

**CITY OF ETOWAH, TENNESSEE
COMMISSION MEETING**

Record of Minutes of Regular **Meeting Date** March 25, 2013 **Sheet No.** _____

A regular meeting of the Etowah City Commission was held on Monday, March 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 723 Ohio Avenue, Etowah, Tennessee. Members present were Mayor Jim Bull, Commissioner Charles Slack, Commissioner Burke Garwood, Commissioner Dennis Morgan, and Commissioner Jim Swayne. Also present were City Manager Matthew Gravley, Recording Secretary Eva Valentine, and Finance Director Rebecca Penney.

Mayor Jim Bull called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer by Rev. Eldridge Cullom.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Burke Garwood said we need to extract the first paragraph on the second page. We made a mistake and the vote needs to be unapproved and then put on next month's agenda for a vote and then a vote to reapprove.

A motion was made by Commissioner Burke Garwood and seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to approve the minutes with the change for Meeting on February 25, 2013. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approval of Budget Calendar for FY 2013-2014

A motion was made by Commissioner Dennis Morgan and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Second Reading of Ordinance No. 738 by Mayor Jim Bull. Mayor Jim Bull explained a slight change in Section V and reread that paragraph.

ORDINANCE NO. 738

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 724, THE CAPTION OF WHICH IS "AN ORDINANCE MAKING AND FIXING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY OF ETOWAH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2012 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2013", BY ADJUSTING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES IN THE VARIOUS FUNDS TO ASSURE EACH FUND REFLECTS SUFFICIENT MONIES TO CONCLUDE THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2013.

A motion was made by Commissioner Burke Garwood and seconded by Commissioner Jim Swayne to approve. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager, Matthew Gravley explained that today would be Jamie Davis' last day in a part time role. Eva Valentine began work with us today as the Human Resource Director, Risk Manager, and Recording Secretary.

He also explained that at an auction recently the confiscated weapons from the Police Department were sold and the city made almost \$4000.00. The Police Department will be using these funds to purchase Remington shotguns and holding racks for their patrol cars. The total for these purchases is right at \$4000.00. Chief Eric Armstrong explained that the shotguns will be bought from the sole source of Remington shotguns in Tennessee and the racks were put out for bid. Commissioner Dennis Morgan asked how our supply of ammo was and Chief Eric Armstrong said we are good so far. We recently bought 1000 rounds of 40 caliber and 45 balls from Benton Shooters Supply at cost which was about \$800.

City Manager Matthew Gravley introduced the new Executive Vice President of the EDA, Cathy Knight. She is from Loudon and has a lot of great connections and experience; she will be replacing Jack Hammontree.

He explained he would like to have a Public Art Contest and use the old pool building for public murals. This would only be a temporary painting but would increase the community moral.

City Manager, Matthew Gravley said the progress at the tennis courts is going really well. We should be ready for the volunteers by April. Commissioner Burke Garwood asked who is carrying the debt. He said it has to be charged against someone's budget. Matthew Gravley said it is just the Public Work's employee's salaries. Commissioner Burke Garwood said they are working on a Recreation property, seems like it would need to be a Recreation budget issue. Matthew Gravley said it is more of a construction and destruction type of project and they normally do the demo around town. Commissioner Burke Garwood, asked if it will come out of the General Fund or Recreation if Billy Ingram's department comes up in the hole? Matthew Gravley said we have spent very little on this project. Commissioner Burke Garwood said probably only 2 people use the tennis courts and about 20 a day use the track but that's just my opinion. Matthew Gravley said this was a unique opportunity and we need to take up. Commissioner Jim Swayne ask how much time it would take to fix the walking track and Matthew Gravley said about a week to tear up and it depends on if we bring finishers in for the concrete or use our guys.

City Manager, Matthew Gravley said that the Parks and Recreation Department and the Police Department are working together to put on a "Night of Action". This night will be to take a stand against sexual assault. Detective Jim Shaw explained that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and we are focusing on teenage daughters and will be giving statistics out to their parents.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

UNSCHEDULED ITEMS

Commissioner Dennis Morgan asked about Dr. Pate's offer on his building. City Manager Matthew Gravley told Dr. Pate what was said in the last meeting and it is up to him as how he wants to move forward. He feels

most people go to the depot for tourist information. Commissioner Jim Swayne said we just had to justify what our purpose would be and we don't have a use for it.

Commissioner Burke Garwood said that CSX does a lot for the City of Etowah but they had asked us to salt a road down into their yard but we denied it to them. They have obligation to call the state and the county first but had no luck and our crew was already out. If they get no help from the county we should help them and I would like to see something drawn up to explain this agreement.

He also stated that back in August, the city was asked to back off of tearing down houses. We have now lost our Administrative Hearing Officer, we are 5 or 6 weeks behind and I think it's a failing of the City of Etowah that this has come to a stop. In my opinion we need to put emphasis on tearing down old run down houses. I think you need to get an Administrative Hearing Officer and get Code Enforcement in line or I am just close to giving it to the Police Department to do and save money.

Commissioner Burke Garwood said we are Dixie Youth Baseball and we had tryouts in Athens. We are Dixie Youth not Little League and always have been!

He also said there was a truck that sat beside the Mexican restaurant for 3 weeks and I came to City Hall because of the danger of someone pulling out there and it never got moved. I made a phone call and it was moved in 2 days, that's all it needed was a phone call.

Commissioner Dennis Morgan said he wished Jamie Davis good luck on her new job, and welcomed Eva Valentine to her new position.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Burke Garwood seconded by Vice Mayor Charles Slack to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a commission vote.

Jim Bull, Mayor

Rebecca Penney, City Recorder

Respectfully submitted by:

Eva Valentine, Recording Secretary