

Regular Meeting of the
Board of Mayor and Council
Ashland City, Tennessee
December 13, 2011 7:00 p.m.

The Board of Mayor and Council met in regular session on December 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Present and presiding: Gary Norwood.

Council present: Steve Allen, Alwilda Binkley, Jimmy Gill, Rick Johnson, Jim Yates, and Chris LaCrosse.

Others present: Dora L. Salinas, Marc Coulon, Raebon Denney, Maureen Denney, James Fenton, Michael Wood, Sherrie Lawson, Andi White, Teresa Jordan, Steve Stratton, Lisa Walker, Paul R. Gupton, Billy Harris, Monica Babe, Tammy Gatlin, Darrell White, Cindy Raymond, Melissa Womack, Tim Adkins, Dwayne Noe, Michael Armstrong, Chris Cherry, Brian Biggs, Zach McCarver, Mary Glasgow and Phyllis Schaeffer.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and said before we begin we have a public hearing on a couple of Ordinances. The first one is Ordinance #389 we have established an It policy after the reading the Mayor asked if anyone had any issues or concerns with this policy to please come forward. No one came forward therefore Mayor Norwood went on to Ordinance #390. This is coming up for 2nd reading tonight also and it is on the re-districting of the wards if any one has any issues or concerns this was the time to approach the Council. As no one approached the Council Mayor Norwood closed the public hearing and commenced with the regular meeting.

A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes from November. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Public Forum:

Maureen Denney approached Council and said she had concerns as a senior citizen there is nothing to offer seniors as far as homes and asked if there was anything in the works. Mayor replied Ms. Maureen I am going to request the Planning Commission Chair to answer. Mr. LaCrosse said on the books is an assisted living that they hope will be breaking ground by Vantage Pointe. The zoning is in place for them to build assisted living and there is a phase II that contain 13 more parcels – 26 duplexes of independent living as soon as the towers are built they should start on the small cottages. Ms. Denney asked if these would be for purchase and the reply was they didn't think it was purchase but leasing. Ms. Denney then asked if this would be an over 55 community with individual living. Mr. LaCrosse said they would love to see something like that it is part of the vision but they can't as a government cause this to happen. They encourage it and feel there is a need for independent living and can be accommodating on the zoning but it would have to be a private enterprise. Ms. Denney then said it would not be on the 200 acres by the river. Mr. LaCrosse replied no, that is a flood zone that would not be for a residential area. Mayor said that they are talking with someone on the Batson property she is talking about doing that and maybe will know something in the next 3-4 months. Ms. Denney asked if that would be for purchase. Mayor replied that could possibly be for purchase that would depend on her financing. Ms. Denney said Thank you. Mr. LaCrosse ended by saying they recognize the need and would love it.

Michael Wood approached and said he lives at 103 Nimitz Circle and it is significant to say he is at the top of the hill. His water line was busted and feels it was never installed right he has paid for it to be corrected but does not feel it is fair to have to pay for the water loss. Mr. Wood asked for relief on his water bill. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Binkley to have Mr. Wood's bill brought down to an average of \$54.47. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Gill-yes, Yates-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Sherrie Lawson approached and said she lives at 2121 Hwy 12S unit #72, her water main broke her bill was \$413. A normal bill is between \$80-100 dollars. It also has been fixed. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Allen to approve an average bill for Ms. Lawson in the amount of \$80 dollars for this month and next month's bill. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Yates-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes. Ms. Lawson was asked that she did say it was fixed. Mr. Allen replied the Homeowners association pays to fix it and Ms. Lawson agreed.

Tammy Gatlin approached and said she was elected the president of the Dixie Youth Baseball and they are coming as a board on issues they are having. They want Johns Park to be the best. Ashland City is not the problem they need direction on these issues. One is the fields have drainage issues especially after the flood. Some days they can't play on the fields for several days. Two is the parking. They used to rent the Bradley Motors lot but he doesn't want to rent any more due to liability issues. The kids have to cross the street and this is dangerous. And the third item is since the flood nothing has been done to the park Parks and Rec. shouldn't have to do it all and they feel Tony is doing what he is supposed to be doing. They applied last year for the county grant and was accepted she said they received the check 6 months later and it was not for what they got approved. Does she need to address the park with the County? Mayor replied it is a city park and the city would have to address it. They paid to have a batting cage but lighting needs to be out there. They have pressure washed the dugout and concession building, they have pulled weeds and paint the bathrooms each year. The league is willing to do their part but they are asking for help. Ms. Gatlin said they would be here next month at the Council meeting.

Teresa Jordan approached about her water bill and asked if she could have help, that her leak has been fixed. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Allen to reduce Ms. Jordan's bill to an average of \$65.50 Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Yates-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Andrea White approached and said she lives at 317 Eisenhower and she had a main pipe to the house to break and asked to have it taken to an average bill. A motion was made by Yates, seconded by Johnson, to reduce to an average of \$89.50 Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Yates-yes, Johnson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Attorney:

Ms. Noe said everything she had was on the agenda but she would like to say good bye to Jimmy as he is going to be leaving off the board. Mr. Gill said he is going out with the Mayor. Ms. Noe said Mayor after 12 years I am going to miss you she is looking forward to Mr. Johnson taking the Mayors place but will miss him and Mayors don't have a uniform but you are the "Crown jewel of the city" and presented a "crown" for Mayor Norwood to wear.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Yates, seconded by Gill to approve ordinance 389 – It Policy - on 2nd reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Yates-yes, Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Johnson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Binkley to approve Ordinance 390 – Redistricting the Wards - on 2nd reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, Binkley-yes, Yates-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.

New Business:

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Gill to approve Ordinance 391- rezone property on East side of Main St 395 S. Main St. – on 1st reading. Mayor said this was the old Jack Boyd property. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Yates-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by LaCrosse, seconded by Johnson to approve Ordinance #392 – fund balance – on 1st reading. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: LaCrosse-yes, Johnson-yes, Yates-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Ms. Dora Salinas approached the Council on Resolution 2011-12 – approval for applying for Home Grant. Ms. Salinas said she is here representing Amanda Norwood. She has applied for the housing grant and as she is the daughter of the Mayor it was a conflict of interest. This is a waiver requested by HUD. There was a public disclosure in the paper on November 23rd. Mayor Norwood has no influence on this process. Ms. Norwood would have to meet all requirements in the grant process. Ms. Raymond is here if there are any questions. Ms. Raymond replied that the applications have been ranked according to policy and Amanda does qualify and had no bearing on the Mayor. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Johnson to approve Resolution 2011-12. Mayor wanted it know he declares a conflict. Mr. Gill said he thought it was silly to penalize anyone when the Mayor does not influence or say who is approved for the grant. Mr. LaCrosse said no one sitting up here has any influence on the grant. Mayor called for a roll call vote. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Johnson-yes, Yates-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes

Mr. Young said the Dixieland Carnival Co. contract is the same as last year. Summerfest this coming year will be June24-29th. Mayor asked if Jennifer had looked at it. Ms. Noe replied yes, it is ok.

A motion was made by Yates, seconded by Binkley to accept the Dixieland contract. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Yates-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, Allen-yes, Johnson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Mr. Noe said on the trash collection bid they only received one bid. From Clarksville disposal but they have lowered their prices from what we are paying now. His recommendation is to accept them. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Gill to award the trash collection bid to Clarksville Disposal. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Yates-yes and Mayor-yes.

Chief Walker said the IT director asked him to stand in for him on the computer server bid. Chief Noe recommends we go with the Dell bid. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Binkley to award the server bid to Dell in the amount of \$4,285.82 Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Yates-yes, Johnson-yes, and Mayor-yes.

Chief Walker asked if they would vote tonight on moving the money for IT from revenue to Phyllis's account to move forward with the expenditures. A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Binkley to move \$17,831.75 from revenue into the budget. Mayor said as previously agreed this would come from the traffic school revenue line item and move into the 900 line item. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, Binkley-yes, Allen-yes, Gill-yes, Yates-yes, LaCrosse-yes, and Mayor-yes.

The PUD agreement change at Vantage Pointe was the next order of business. Ms. Noe said everyone should have been given a copy of exhibit A and B from the planning commission. Exhibit A is the front parcels which are largely commercial and it amends to have this as assisted living. And the area in the back is 13 parcels for independent transitional housing. These changes have been approved through the planning commission and needs to be approved by Council. The biggest change is the assisted living. They will have 2 years to do this build out from the date this is signed. He is asking 2 more years from the original date. They are to have some type of homeowners association. Anything else outside this agreement will have to come to Council for agreement. Mr. LaCrosse asked Ms. Noe if she was satisfied with it. Ms. Noe replied yes. Mr. Allen said this amendment to lots 10,11,12,13 and 1 they changed the line that divided the 2 lots in the original PUD it was in 13 under the original agreement. There was the understanding that Mr. Wilkinson wanted to change the boundary for more land for financing. Ms. Noe said she told him he would have to have 13 lots. Mr. Allen said where are the single family dwellings going you can't build there it would do good to drive a car. The lots as they are now cannot be built on. After more discussion Mr. Armstrong said he would have Mr. Wilkinson address these concerns. Mr. Allen said he was concerned the city will end up with other people's problems. He would like Mike to go back and address the problems with lots 10, 11, 12 and 13. Mr. LaCrosse asked he address the lots and Mr. Allen's concerns. Mr. Gill asked what if he doesn't want to build. Mayor said he signed the PUD agreement. Mr. Johnson said this was just the 1st reading. Ms. Noe replied this was not an ordinance so it only has one reading. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Yates, to approve the amended PUD for Vantage Pointe. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Gill-yes, Yates-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Johnson-yes, Allen-no, Binkley-yes, and Mayor-yes. Mr. Armstrong said he still has to present a site plan to us. Mr. Allen said this gives him a 2 year extension.

Ms. Noe said the County has approached the city for rent on the police dept modular building. As she recalls there was an agreement with prior Mayor when we overgrew our area we met with Mayor Orange agreed we could use the small area of grass. The new administration wants to charge us \$500 a month rent and they are willing not to start until February 1st knowing that Dwayne and the public works department are working on the building. A couple of concerns are the lease is for the police dept and has a provision for a million dollar policy. Also, we have a right to sublease it with their written consent. This agreement can be terminated with a 30 day notice. Mayor said that Patty can't list it since it is not on a permanent foundation. We have a possibility to sublease it. If we sell it might bring in \$15,000 or sublease it. Mayor doesn't know whether the Council or Mayor elect want to get into it tonight. In his opinion it would be best to sublease would like the Council to enter into this agreement. Ms. Noe said if the Council does approve you need to look at Section #4 use for the police dept and also the provision to sublease with their written consent. #4 needs to be deleted and #14 changed to just subleasing without their approval. Mayor said they are talking with some people interested in subleasing and it would be an asset to the city and county; they will use minimal parking. Mayor asked Ms. Noe if she could get with Mr. Herbert on this as this will need to be voted on next month.

Chief Coulon said he had a request if Harris Street could be opened up to two way traffic his only concern would be no right turns onto Main St. Mayor said he thought this was awfully dangerous and is

not in favor of it. A motion was made by Gill, seconded by Allen to approve Harris Street as a two street. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Other:

Mayor said this is the part where he gives his parting speech, and then asked Mr. Gill if he would like to go first. Mr. Gill said he would. "First of all he would like to thank the citizens of Ashland City for allowing him to serve on the Council. It has been a very rewarding and educational experience. Secondly, I wanted to thank all of the elected officials which I have had the opportunity to serve with. Finally I want to thank all of the department heads with their leadership abilities and concern for the employees and volunteers which they direct. I have always been impressed at our Council meeting by saying the Pledge of Allegiance and by always having a prayer lead by the Chaplain. I feel the towns business has always been conducted in an orderly and peaceful manner. May God continue to bless this town and citizens."

Mayor Norwood then gave his farewell speech saying the citizens have humbled him by letting him serve in the last 12 years he hopes he has not disappointed and has appreciated their trust in him. Mayor talked about his 12 years and public works with Preacher Poole. He is proudest of the city workforce. We have gone from good to great the focus is not on us but the customers and customer service. Everyone is going in the same direction. Mayor-elect Johnson is inheriting the best workforce we ever had the dept heads are the best you will ever work with and he is proud of each of them. Mayor Norwood thanked the last three past Mayors Johnson, Wilson and Jenkins for what they have taught him and how they taught him how to lead. Mayor thanked his mentor Preacher Poole and said he is dearly missed. Mayor said he can't help but smile as Ms. Noe is an asset to this city and thanked Ms. Noe for her friendship, respect and her knowledge. Mayor said he was blessed by his Council and thanked them.

Mr. Gill said they appreciated it.

Mr. Johnson said we appreciate you more than you can imagine. Mr. Johnson said he appreciates the employees he has assembled and appreciates Mayor Norwood's help. Before we let you go are we going to have a budget meeting next week? It was decided there would be a meeting.

Mayor said next month at the open meeting the Judge will swear in the mayor and the 3 Council members and asked if Lisa would attend the workshop.

Mr. Allen said he would like to say, Mayor and Gary, he has served under several different Mayors it has been difficult at times but their discussions were as friends before, during and after. As he thinks back Gary pushing a mower all over, always working, as the Mayor he worked 10 times more hours than any Mayor and has done an outstanding job. He appreciates that and the most memorable are the ones they got a good laugh at. It has been an incredible 12 years.

Mayor Norwood said his position as Mayor was not a title he was comfortable being called as he is a public servant.

Mr. LaCrosse said as they are making the rounds he would like to echo a lot of what has been said. He was asked to fill in when Lori Pezzi left. He was friends coming in and friends going out and that is the way he wanted it. The countless hours spent by the Mayor have been unselfish and never ending 24/7, 365 he hopes the Mayor gets to enjoy some of it now. There have been times with a little humor, serious times to get the job done but the Mayor has never been condescending even on opposite sides. I really appreciate you; it has been a growing experience and appreciate everything you have done.

Ms. Binkley said she was the new kid on the block and has asked a million and one questions and never once did you say go on, you've always taken the time to answer and explain. She said that she has known the Mayor a long time and could tell a lot but won't. We will miss you.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by LaCrosse to pay the bills. Motion passed with a roll call vote of: Johnson-yes, LaCrosse-yes, Yates-yes, Allen-yes, Binkley-yes, Gill-yes, and Mayor-yes.

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Gill to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Gary Norwood, Mayor

Phyllis Schaeffer, City Recorder