: Budget Amendment (additional police personnel, TAMCAR scholarship, A.O. Smith donation, and traffic light).** AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE 17/18 FISCAL YEAR. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Norwood to approve Ordinance 485. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Norwood-yes, Binkley-yes, Jackson-no, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**
- D. **Ordinance 486: Rezone 100 Duke Street and 102 Duke Street from C-1 to R-3.** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE, BY REZONING PARCEL 2.01 AND 2.02 OF CHEATHAM COUNTY TAX MAP 55F, GROUP C, LOCATED AT 100 DUKE STREET AND 102 DUKE STREET TO THE ZONING DISTRICT R-3. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Norwood to approve Ordinance 486. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Norwood-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Jackson-no, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

#### NEW BUSINESS

- A. **A.O. Smith Traffic Light Contract.** Chief Walker stated this is not ready at this time and asked to defer this item.

- B. Drug Free Workplace Application.** Mr. Allen asked if this is a renewal contract. Ms. Noe responded yes and she has reviewed it and it looks fine. Mr. Norwood asked if there is a policy in place for employees who have a problem. Ms. Noe stated yes there is a policy in effect.
- C. Resolution: TAEP Grant.** Ms. Sandy Cannon stated this is a 100% grant in the amount of \$1,000 and is being used to purchase a tent, t-shirts, a training course out of town, and advertising. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Walker to approve the Resolution for the TAEP Grant. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Walker-yes, Jackson-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Norwood-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- D. Resolution: Vacation Policy Update.** A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Jackson to approve the Resolution for the Vacation Policy Update. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Norwood-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- E. GNRC Census Contract.** Ms. Cannon stated GNRC is our regional representative and if we use a company out of our region there is more of a cost and the companies she spoke with are approximately four to five thousand more. Mr. Norwood stated he appreciated the information and felt it was better to do the due diligence and ensure the city is getting the best deal. A motion was made by Norwood, seconded by Allen to approve the GNRC Census Contract. Vote on motion: Norwood-yes, Allen-yes, Jackson-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- F. Joint Funding Agreement- U.S. Geological Survey.** Chief Walker stated this is an annual agreement which will send emails and alerts to users about the height of the river. In addition, it also helps with forecasting. A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Norwood to approve the Joint-Funding- U.S. Geological Survey Agreement. Vote on motion: Jackson-yes, Norwood-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- G. Title 15 Chapter 6- Parking Discussion.** Chief Coulon discussed the importance of no parking signs for enforcement and further mentioned the parking fine being low. A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Allen to raise parking fines to twenty-five dollars. Vote on motion: Jackson-yes, Allen-yes, Norwood-yes, Walker-yes, Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- H. Certificate of Compliance Mulberry Liquors.** Ms. Reed stated this is to approve Mulberry Liquors Certificate of Compliance, which is required to recertify every two years. She further stated the background check was completed by Chief Coulon and everything checked out fine. A motion was made by Norwood, seconded by Gill to approve the Certificate of Compliance for Mulberry Liquors. Vote on motion: Norwood-yes, Gill-yes, Jackson-yes, Walker-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- I. Ordinance 477: Municipal Floodplain Zoning.** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL ZONING ORDINANCE REGULATING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE, TO MINIMIZE DANGER TO LIFE AND PROPERTY DUE TO FLOODING, AND TO MAINTAIN ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM. Chief Walker stated Amy Miller with TDEC was at the Planning Commission meeting last Monday night and went over the ordinance and gave an educational overview of the difference of a floodway and floodplain and how to accommodate for building in such areas. He further discussed the impact and benefits to the industries for allowing such building and expansion. Mr. Norwood stated he understands one barge keeps approximately two-hundred tractor trailers off the road for materials. Chief Walker further stated with the ordinance provided by Ms. Miller, Ms. Noe believes the adoption is possible. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Norwood to approve Ordinance 477. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Norwood-yes, Jackson-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- J. Ordinance: Establishing Honorarium Policy for Retiring and Disabled Officers.** AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE TO AMEND TITLE 6 CHAPTER 1 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE ADDING HONORARIUM PRESENTATION OF GUN AND BADGE TO RETIRING OR DISABLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY OFFICERS. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Norwood to approve the Ordinance. Vote on motion: Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Walker-yes, Allen-yes, Jackson-yes, Norwood-yes, and Mayor-yes.
- K. Marks Creek Pedestrian Bridge Letter.** Ms. Reed stated Mr. Young had requested this to be on the agenda and had handed out a letter to the Corp of Engineers at the workshop meeting. She further stated she does not have a copy of the letter. After some discussion a motion was

made by Allen seconded by Gill to approve the letter to the Corp of Engineers. Vote on motion: Jackson-yes, Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Norwood-yes, Allen-yes, Walker-yes, and Mayor-yes.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. **Paul Gupton- Police Chaplain.** Mr. Gupton stepped forward and stated he would like to step down as Police Chaplain as he is now eighty-six years old and has trouble walking. He further stated he would stay in the position until the end of the year.
- B. **Highway 49- TDOT Straightening Project.** Mr. Gill questioned what the status is on the straightening project and what the business owners had to say regarding selling their properties. Mayor stated he has heard from all but two of them. Mr. Gill stated we cannot prohibit trucks from coming through the county. Chief Walker stated there were three trucks that have had accidents coming off the hill. Mr. Norwood stated maybe it would help if they lowered the speed limit. Chief Walker stated if the trucks lose their brakes it wouldn't do any good to lower the speed limit.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Norwood to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

  
RICHARD JOHNSON, MAYOR

  
KELLIE REED, CITY RECORDER